

**CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD
TOWN HALL
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2012**

APPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Russell, Chair; John Owen, Dennis Delaney, Winslow Ladue. **ABSENT:** Ed Stone.

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Selectboard Assistant.

OTHERS: Wolfer Schnieder, Seth Zimmerman, Ben Chartrand, Heather Manning, Don Chartrand, Hugh Lewis Jr, Moe Harvey, Spin Richardson, Fritz Tegatz, Jenny Cole, Marion Paris, Lou Bresee, Marty Illick, Mary Mead, Carol Casey, Charlotte Citizen, and others.

(NOTE: the published agenda was heard out of order, but appears in order for continuity.)

6:00 PM Site Visit: Intersection of Monkton Road and Lewis Creek Road to evaluate need for signage and/or study

6:30 PM Site Visit: 1000 Guinea Road, for request by Fritz Tegatz to locate a utility pole in the Guinea Road right-of-way

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Russell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Schneider, resident, asked when speed limit signs would be installed on Barber Hill Road. Mr. Lewis, Charlotte Road Commissioner explained that the signs have been ordered and it was expected that they would be installed by the end of the month.

MINUTES: June 11, June 12, June 25, June 26

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve the Selectboard minutes of June 11, 2012 as written, with corrections.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve the Selectboard minutes of June 12, 2012 as written.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve the Selectboard minutes of June 25, 2012 as written.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve the Selectboard minutes of June 26, 2012 as written.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

FRITZ TEGATZ – REQUEST TO LOCATE UTILITY POLE WITHIN GUINEA ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY ON THE WEST SIDE OF GUINEA ROAD

Mr. Russell noted that the Selectboard conducted a site visit this date. Did the discussion at the site visit change Mr. Tegatz' mind regarding overhead lines, asked Mr. Russell. Mr. Tegatz replied no. He knew all the options before hand. It was cheaper to put in a pole and have overhead lines, said Mr. Tegatz.

Mr. Delaney asked if Mr. Tegatz would pay for the pole. Mr. Tegatz replied yes.

There was discussion regarding buried lines, which was a Town policy whenever possible, installing a pole across the road with a line in a trench to the existing green box

and then to a proposed Tegatz barn, or to connect to an existing pole with a line to go 600' to the existing green box and then to the proposed barn. Mr. Tegatz said that he has not decided on the exact location of a barn yet. The cost for undergrounding a line was \$12.00 per foot versus \$3,600 for a pole and overhead lines, explained Mr. Tegatz.

Mr. Ladue said that he paced off 175' in extra line from a pole on the same side of the road. That would save Mr. Tegatz \$3,600 by not putting in a pole across the road, suggested Mr. Ladue.

Mr. Russell asked if Guinea Road was a scenic road.

Mr. Delaney asked how much developable land was south of Mr. Tegatz. Mr. Tegatz said that he owned the land on the west side of the road to Bingham Brook Road. Clark Hinsdale owned the land on the east side plus additional land. He was not sure if it would ever be developed, said Mr. Tegatz. Mr. Delaney suggested revising the Town Plan that future lines must be buried in regard to further developments south of Mr. Tegatz. A concern was that the Selectboard would set a precedent with Mr. Tegatz's request, said Mr. Delaney.

Mr. Delaney and Mr. Ladue said they were cautiously OK with the request. Mr. Russell and Mr. Owen said they were not in favor of overhead lines, and would like more information.

No action was taken. The Selectboard requested further information regarding costs on three options and a firmer location of the proposed barn for the next Selectboard meeting.

BRUSH-HOGGING OF TOWN PARCELS

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to award the 2012 bid to brush-hog Town parcels to Preston Construction and Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$1,110.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

BEN CHARTAND – REQUEST FOR A HIGHWAY ACCESS PERMIT AT 100 STATE PARK ROAD

Mr. Chartrand said that he agreed with the Town suggestion to move the driveway access further west.

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve a Highway Access Permit request by Ben Chartrand, 100 State Park Road, as shown on a Site Plan, dated July 2012.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

CHITTENDEN UNIT FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS (CUSA)

Ms. Paris said that there were three candidates from Chittenden County. One would be appointed by the CUSI Board, said Ms. Paris.

Mr. Russell thanked Ms. Paris for volunteering as a candidate.

MOTION by Mr. Delaney, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve Marion Paris to be eligible for appointment to the CUSI Board.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

POLICE SERVICES CONTRACT

Ms. Paris asked if there would be expanded police patrol hours. Mr. Owen replied that he had met with Shelburne Police Chief Warden. Most Charlotte residents seemed to be satisfied with the number of contracted hours. If there was an issue he, or the Shelburne Police could be called. During the sidewalk discussions a suggestion for raised cross walks in the West Village was proposed as a more effective traffic calming solution, said Mr. Owen. Mr. Lewis pointed out that wherever raised bumps were located in Town it caused unloaded trucks to make a lot of noise.

Mr. Owen said that Chief Warden said that the Shelburne Police Department was responsive to place patrol cars where needed. The contract cost for coverage was \$50 per hour plus mileage for up to \$25,000 per year, said Mr. Owen. Mr. Ladue reviewed that last year the Town received \$7,200 in ticket revenue for \$13,000 spent on the police contract. A question was would the Town get the same service for \$25,000, asked Mr. Ladue. Mr. Owen replied yes.

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve a one-year contract with the Town of Shelburne, as presented.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

WEBSITE CAPACITY

Mr. Owen said that a question was if there was a less expensive way to increase the website capacity versus the proposed \$500 expense. Mr. Bloch explained that the Town departments as well as Town committees posted updates, documents, and information on the current site. Items had to be removed in order to free up capacity for new information, said Mr. Bloch.

Mr. Russell reviewed that a suggestion was to approve the proposed \$500 purchase of capacity, and research alternatives for next year.

There was further discussion regarding alternatives, such as contracting for increased website capacity by contracting with a cloud platform company.

Ms. Cole said that the current website was working well. Committees were interested in posting more information on the site as per Gloria Warden. The proposal was to just increase capacity for now and look at options. The cost for the site was \$550 per year for one gig now. The proposal would spend \$1,050 per year for 3 gigs of capacity, said Ms. Cole.

Mr. Ladue asked if the cost covered backing up the website. Ms. Cole replied that she didn't know - she would check with the company.

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Ladue, to approve an expenditure of an additional \$500 annual cost for added capacity for the Town website as presented.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to approve a request to use Town roads for the Green Mountain Getaway MS Bike Ride on August 11th and 12th, 2012.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Bresee, Green Mountain Getaway MS Bike Ride representative, said that the two day event Saturday start location was in South Burlington. Riders would go to the new bridge and back. The Sunday ride would go to Hinesburg and back. Directional signage for Saturday would be posted either Thursday or Friday, and taken down by Saturday evening. Cyclists would ride single file and follow the rules of the road. It was not a race. An emergency vehicle would patrol the roads, explained Mr. Bresee.

There was discussion regarding traffic control efforts along Greenbush Road, especially at the four corners. Mr. Bresee said that cyclists would stop at stop signs. The event last year was the 25th annual ride. At the most the sponsors expected up to 225 riders, said Mr. Bresee.

Mr. Zimmerman asked if there would be port-a-lets for the riders. Mr. Bresee replied that there would be port-a-lets at each rest stop.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

REPAIR OF EROSION ON ROSCOE ROAD

Mr. Russell reviewed erosion on Roscoe Road south of the upper bridge. He had met with Chris Burnell, Agency of Natural Resources, and an Army Corps of Engineers

representative regarding drawings to go with an application. The Town contracted with an engineer, who proposed several options, said Mr. Russell.

Mr. Bloch reviewed options as follows:

- Move the road 10' to the edge of the existing Town right-of-way, add some riprap, which would go into the creek and match the existing slope.
- Add riprap and stone for a 1.5:1 slope change. The stone wouldn't change the floodplain or water velocity.
- Move the road outside of the right-of-way and stay out of the creek, which would be an additional cost to the Town.

Mr. Bloch noted that Marty Illick had sent e-mails to the Selectboard in response to the proposed options.

In response to questions, Mr. Bloch explained that the repair would take 1,000 square feet of material about 3' into the creek bed. The eroded area was about 100-125' long.

Mr. Lewis said that if a lesser slope was done then the bank would be less likely to erode in the spring runoff and ice. Winter snow was a concern. Currently, the road slopes off toward the river and when the snow plow wing levels off the snow it appears that the roadway was level. The school bus might move over and tip into the river, said Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Harvey suggested inviting the engineer to a meeting to answer questions. Mr. Bloch said that would be an additional cost.

Ms. Huff handed out notes she wrote from a discussion with Scott Burbank for Board review, and said that according to the river management website it cost \$50,000 per mile to repair an unstable river bank.

Mr. Lewis said that Option 1 was cheaper. Option 2 might stay in place longer term. It might cost \$20,000 to move the road depending on how and when it was done, such as at night, or if the road was closed, said Mr. Lewis.

Ms. Illick said that section of the stream was highly unstable. The river was trying to widen, which was a part of its natural process. Rocks would eventually go into the river. Get River Management to look at the delineated region of river, which was mapped out already. Chris Brunell could look at it. The state goals for river management were not compatible with a long term solution. The options presented were not a solution, said Ms. Illick.

Mr. Hammer noted that in the mid 1990s it was the same problem. The Town tied a pile of old Fir trees into the bank. The Town could consider that solution again as it was a cheaper way to deal with the bank, said Mr. Hammer.

Ms. Davis, resident, said for the Town to consider the safety of the road and safety and health of the river. When trees on the bank are cut and riprap put in you are moving away from the health of the river, said Ms. Davis.

Ms. Illick suggested looking into state money for river easements and purchase of management rights. The FEH line was within a pasture not far from Roscoe Road. The state could have a discussion with the landowner to move the road over into the pasture. The state money would not cover the cost of moving the road, but could help defray some of the costs. Also, there were CCRPC funds available for planning, suggested Ms. Illick.

Ms. Huff said that Mr. Brunell said that Option 1 would put rock 5' into the river and that would narrow the channel. Excavating in the stream would need to be done to place a 4' key stone rock, which would anchor the riprap. That would be environmentally destructive to the river, said Ms. Huff.

Ms. Illick said that there was a river corridor plan in place for the entire river. This particular unstable bank was not a high priority, except for Charlotte. The current channel was important in that the river was trying to push out the channel shape, said Ms. Illick.

NEXT STEPS:

- Revisit solutions/options at the next meeting.
- Talk to Chris Brunell.

MOE HARVEY – REQUEST FOR “CAUTION, YIELD AHEAD” SIGN ON MONKTON ROAD SOUTH OF INTERSECNTION WITH LEWIS CREEK ROAD

Mr. Lewis said that Monkton Road carried the most traffic and should be the through road. There should be two “Yield Ahead” signs on Lewis Creek Road, suggested Mr. Lewis.

Ms. Manning spoke in support of a yield sign on Lewis Creek Road.

Mr. Harvey spoke in support of a stop sign on Lewis Creek road.

Mr. Lewis recommended removing the yield sign on Monkton Road and putting a ‘side road ahead’ sign and yield signs at Lewis Creek Road.

MAINTENANCE OF GRAND LIST

Ms. Manning and Mr. Harvey, Charlotte Listers, explained current practices for a 5-year Grand List update and reappraisal procedures. The CLA was at 101 percent and this was not the time to do a Town-wide reappraisal. A sales analysis using a 1.55 multiplier could be applied to change appraisals. There have been sales in pockets of the Town. Property was selling lower than the appraised values, as shown in the Greenbush and Stockbridge areas.

Ms. Manning explained the cost to hire an appraiser was \$125 per hour for Ed, and \$30-40 per hour for appraisers. Ms. Manning said that she would do the data entries for now, and Ernie has quoted an hourly rate for data entry. The Listers were 80 percent through the 5-year cycle and Ed would continue to work on completing the 4th quadrant, said Ms. Manning.

The Selectboard decided to delay action until an hourly rate from Ed was received. The Listers would report back in two weeks.

VACANT LISTER POSITION

Ms. Manning pointed out that the Listers’ office had a vacancy.

VERMONT LAND TRUST LETTER – REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NICHOLS AND HINSDALE/HAUSMANN PROJECTS

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Delaney, to approve a request for a letter of support for the Nichols and Hinsdale/Hausmann projects as presented.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

APPROVE REIMBURSEMENT OF \$684 TO BOB STONE FOR PARAMEDIC TRAINING

MOTION by Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Delaney, to approve a Charlotte Rescue request for reimbursement of \$684 to Bob Stone for paramedic training.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Russell reviewed a discussion at the last Selectboard meeting regarding an invoice signed by Ian Pomerville, Rescue Chief, received by the Town to reimburse Bob Stone for paramedic training. Stone quit the department after the paramedic training was half paid for. The invoice was for the remaining partial payment of what Stone had worked off in an agreement with the Rescue Chief. Stone has no plans to work off the remaining amount, said Mr. Russell.

Ms. Mead asked if the Selectboard has seen the agreement. The training took place in 2010, and it was an old expense. The Town paid the entire Rescue budgets in FY

2010-2011 and 2011-2012. If Rescue has an agreement with Stone, why don't they take it out of their Special Funds. Where was the agreement, asked Ms. Mead.

Mr. Russell pointed out that the invoice was received by the Town in February, 2012. Ms. Mead asked what would happen if a bill came in from 2009. Linda Foote had that bill a long time ago and rejected it, stated Ms. Mead.

The Selectboard said that they would like to see a copy of the agreement between Chief Pomerville and Mr. Stone.

Mr. Owen and Mr. Delaney withdrew the motion.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Ladue said that someone has been clearing in the woods at Whiskey Bay. Regarding a parking situation at Whiskey Bay, the Board should consider closing the road to the beach, and replace it with a path to the lot. There was a culvert issue as well, said Mr. Ladue. Mr. Lewis said that there should be a 30' culvert. A turn-around for the plow truck in winter was also needed, said Mr. Lewis.

The Selectboard would meet at Thompson's Point regarding a Whiskey Bay parking lot, culvert and Town turnaround on Friday, July 13, at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Owen reported that there were two colors of Charlotte T-shirts available. There have been 280 shirts sold to date, said Mr. Owen.

APPROVE WARRANTS TO PAY BILLS

The Selectboard members signed bills and warrants.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ladue, seconded by Mr. Owen, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 absent (Mr. Stone); motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathlyn Furr, Recording Secretary