

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Justin Campbell, and Michele Gonzales; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Assistant Town Clerk Alexandra Johnson; Zoning Administrator Lorraine Banbury; Visitors: Ian Covey, Marie Maclay, Allen Banbury

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Baker

Changes or additions to the agenda: Recap of Railroad bed meeting, dehumidifiers
Review and Approval of Minutes: Approved the minutes of August 15, 2023
Public Comment: none

Folsom Hill Road: Ian Covey explained that the flood damaged his foundation. His foundation contractor wants to move the house to avoid having to work in Route 2. The contractor would need to move the culvert because the house will be in the location where the swale is located now. Justin has consulted with a VTrans engineer about existing drainage. He noted that we don't typically modify town infrastructure to suit a private property. Justin asked if there is enough property to move the swale somewhere else on his property.

Bobbi explained that when she asked the Road Crew, they didn't think it could be moved.

Rich asked if the Contractor could just lift the house and put a new foundation. Ian explained that he can't do that because it is so close to Route 2 that the contractor would have to be working in the road and would possibly damage the road.

The Board and Ian discussed various possibilities for drainage. Ian explained that without changing the drainage, they have no other option other than the buyout program.

Ian needs to make decisions soon. Justin thinks we can do some research and get some more feedback within two weeks.

Cassidy Road: Justin stated that there is no new information right now. We are waiting for FEMA right now. Allen Banbury has been talking to contractors. Bobbi explained that we will keep him informed about FEMA's policy on Class IV roads.

Zoning: Lorraine explained that she has viewed the properties in the floodplain and made the required assessments, along with the state floodplain manager. There are a couple of houses that are significantly damaged and may need to rebuild to new flood standards because they are over 50% damaged. She noted that the state law requires people to get a permit for any flood repairs if the house is in the floodplain.

Dehumidifier: The Board approved the purchase of a commercial dehumidifier.

Railroad Bed: Rich met with Greg Western, Anne Winchester, Dan Tetreault, and Andrew Giroux. They looked at the heavy damage from Jerusalem Road to the VAST trail. Dan thinks it could be \$100,000 in material. It is down to bedrock.

Rich and Dan made it clear that regardless of funding, nothing will be fixed this year due to the volume of work the road crew has. Andrew explained that they are not able to access their sugaring operation without the road being fixed. There is a possibility that VAST may be able to help fund repairs.

USDA has funding for agricultural uses that Forest Farmers may be able to tap into.

Martin Covered Bridge: Marie stated that Tim Maclay recommends not removing the silt that is there, and he would be willing to seed it if the town provides the seed. He would be willing to help remove the silt from the path if needed.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and approved reports for Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the August 22, 2023 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
