

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 5:30 pm, Old Schoolhouse Common

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Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Rich Phillips (Stranahan Stewardship Committee), Shane Brickey (Road Crew Member)

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** Folsom Hill, Railroad Bed

**Public Comment:** none

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes of the October 16 meeting with the addition of Will Schwarz attending

**Stranahan Town Forest:** Rich Phillips addressed the Board regarding the drainage projects that he would like to have done in the town forest. He has met with Tim and Scott (road crew members) to look at the projects. Rich Baker asked what the goal is for fixing up the road. Rich P. indicated that when the road is muddy, he can't get in to brush hog. He also indicated that he would like to be able to take senior citizens into the forest in a vehicle. Rich P. thinks there will be 80 hours of the excavator and 52 hours of hauling. He thinks a small bulldozer may also be needed. The work couldn't be done until next year because the pit is closed in the winter. He needs to know what part of the costs need to be covered by the Stranahan fund. The Board agreed that the Stranahan fund would pay for labor and materials but not town equipment. The current estimate is that it would cost roughly \$15,000, plus the cost of the bulldozer. The Stranahan fund has \$3,100 in it.

Rich Phillips left the meeting at this point.

**Upper Depot Curb Cut:** Jeni Humphries has a curb cut permit on Upper Depot Road. She has asked the town to pay her contractor to install the driveway culvert because the road crew hasn't done it. Chris has talked to the road foreman and they can't install the culvert until the driveway is roughed in, the trees are cut as specified in her permit, and the stump adjacent to the driveway is removed. The town does not pay for culvert installation. The road crew will do the installation when the driveway is roughed in and the trees and stumps are removed. Chris moved to have Bobbi send her a letter explaining this. Laurie seconded. Rich recused himself because he is an adjoining landowner.

**Old Schoolhouse Common:** The Library has requested that they be allowed to have Building Superintendent Dan build storage at the back of the building for their gas grill. Chris suggested that they contact the Recreation Committee to see if there is room to put it in the storage shed at the ball field.

**Fee Waiver request:** The Selectboard received a request from the Girl Scouts to use the Old Schoolhouse for meetings, and they asked whether the Selectboard would waive the fee. The Board discussed the need for a policy. They will grant the request, and Rich will draft the policy.

**Railroad Bed:** Rich notified the Board that there are “private road” signs on the railroad bed. Rich will research the history of the bed to see what the implications are.

**Folsom Hill:** Laurie has been contacted by residents of Folsom Hill who are concerned about the ditching that was done this summer. The ditches were not stone-lined and there is no mulch, so they are afraid the ditches are going to erode this winter. Shane indicated that they seeded but the seed did not grow. Nothing will grow now, so they plan to re-seed it next year, or possibly line it with stone. He will talk to the road foreman about it.

**Executive Session:** At 7:30 Chris moved to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Rich seconded – all in favor. The Board returned to open session at 7:45.

**Generator:** The Board signed a maintenance agreement with Brookfield Service for annual maintenance on the emergency generator at the Old Schoolhouse Common.

**Emergency Tree Work:** The Board signed a contract with Marshfield Tree Service to do work in case of emergencies. The contract allows the Board to hire them during an emergency, without waiting for bids.

**Trees in New Discovery Cemetery:** Bobbi will get a quote for work in the New Discovery cemetery that was recommended by the arborist.

**Leibold Cows:** When Mr. Leibold was away and his stepson was caring for the cattle, they did not get out. Since Mr. Leibold has been home and his stepson is no longer feeding them, they have been getting out. Albert St. Cyr has reported that they have been on his property. Some of the cattle have been sold but they have not been able to catch all of them.

**Route 2 Reconstruction:** Rich Baker notified the Board that he has scheduled a meeting with VTrans to begin discussions about the project. The Board agreed that Rich will represent the Board in the early stages of the planning process.

**ACT 250:** Bickford’s Quarry has applied for a permit to extend their operation.

**Health Insurance:** The Board has received a request to cover domestic partners. They asked Bobbi to change the policy to mirror the State’s definition, for domestic partnerships lasting more than 1 year.

**Radon:** Chris met with another contractor to explore air exchange units. The contractor will send a proposal.

**Dam Safety:** Rich attended a class. There are new regulations coming out soon from the Agency of Natural Resources, but they will not affect Marshfield Dam because that is regulated by the Public Utility Commission.

**School Finance:** Bobbi explained to the Selectboard that due to a State of Vermont error, the Town has to overpay Twinfield by almost \$50,000. She has been trying to get the State to correct the error and has talked to Janet Ancel for help.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the November 5, 2019 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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