

Minutes
Town of Vermont Board Meeting
August 20, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. – 4017 County Road JJ

Call to Order and Certification of Notice Posting

Called to order by Karen Carlock at 7:00 p.m. Agenda was posted on the town website, the door of Town Hall, emailed to the online subscribers and a meeting notice was published in the Mount Horeb Mail and the Star News.

Present: Karen Carlock (Chair), Scott Moe, Doug Meier, Jenna Schmidt (Treasurer) Chris Christian (Clerk)

Absent: Todd Culliton and John Hallick

Approval of Agenda

Scott moved to approve the agenda, Doug seconded and motion approved 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

Doug moved to approve the minutes, Karen seconded and motion approved 3-0.

Chairman's Report and Acknowledgments

Karen reported that there had been a utility issue on Old Indian Trail and she and Jack were going to be meeting with a representative from the utility. Also, the Plan Commission will begin working on a right-of-way ordinance.

Citizens' Input

Richard Handel, a representative from Wildlife Forever ATV Club, spoke about the club's desire to open up Vermont roads to ATV use. Richard passed out some information, and we will add to next month's agenda.

Treasurer's Report

Jenna reported largest activity for month which was check from the state for MFL land which was \$9,765.59 and the quarterly transportation aid payment \$22,677.58. Total deposits were \$38,921.51 and total account balances were \$490,330.05. Karen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Scott seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Clerk's Report

Chris mentioned the large check in the amount of \$85,498 to Scott's which was for chipsealing. She also reported that the August primary election went well, turnout in Vermont was about 40%, and she is

gearing up for November. Karen moved to approve the Clerk's Report, Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Payment of the Bills

Doug moved to approve payment of the bills, Karen seconded and motion approved 3-0.

Vermont Citizens ATC Committee Update

Michael McDermott passed out two packets. The formalities are that the ATC application is in, we are still the alternate route, and the application is incomplete. A complete application is anticipated by October. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement by the Dairyland Power Cooperative will likely come out in the fall. Michael suggested that once the report comes out, the board along with citizens of the Powerline Action Committee call a meeting. Karen inquired about method for introducing corrections; Michael was unsure, but thought comments or statements would be sent to the Rural Utility Service. The Impact Study will include the Town of Vermont as part of the alternate route. Karen made a motion that once the draft Environmental Impact Statement is released, the Board should call a citizen meeting separate from the Board Meeting. Scott seconded and motion passed 3-0. Karen inquired about who would represent the Town if the Town registered as an Intervenor, and what is the difference between individual Intervenor status and group Intervenor status. Michael thinks it's more of a formality but he will find out more information.

Patrolman, Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS Reports

Jack reported that second round of mowing has been done. The big truck recently needed brake work which was an expense. The warranty work done on the roads involved almost 1.5 miles of road. He mentioned that we may need new road works signs as they are very old and looking rough. We may also need new broom bristles. He reported that he will definitely need help with backup for the fall and winter.

Doug did not have anything to report on BEFD. Scott did not have anything to report on District 1 EMS, and John was not present to report on FDMH.

Tannerite Use

We discussed tannerite use due to the Town incident on July 1st. On that date, at the property of Larry Cox, who does not live there, his grandchildren were there shooting off tannerite. Houses up to at least a mile away experienced shaking and one neighbor's ears rang for several days. The resident also mentioned a town in Maine that passed an ordinance stating that any use of tannerite required advance notification of anyone within 1000 yards. A town in Pennsylvania has also banned tannerite use, but the township did not provide any information on enforcement. We discussed the difficulty in enforcing a ban, and the difficulty in verifying what even took place and where, after the fact. The WTA attorney suggested that any individuals affected could bring a nuisance action against the perpetrator. Karen will contact Dane County law enforcement, and tannerite will be on next month's agenda.

Old Indian Trail

Trees on the road present a public safety issue. The WTA has laid out multiple steps that we need to follow regarding right-of-way. Scott made a motion that we send the property owner a letter giving thirty days notice and if no action is taken, we issue a citation. Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Bobcat Agreement

We purchased our Bobcat with the understanding that we would be able to trade it in for a new model every year. However, the model we received was over a year old, which precluded us from the trade-in program. Sloan offered us a deal to buy into the trade-in program, which meant an initial payment of \$2,500 and a yearly payment of \$1,250. We want to participate in the program, but feel we need acknowledgement of their error in communication as well as some type of monetary compensation. Karen made a motion that we enter into the trade-in program and also write a letter outlining our concerns. Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Propane Contract

Our propane contract with Premier Co-op is up for renewal. Scott made a motion that we prepay for 2,280 gallons and Doug seconded, with motion passing 3-0. Karen made a motion to approve sending a check for \$2,961.72 after the meeting, Scott seconded and motion passed 3-0.

TDS Contract

Chris presented two proposed contracts with TDS increasing internet speed. Karen suggested problem with slow computer may be computer-related rather than internet-related, due to the age of the computer. Karen made a motion that we prepare a budget amendment to buy a new computer for the Clerk not to exceed \$1,000. Doug seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Backup Patrolman Recruitment

Dave Haugen no longer wants to be a backup for Jack, so we placed an ad in the paper to find a candidate. We currently have no candidates but a couple of good leads.

Agenda Items for August Meeting

- ATV use on Town roads
- tannerite
- possibly Old Indian Trail

Adjournment

Scott moved to adjourn, Doug seconded and motion approved 5-0; meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.