

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (04/13/15) MINUTES
March 30, 2015 at the Town Office**

Selectboard members present: Carl Etnier (recording secretary), Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Steve Sparrow; Bruce Johnson (town administrator).

Others present: Mike Garand (road foreman), Jeff Cueto.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Seth Gardner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. ROAD FOREMAN REPORT

Road Foreman Mike Garand reported that mud season is here and all roads are posted. The out-of-town sap hauler has been spotted using a posted road without authorization, though the road may have been frozen at the time. Mr. Garand said he plans to talk to the company owner and make sure he understands that the postings apply to him, too. The SB asked that he also convey that we will call Department of Motor Vehicles enforcement to weigh his truck if he is found on a posted road with a sap truck.

Structures application for Murray Road culvert near Montpelier line

The last culvert on Murray Road before the Montpelier city border is a vastly undersized 48" segmented concrete pipe. The town's design consultant Doug Newton has recommended two alternatives:

- Aluminum pipe arch w/ aluminum headwalls & wingwalls: \$84,805
- Open bottom aluminum single radius arch w/ concrete headwalls & wingwalls: \$133,422

We generally include an amount, in addition to the construction costs, for design, r-o-w, permitting, and admin costs – estimated at \$4,000 for this project (either version).

Jeff Cueto is the abutting land owner. He noted that he worked for the Department of Environmental Conservation for 37 years. He said that the advantage of the single radius arch is that it allows for natural stream topography. A normal culvert often has a plunge pool at the downstream end, which makes fish migration difficult. The bottom of the pipe arch would be buried at the downstream end, so this issue would not be a problem.

Mr. Cueto asked that the town look at timber guard rails instead of galvanized guard rails, as timber guard rails look better. The SB is willing to include timber guard rails in the bid. The lower-cost aluminum pipe arch will be put in the application to VTrans.

Structures application for Quaker Road culvert near Brown residence

This culvert is a 24" steel tube that was overwhelmed during both the 2011 spring event and later that year during Tropical Storm Irene, when the road acted as a dam, creating Quaker Lake on the north side of the road. The town has included it in its structure grant applications since 2012 without success; the recommended replacement (another Newton design) calls for a 6-fold size increase at an estimated cost

of \$70,000.

Class 2 Paving application for engineering study of the new Class 2 stretch along Quaker, Vincent Flats, Dodge, Lyle Young, and Templeton Roads

The board earlier this year decided to pursue a relatively low-cost highway engineering study of the Vincent Flats road area rather than request a full paving grant given that our paved roads are in such good shape as a result of the recently completed accelerated road paving effort. The intent is to get a potential plan to deal with the various issues caused by the heavy traffic on Quaker Road to Fairmont Farm stretch. Evan Detrick of DuBois & King, Inc. developed an estimate of \$20,000 for the study.

The town will be applying to VTrans for funding for all three. The town's share for any projects funded is 10% for the structures grants and 20% for the paving grants.

F. DISCUSSION ON WINTER SAND, ROADSIDE MOWING, AND LAWN MOWING BID PROCESSES

Mr. Garand would like to test a granite sand blend (from Northeast Materials) next winter; perhaps purchase 1,500 cu yds and truck it ourselves. Some 2,000 tons are available at \$7/ton – this works out to a bit more than 1,500 cu yds at around \$9/cu yd.

There is around 2,500 cu yds of sand at the garage so, with the granite sand, we would have some 4,000 cu yds on hand. One option for 2015/16 would be to not do our normal bid process and, if necessary, self-haul some additional sand in late summer/early fall

The granite sand would be hauled from Upper Graniteville. The money for it is in this year's budget. Mr. Garand said it was a good price for granite sand.

Advantage of granite: It will help reduce springtime rutting in the roads.

The SB approved the purchase.

Mr. Garand is looking at trailers to replace the chloride truck. The SB discussed brands and prices.

He also reported that repairs and maintenance will be over budget this year. Trucks are requiring a lot of maintenance.

East Montpelier Center: There is a drainage system with grates over drop inlets near the road that probably need inspection and possibly cleaning. He would like to inspect them this year. SB assented.

Roadside Mowing

The SB decided not to put this out to bid this year. The town has been getting very few (around 3) submissions and ends up choosing the same person every year. We're happy with the work, and he's a local vendor.

Doug Grout, our long-time roadside mower, is willing to do the standard work for \$4,900 (up \$50 from last year's \$4,850) plus the same hourly rate (\$75) for extra cutting. The SB assented.

Lawn Mowing

The SB decided not to put lawn mowing out to bid this year, for the same reason as roadside mowing. We get very few responses and choose the same local vendor every year

Tim Frazier, our long-time lawn mower (he also does the spring grounds spruce-up, but not as part of this contract), would like a 2-year contract at \$7,470 per year (same as last year's rate).

The SB assented.

G. CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL HIGHWAY FINANCIAL PLAN

This is the mandatory (19 V.S.A. §306(j)) filing of the highway “budget” and certification that the town will raise by taxes at least \$300 per town highway mile (19 V.S.A. §307). EM appropriates, discounting state aid, approximately \$540,000 for 62.25 miles -- \$8,640/mile.

Motion: I move we approve the annual highway financial plan. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Sparrow. 4-0.

H. CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (LEOP)

This is the mandatory plan we file annually with the state; little has changed from last year’s version. The state now mandates that a NIMS-qualified Selectboard member certify adoption of the LEOP; last year we had Bill George, our Emergency Management Co-coordinator, do the certification, but that is no longer allowed. Casey Northrup is the listed certifier of adoption for this year, as he is the only board member who has taken the required National Incident Management System coursework. Other changes include adding Toby Talbot as a Emergency Management Co-coordinator and updating the U-32 leadership information.

Motion: I move we adopt the local emergency operations plan. Made: Mr. Sparrow. Second: Mr. Etnier. 4-0.

I. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT 2015 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Town Clerk Conti presented the draft 2015 minutes at the March 16, 2015 Selectboard meeting and requested board members sign the approval page at the end; the request was tabled until members had an opportunity to review the draft minutes. The SB will suggest some changes, with the goal of signing the minutes this week.

J. APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission recommends Jack Pauly for CVRPC alternate representative. Mr. Pauly used to be the alternate before the team of Tim Carver and Julie Potter was put in place two years ago.

Motion: I move to appoint Jack Pauly as the CVRPC alternate representative. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 4-0.

K. EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

Motion: I move to approve excess weight permits for Newton Construction, Fred Vance Trucking, Feed Commodities Int'l, Agri-Mark dba Cabot Creamery, Dubois Construction, Kelley-View Farm, Haskins & Associates Concrete, H.A. Manosh Corp., and Kingsbury Companies. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Sparrow. 4-0.

L. WARRANTS

Signed.

M. MINUTES

Motion: I move to approve the minutes of March 16, 2015 as amended. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Sparrow. 4-0.

N. OTHER BUSINESS

The Planning Commission would like to know when the SB would like to meet with them to discuss

future regulation changes. May 7 works.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: I move to adjourn. Made: Mr. Sparrow. Second: Mr. Etnier. 4-0.