

Selectboard Memo
July 23, 2018 SB Meeting

Consideration of Grant Application for Proposed Recreation Field Entrance/Parking Lot Area Improvement Project

- Recreation Board vice-chair Paul Winters will be here to present the grant application to the VT Recreational Facilities Grant Program, due July 31st; maximum grant \$25,000 with an equivalent town cash match

Discussion on Options to Deal with Pending Expiration of VHCB Feasibility Study Grant for LaPerle Farm Property

- The VT Housing & Conservation Board granted the town a \$10,000 feasibility study grant in June 2017 for the evaluation of the LaPerle farm property as a location for senior/multigenerational housing; the grant was contingent on the town securing enough septic capacity to make the proposed 30 units of housing possible; this involved evaluating the wastewater capacity of the abutting Fairmont Farm parcel; that evaluation is essentially at an end with dispiriting results – no capacity in the area near the LaPerle septic site, but with some potential capacity in a location a half-mile away, which would be costly to take advantage of
- The grant is about to expire (the second of two extensions runs out at the end of the month) and there seems little reason for the town to push forward at this time; VHCB often has grants, in whole or in part, relinquished back to the entity; there are no negative consequences – we'll be fully eligible in the future if we choose to pursue VHCB funding again
- The board should review the draft letter to VHCB, which includes a reimbursement request for \$1,690 for the wastewater study; Chair Gardner should be authorized to sign the letter

Consideration of Deeds for Boundary Adjustment with LaPerle Family to Benefit Park & Ride Facility

- The deal to trade 0.063 acres of land with the LaPerle family to secure ownership of the small triangle of land behind the Park 'n Ride Facility is nearing a conclusion; the boundary adjustment permit has been issued; the mylar of the approved plat has been recorded; the only step remaining is to complete dueling quit claim deeds; if comfortable, the board should authorize TA Johnson to sign the deed
- There is one, somewhat confusing, side issue; generally towns have to give formal notice of the intent to transfer land (30 days notice, both posted and in Times Argus) or put the issue to town vote; in this case, however, we are dealing with an even swap of land and in support of a highway project, which may make it exempt from the notice requirement

Town Administrator Report

- Highway Project & Grant Update:
 - Park 'n Ride Facility:
 - Current remediation plan is to completely remove the pavement & the concrete pad (where the bus shelter is located), properly construct the subbase and then redo the finish work (pad, pavement, lines, bus shelter, etc.); no timeframe as yet – contractor is lining up the subs

- Quaker Road Culvert Replacement:
 - Project start date is scheduled for July 30th; Quaker Road will likely be closed at the project site from July 30th through August 24th
 - We have been orally approved for the requested grant amendment (\$44,500 increase); no paperwork as yet
 - We are still awaiting our wetlands permit; the expectation is that the draft permit will be finalized right after the notice period ends on July 26th
- Snow Hill Erosion Control Project:
 - The VTrans Better Roads grant work is in progress; road will be closed tomorrow due to a cross-culvert replacement
- 2018 VTrans Grant Requests:
 - Although a final written denial has not been received, it appears exceedingly unlikely that we will receive either the County Road paving or County Road culvert replacement (Morse Farm location) grants this year; we didn't expect to receive the paving grant, but we had hopes for the structures grant – essentially we traded the Quaker Road amendment for this grant; both grants applications will be viewed with more favor next year, which fits our projected project timetable (2019 or 2020) just fine
- Update on July 19th EMFD Quarterly Budget Presentation:
 - Calais Selectboard concerned with lack of direct notice from EMFD about meeting
- Meeting Schedule:
 - August 6th 6:30 pm Regular Selectboard meeting
 - August 14th 7 am to 7 pm Primary election at EMES
 - August 20th 6:30 pm Regular Selectboard meeting

Zoning Administrator Report

- 3 new applications since the July 9th SB meeting; 31 total so far this year
- The next DRB meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2018; there will be hearings for a Washington County Mental Health Services shift in use of its group home property at 225 VT Rte. 14 S to a maintenance/office facility and for a Joseph Carriveau request to reestablish a used car sales & service use at 2952 US Rte. 2