

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of May 23, 2019

(approved June 13, 2019)

Meeting opened at 7:00. Present: Selectmen Vern Worthen (at 7:23), Gary Mosher, Gerry Redlevske, Secretary Fran Varney, Tax Collector-Treasurer Yolanda Violette, Donnie Howard, and Maurice Levesque.

Brush cutting/chipping: Maurice Levesque offered to provide these services for \$80/hour, with Town paying to rent the chipper. Discussion about places needing work, and matter tabled.

Seven Lakes Alliance: Charlie Baeder presented information: for Belgrade Lakes culvert work grants.

(1) Re: Belgrade Lakes culvert work 50-50 grant, Charlie will draft letter and proposal for town to consider town funding of 50% that would require town vote next March for ditching work and culvert replacement on Pond Road and Bacon Road;

(2) Re: Joint Smithfield and Mercer culvert project on Bog Brook, KVCOG may help write joint grant request either for June 3 deadline or for later round in November 2019. Public safety is an issue, as well as fish passage). Question as to what is under the road there, may be referred to Charlie Tibbetts. Meeting on May 30 is planned at 9 am in Smithfield.

Brush cutting/chipping revisited: Arbormore has quoted \$100/hour using their own chipper. Gerry also knows someone with equipment to do the job whom he will contact.

West Sandy River Road project: Yolanda has letter ready to send to all owners on the road for a meeting to discuss on June 15. There are 18 homeowners and 7 land only owners.

Summer roads:

(1) Positive feedback on work done so far on Decker Road, discussion on surface, ditching, erosion blanket, and rocks.

(2) Discussed project for gravel and surface work of about 1200-1500 yards beginning near Fred Merry extending to Denis Culley place. Donnie will give Yolanda contact information so she can inquire of H. A. Harris re: 4 foot width fabric.

(3) Two culverts needed on Elm Street (near baseball field).

(4) No major change in Elm Street big culvert where beavers at work.

(5) Beavers cut down trees on Rome Rd Extension, cleaned up.

(6) Corson Road washes out near Frenchie's driveway.

(7) Culvert needs to be unplugged, and ditching needed near Fe Jones. Donnie will look into it.

(8) A dozen twenty-foot-long culverts are needed, perhaps six 12 inches in width, and six 15 inches in width.

(9) Town has a \$4000 credit with Gagne, Yolanda will check on culvert prices with Gagne and Maine Water Works.

(10) Discussed doing \$10,000 ditching project on far end of Elm Street or another part of Elm Street

(11) Donnie will start next grading when next period of rain ends.

(12) Town has a credit with Kincaid, Yolanda will check into.

(13) Stump problem on Pond Road has been fixed.

Mercer Community Center:

(1) Broken window in stage area needs to be fixed. Glass that was in parking lot has been picked up.

(2) Two posts in dugout fence in ballfield need fixing. Donnie will look into it, and also check if field is dry enough to support equipment. Perhaps MYLBO funds available.

Office computer report: The two office computers have worked well for us for 10 year.

Windows 10 is now necessary for many reasons. Yolanda is trying to find computers that will work with the office monitors.

Minutes from May 9 approved with minor changes. 3-0

June 6 special town meeting: Moderator will be Denis Culley. Selectmen approved the general article to see if voters want to allow marijuana products manufacturing facilities to operate in town. 3-0. Special town meeting warrant was signed by Selectmen.

Selectmen meetings will be June 13 and 27. Gerry is unable to be there for June 13. Vern and Gary will be there.

Warrant preview and final warrant approved 3-0. (Note – there are 19 Mercer children playing baseball.

Ethel Springer scholarship awarded to Kaylee Tibbetts. Yolanda will get the Pressey Prize information from Mill Stream.

Correspondence received:

(1) Minutes from SAD 54 meeting.

(2) MDOT emailed that flashing light at intersection will be replaced with new double style. Town may keep old one as a backup. New maintenance agreement for Town.

(3) Highway Bridge Inspection Report received.

Transfer Station

(1) No complaints.

(2) Will be closed Wednesday June 5, for parents to attend eight grade promotion celebration.

Tax Collector:

(1) Discussed tax clubs which spread out tax payments over 8-9 months without interest.

(2) Asked whether we will have 100% homeowners exemption with our lower sales ratio.

(3) Presented two homestead exemption issues; selectmen approved one, denied the other.

Abandoned roads: Fran gave a short overview of research needed and the process for recording list of abandoned roads.

Adjourned at 9:54.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Varney