

Minutes
West Rutland Select Board Meeting
December 9, 2013

Present: Sean Barrows, John Harvey, Chet Brown, Pete Bianchi, Nick Notte, Mary Ann Goulette.

Others Present: Brian Sullivan, Louis Hodgetts, Andrew Davis, representing Verizon wireless, Mike Moser, Jane Pratt, Ceil and Mike Scott, Victoria Bania, Peggy Jagadzinski, Stan Jagadzinski, Peter Kulig, Leona Minard, Pat Trepanier, Denis Lincoln, Lisa Garcia, Joe Rigg, Drew Moser, Patricia Moser

Call to Order: John Harvey, board chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Chet made a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013 and November 25, 2013 as presented. Pete seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Concerns: none

Verizon Presentation: Brian Sullivan, Verizon representative, introduced Louis Hodgetts, representative from Dubois and King and Andrew Davis, the land acquisition specialist. The discussion was around installation of a Verizon tower to improve cell service to the area. Mr. Sullivan stated that after the mailing went out they have 45 days' notice to file the application with the Public Service Board. Once filed, there is a 21 day public comment period. The proposal is for a 110 ft monopole tower. The tower will be located on the property of Frances Flynn off Robert Lane. There will be 2200 ft. access that they are going to make by using existing field roads and trails. Verizon will seed and mulch once the project is completed. The tower will improve service for Verizon customers as well as travelers on Rt. 4. The monopole tower has an equipment shelter that is 12' x 30' in a fenced area. The generator is in the equipment shelter. Generator is tested once a week for 30 minutes and can be done electronically. Andrew stated that the 110' pole has about a 70' elevation behind the pole. Mr. Hodgett said there will be very minimal clearing.

Questions about the project included:

- How high are the trees in the area? The average tree height is 50' but there are trees as high as 80 ft.
- How big is clearing for the antenna? 50 x 50 compound. 2500 square ft.
- How often is the generator tested? Testing once a week for 30 minutes.
- Is it loud? Building will muffle the sound. Closest resident is 1500 feet away from tower site.

- How often will the generator run? It will run if the power were out; otherwise, it will be tested once a week for 30 minutes. It can be scheduled at anytime.
- Does any other company want to piggy back on the tower? They may want to see if they get approval first. Could hold two other carriers as presented.
- Will you add more towers in the region? Yes. Looking at other locations such as Mendon and Pittsford. Not trying to rush these projects.
- Question about tax revenue. Depends on how the town taxes commercial property. It may increase the value of the land it sits on.
- How will the project affect adjacent land owners property values? Probably no impact.
- After permitting is obtained, how long will it take for completion of the project? It takes a few months for completion. At best looking at construction in May.
- Will there be any blasting? Hard to say. Best guess is no. Didn't observe any ledge.
- Is compound currently marked out? Not yet.
- How big is the foundation for the tower? 5 to 6 feet and it interlocks.
- Would 4 G network be available in home phone system. Yes.

Suggestions included flying a balloon to show the height. They already flew a balloon but it was very windy to get idea of what it would look like. Wind can distort the results. Also suggested a profile of a photograph of the hillside to address the height issue and give residents a better idea of how it will look.

Town Manager's Report:

Sheldon Sewer Cost Estimate: Already approved the engineering of the Sheldon Sewer and reconstruction. The reconstruction of Sheldon Avenue from Thrall Avenue to Pleasant Street is estimated at \$400,000. Never had cost estimate for sewer. The cost from engineer is \$100,000 and only four houses are affected by this. Have only talked about a preliminary design to see our options. Chet thinks samples should be taken to see what is in there. May not have to dig all the way down. Need to know if the four houses will connect on to the system before we spend any more money.

WR Development Corp. – The group is reactivated. Jane Pratt is Chair and Treasurer, Mike Moser is Vice President, Steve Martin is treasurer. Have \$50,000 of money available. They will be meeting the first Wednesday of every month except in January. Looking for available properties and properties to rehabilitate such as the Center Rutland corridor.

Highway Garage heat issue: The Glycol in system is causing water heaters to seize. Dan Dupras thinks it is a good system and recommended a bypass and

filter feeder at a cost of \$2,040. Sean moved to have the bypass and filter installed at the town garage. Pete seconded. Unanimous.

Highway Crew: Winter schedule based on weather changes was given to the Board.

Mary Ann thanked Mr. Heleba for sending the historical photo for display in the Town Hall.

Action Items:

Health Officer: Need to replace Bonnie. Chris Wener has shown interest in the health officer position. Mary Ann recommended appointing Chris. Sean motioned to appoint Chris Weiner as the health office. Chet seconded and it passed unanimously.

Zoning Administrator: Bonnie has resigned. Job was posted. Two inquires. One was Jane Pratt. Mary Ann recommended hiring Jane as the zoning administrator for 12 hours a week or as needed. Pete motioned and Sean seconded to approve Mary Ann's recommendation. Unanimous.

Authorization to bid on tax sales: Sale is scheduled for next week. Two properties still outstanding Bartlett and Fitzgerald. Sean made a motion and Chet seconded to allow Mary Ann to bid on the properties.

Board Member Concerns:

Chet: Winter jobs: stone in ditch on Boardman Hill. Widen out the road

Pete: none

Sean: none

John: Barnes Street pump station looks like it is coming apart.

Orders were approved.

Next meeting is 12/23/13

Executive session: Motion by Chet and Sean seconded to enter executive session at 7: 10pm for a real estate discussion.

Motion made by Sean at 7:48pm seconded by Chet to exit executive session. No action taken.

Adjourn: Motion made by Chet at 7:49 seconded by Pete to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Charleen Bowen