

West Rutland Select Board Minutes
February 9, 2015

Present: Chet Brown, Peter Bianchi, John Harvey, Mitch Frankenberg, Sean Barrows, Mary Ann Goulette, Susan Schreibman, Monika Ganguly-Kiefner.

Call to order: John Harvey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with pledge of allegiance.

Agenda: On a motion by Chet and seconded by Mitch the agenda was approved as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Chet made a motion to adopt the minutes of 1/26 as presented. Mitch seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Concerns: None

Discussion Items

WALK AUDIT: Susan Schreibman and Monika Ganguly-Kiefner from the Rutland Regional Planning Committee came to discuss the results of the walk audit they conducted here in West Rutland on October 22, 2014. Their main objective is to help promote healthier and easier transportation choices for pedestrians and bicyclists. Overall their findings were good. The sidewalks are in good condition and the crosswalks are well marked with easy accessibility, especially in front of the school. Driver behavior was very good and the conditions in the village center are very accommodating to pedestrians. Some recommendations were to improve signage on Marble Street where at the train crossing where the sidewalk ends. Reduce the width of Marble Street by adding on-street parking or a bike lane, which would serve as a buffer between traffic and pedestrians. Adding more benches and landscaping would offer walkers a nice place to rest and complement what is already present. The corner on Main Street where the NAPA Auto parts store is located could be safer with the installation of a buffer. And lastly they recommended additional crosswalks on the South Side of Route 4A and Clarendon Avenue and at Smith and Marble. Mary Ann will follow up with the appropriate people and address the rail crossing on Marble Street. The two large projects coming up that will connect Rutland Town and West Rutland will address some of the recommendations for Main Street.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT- Mary Ann mentioned the one-ton truck has been down again and her direction was to repair it and then park it. The town was approached by the Red Cross to do a year long blood drive challenge with Proctor. Our first one will be in March 25th here at the town hall from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and the second one is at the school.

LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL – Pete made a motion to approve the Price Chopper liquor license. Chet seconded and it was passed unanimously.

Pete made a motion to approve the Sunoco liquor license. Chet seconded and it was passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE- Sean made a motion to approve the certificate with a total mileage of 36.876 and it was seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.

SEWER TRUCK PURCHASE – Ed Savage found quotes for three different trucks ranging in price from \$15K to \$17K. There is a very good fleet discount for water departments averaging around \$8K. The average trade in value was \$14K. Sean suggested we should put the sewer truck out to bid vs. accepting a trade-in value as he was concerned the initial prices on the new trucks may be inflated to cover the trade-in price offered. It was brought up that the sewer truck isn't as serious as the one ton so we have time to bid out the sewer truck. Everyone agreed to table the sewer topic and Mary Ann will look into selling the sewer truck outright. The board asked that Ed find out what the prices would be on the new trucks without the trade in. Chet suggested to keep the sewer truck for running errands etc. to minimize the wear and tear on the new truck.

HIGHWAY TRUCK PURCHASE – Frank Woolf found quotes on two different trucks, a Ford 550 and Ram 5500. With the current savings and the additional \$70K from the upcoming budget in July there is adequate money for a down payment on new truck leaving residual monies for any other equipment needs/repairs in the future. The one-ton needed repairs again last week and was fixed in house and then parked. Lead time out is about 4 weeks for delivery from Fairfield on the body of the truck. After a discussion of the pro and cons of each model Chet made a motion to buy the Dodge for 72,029 and Sean seconded. Chet wanted to know what the difference would be for a 9'6" vplow versus the one in the package. Chet was worried about the plow being too high and ruining mailboxes.

STATE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT– The State is providing the town with new signs in front of the school with the Safe Routes to School grant the town was awarded. The agreement between the State and West Rutland states the town will maintain the bump out at the school and all the signs in front of the school. Mary Ann informed the board that the lights on the new beacon sign are solar flashers and are on timers that are on during arrival and departure times. Pete made a motion to accept and sign the agreement and was seconded by Chet. Passed unanimously.

BOARD CONCERNS –

CHET- Chet would like the one-ton truck parked. He doesn't think they should be plowing big streets/jobs/hills with it. He also suggested plowing tighter to the corners of the road. He mentioned how the pot-hole is getting worse on 133 by Chamberlain's property and recommends fixing that this summer.

SEAN- Suggested it would be nice to shovel access ways to crosswalks when the sidewalks are being plowed, specifically the one on Clarendon Avenue. He also requested that the fire hydrants be cleared out with each storm.

PETER- Peter wanted to know how is the garage at the sewer plant is coming along. Mary Ann said the pad came in and it will all be put together when the weather improves. He mentioned how the banks are getting a little high on Dewey Avenue. Mary Ann had already told the highway guys to make them smaller. Pete had asked at the last meeting if the sand was bigger. Frank said it's a little coarser but works really well on the ice.

Peter made a motion to adjourn the meeting AT 7:26. Sean seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Christen FitzGerald