

## SUNDERLAND SELECT BOARD

Regular Meeting - April 2, 2018

1. Call to order by Mark Hyde
2. Board members present
  - a. Rick Timmerman, Jon French, Mark Hyde, Steven Bendix, and Melanie Virgilio
  - b. Audience
    - i. Marc Johnston (Road Foreman), Rose Keough (Town Clerk/Treasurer)
3. Session recorded by GNAT-TV
4. Approval of Minutes from March 12th, 2018
  - a. Motion made to approve the previous meeting minutes made by French, seconded by Bendix, motion passed
5. Report from Road Liaison and/or Highway Foreman
  - a. Clean up occurring around town
  - b. Cleaning trucks with neutralizer
  - c. Finishing up retaining wall
  - d. Considering switching to stone sand for next winter
    - i. Towns around us use it and like it
    - ii. Cleaner, will leave less dust on paved roads
    - iii. More expensive, but will provide more traction
  - e. Future grants (town portion will come from bridge co-op reserve)
    - i. Pavement on Kansas Road from Arlington town line to Kelley Stand Road
    - ii. I beams on Hill Farm Rd bridge
    - iii. Pavement on Bacon Hollow to Shady Pines Road (full grinding and pavement instead of overlay)
    - iv. Culvert replacement near Green Mountain Power on South Road

1. Road will probably need to be closed for about one week
  2. Old culvert was 2 feet wide, new culvert will be 6 feet wide
- f. Sunderland Hill Road will have work done after school gets out, and will need to be closed for about week
- g. Consulting contract for Fitzgerald \$8,200 for road erosion inventory
- i. We received an 80/20 grant to complete
  - ii. Motion made by French to sign contract with Fitzgerald for \$8,200, seconded by Timmerman, motion passed
- h. Trading old chassis wouldn't be fruitful to complete online, but there are at least two people locally interested, and have a good offer from the dealer as well
6. Old Business
- a. Discuss/approve purchase of a digital speedometer
- i. Timmerman relayed that \$2,925 is a promotional offer
  - ii. Will use input from Road Crew members to decide on effective places for installation
  - iii. Solar powered
  - iv. Consensus is to continue further investigation on speedometer, decision will be made in June
  - v. Virgilio brought up other, less expensive, options to dissuade drivers from speeding, even if used in the meantime
    1. Hyde and Timmerman shared their personal experience to reflect the necessity of a change, as well as the effectiveness of speedometers
    2. Hyde also mentioned that the speedometers create a log of speeds clocked, and when, which can be shared with law enforcement
    3. Johnston shared that signs cost at least \$100

4. Johnston also shared that while working on Dunham Road, there have been several residents that have stopped to ask him about the increased law enforcement presence

## 7. New Business

- a. Discuss town positions that aren't filled and approach to resolve - consider modifying positions at next town meeting
  - i. Consistent lack of interest in filling positions, such as listers and auditors
  - ii. point of having an auditor is to have a second set of eyes to review financial information and double check information
    1. A resident is interested in reconciling bank statements and performing other auditor responsibilities
    2. He has financial experience
    3. While the town should have more than one auditor, having even one would be a substantial help
  - iii. Bendix researched the laws associated with auditors, and discovered that there is a way that the elected positions could be eliminated, and instead hire an outside source to perform town audits
    1. Bendix relayed that through his discovery, there must be three auditors, or none
    2. Virgilio suggested adopting a measurement allowing an unofficial auditor to assist (unofficially) with auditing responsibilities
    3. Virgilio also suggested potentially adopting a measurement giving the authority to town auditors if there are three positions filled, otherwise an outside auditor will be assigned
      - a. Other members relayed that they don't believe that would be allowed

4. Virgilio asked if an outside hiring firm could help, Keough suggested that positions may potentially be held by non-residents
  5. Motion made by Timmerman to appoint Ted Teppahahn to Town Auditor, motion seconded by French, motion passed
8. Review of Bills, Correspondence, and Signing of Select Board's Orders
- a. VTrans sent letter informing that they will be installing rumble strips on Route 7 from Bennington to Wallingford
  - b. VLCNT sent information regarding Select Board training, but it was in March, Virgilio will look into further
  - c. Timmerman shared that next year we will need to include a much larger salt use number than we anticipate needing, to avoid spending fair market value if the contract number is exceeded
  - d. The new Delinquent Tax Collector will have office hours on two Wednesdays a month at Town Hall, residents can call for more information
9. Motion to adjourn made by Timmerman, seconded by French, motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S M W'. The letters are connected and written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Muñoz Wells

