



TOWN OF RICHFORD

Selectboard
POBox 236, 94 Main St.
Richford, VT 05476

Unapproved Minutes Monday August 5, 2019

Chair Andrew Derby called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following people present: Select board members Derby, Linda Collins, Scott Coons, Jacques Desautels and Sherry Paquette, visitors Joey Randall, Duane Hebert and Joanne Daignault, Also present was a cameraperson from Access TV.

Paquette made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 31 special meeting to set the tax rate, Coons second, motion passed. Only three board members were present for the special meeting and could vote, including Collins.

Collins made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 15 regular meeting with a second by Desautels. Motion passed.

Minutes of a special meeting on July 30 could not be approved because only two board members were present at the meeting. According to the Secretary of State, minutes do not have to be approved although it is the norm. The minutes will stay in a file.

Coons reported that the Water and Sewer Department has fixed a service line on Eastern Ave and will bill the occupants because the line is their responsibility. They also replaced a 40' line on Highland Ave. Coons said he would like to see a sewer policy enacted.

Paquette reported that buildings are being repaired. Joe Broe is repairing brick on the town hall, the doors at the fire station have been repaired and Bob Peters is working on the Post Office floor. Joe is preparing a quote to fix the cement steps.

Collins commented on a flat tire caused by roofing nail at the town hall and said the town clerk also got a flat for the same reason. Several nails have been picked up from the parking lot and Paquette will have the area swept.

Collins reported on a meeting to update the Emergency Operations Plan that took place on July 30. Minutes were posted on the meeting that included, law enforcement, ambulance, fire, school and town officials. The board signed the National Incident Management System Resolution (NIMS) agreeing to follow federal procedure in emergency situations.

Collins presented a letter from Attorney Michael Gawne regarding a fine being imposed on a zoning violation for \$2000. The letter proposed a lesser fine of \$1500, which the board rejected. Derby made the motion to leave the fine at \$2000 and Paquette made a second. Motion passed.

Collins asked Desautels for a way to reach him. He agreed to call a resident who has questions about grading his road.

Derby suggested they once again request the Sheriff for an automated speed sign for the town and monthly reports from the Sheriff.

Desautels reported that the dirt roads are in good shape. The town received a \$120 bill from Keith Jackson to replace bushes on his property he said were damaged by the town salt. The board declined to pay the bill attributing it to winter kill.

Desautels said the town crew is ready to do the Combs Rd. culvert and are waiting for one easement. He will also start bidding out fuel for town buildings for this winter. Coons said he would like the board to adopt a winter road maintenance policy and will look into creating one.

Collins agreed to find a firearms policy a previous board created but never passed. There have been reports of guns fired within village limits so the policy will be revisited.

Reporting as health officer, Collins said she has dealt with two dog bites and one report of bedbugs this week. Animal Control Officer Tracy Ovitt will place one dog in quarantine for 10 days. The dog is unregistered and the owner will receive a letter. The second dog bite was from a “mangy” sheperd type dog who went on a porch and bit a man, who was then treated at the hospital. The dog is unknown and ran into the woods. People are cautioned not to approach the animal who was last seen near the Coy Road .

She also informed the board that the “Logger” has rented the town hall for a show in October.

Derby made a motion to go into executive session regarding employment issues. Collins second and the board entered executive session at 8:30. The board came out of executive session at 9 p.m. after motions by the same people. As a result of executive session, the board will look into an earlier investigation by State Police regarding a former employee and try to obtain a final report.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m..

Submitted by: Linda Collins

Attest:

