

Fletcher Select Board Monday 16 August 2021 Minutes

Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting Fletcher Town Offices Select Board Meeting Minutes 08/16/2021

Select Board: Jon Bondy, Matt Gillilan, and Bruce Douglas (taking minutes in Rachel's absence; all of these attended the meeting in person)

Attendees: Pam Jedlicka and Eva Gillilan (both remote); Aimee Tinker (for Items 6 & 7)

1. Meeting called to order about 7:15 pm (due to Zoom related technical issues)
2. Road Report – Matt
 - a Matt called Norman after 3:00 pm did not get an update. They have been hauling sand & cutting brush. Cutting back includes apple trees – whenever possible the crew is going to the door to let owners know that the Town needs to cut back apple tree branches that are hanging over the road.
 - b Grading - just did Ellsworth Road, and it only lasted 3-4 days. Need to let large/deep potholes stand for a bit before regrading.
 - c Speed Limit - Regional Planning commission is about to release new maps, which the town will be able to use for designating road segments where we want to set speed limits.
 - i Assembling a list of signage needed and will be ordering signs (mostly 30 mph, some 35 mph and others). Dept of Corrections makes signs and shipping is free
 - ii Rushford Road has a blind driveway and needs a 35 mph at Cambridge Town Line.
 - iii Confirmed – that we do not have to do studies for existing speed limits.
 - iv One of major speed limit changes will be slowing down from Ide-L Acres to Binghamville village
 - v Will bring all speed limit changes to the Select Board at once
 - vi The intent is not trying to collect money/fines, just want to lower driver's speed. Signage will allow officers to issue tickets
3. Status of Metcalf Pond water level, grate, ledges, parking
 - a Water Levels Jon talked to Sybil about Metcalf Pond when he called the town hall. Sybil was hesitating to complain. Jon's cousin-in-law told him about to hardware to automatically monitor pond water levels. John is willing look into these devices that can be either read by downloading data from device or transmitted via cell phone signal. Bruce suggested installing a staff gage* on one of the posts in Metcalf Pond upstream of the new culvert. Jon expressed concern about seasonal recalibration if the staff gage washes out. Bruce suggested also putting in the lower gage by the parking lot canoe launch so it will be out of the high velocity zone of the creek. Jon suggested the possibility of a camera that can record water levels on the staff gage continuously
 - b Beaver Dam - Sybil talked to Ed and he said he would go out to beaver dam at the ledges again. Matt will check with Ed as to whether we put in the beaver pipes

Fletcher Select Board Monday 16 August 2021 Minutes

down at the dam at the ledges. The reason to put the pipes in is to let the water flow without the beavers hearing the water flow

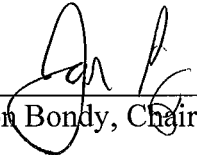
- c Action items, Matt will look into the following:
 - i Getting two staff gages* installed (one upstream and one downstream of new culvert) and install them at same elevation, or tied into same datum
 - ii Follow up on the installation of pipes at the ledges
4. Town Plan – Jon suggested that have a hearing at the September 20th meeting. Bruce mentioned two people came to the Planning Board’s hearing. All agreed with hearing on the 20th. Jon will reach out to Cheryl Vreeland about details.
 5. Heat Pump progress – Will be installed in mid-September. No further discussion at this time.
 6. Broadband progress
 - a Jon pointed out that we need to have a meeting with Mansfield Community Fiber (MCF). Bruce suggested that we should have a contract with MCF to protect both the Town and MCF.
 - b Aimee Tinker was invited and joined the meeting regarding Broadband. Jon is surprised that Primer attorney who reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) did not recommend a contract.
 - c Jon pointed out that the budget currently in use is not the one in the signed and recorded MOU. Jon asked Aimee if MCF signed the loan and grant documents. Aimee replied that MCF signed many documents.
 - d Jon stated that when MCF buys fiber for \$270K worth of fiber (which is to be paid by the Northern Borders grant) before MCF has invoiced us for an equivalent amount to be paid by the Vermont Economic Development Authority (VEDA), we will be unable to reimburse MCF for the \$270K. Looking at the spreadsheet, the bulk of the VEDA-reimbursed expenses occur when the network is being built out, which will not occur until the spring. This implies that MCF might not get reimbursed for the \$270K for 6 to 9 months. Aimee has reached out to Kathy Lavoie at Northwestern Vermont Regional Planning Commission about an in-person meeting. Jon understands why NBRC has requirements they do. Jon wants the meeting with MCF to be in-person, not on Zoom.
 7. Other items by Aimee Tinker
 - a Cheryl Vreeland came in to make sure we schedule a hearing for the Town plan (addressed previously in tonight’s meeting).
 - b The Board the Civil Authority meeting needs to be scheduled to go through the voter checklist – planning on having meeting in October, before a scheduled Select Board meeting.
 - c There has been an inquiry, as to who has jurisdiction over speed limits on private roads? Matt pointed out that the speed limits are typically determined by private road residents, who can reach out to Jim Cota at District 8 or Matt about the issue.

Fletcher Select Board Monday 16 August 2021 Minutes

They can order signs through the Town and get the Town's bulk buying price if they let us know before we order signs.

- 8. Vermont Alert training will be at 6:00 – 7:00 pm on 9/20
- 9. Public input - Only Eva was still on and she had no comment
- 10. Meeting adjourned at about 9:10 pm

Action Items are underlined within above minutes



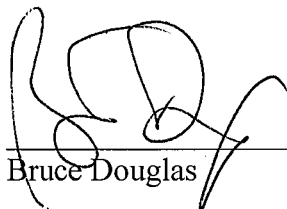
Jon Bondy, Chair



Matt Gillilan

Rich Bidwell

Matt Swartz



Bruce Douglas