

Town of Fletcher Select Board Meeting
Fletcher Town Offices
Select Board Meeting Minutes
08/15/2022

Select Board: Jon Bondy, Rich Bidwell, Bruce Douglas, and Matt Swartz.

Attendees: Bill Stygles, Karrie Sweet (Town Clerk), Aimee Tinker (Assistant Town Clerk), and Rachael Wilson (Secretary).

1. Call to Order: 7:01pm
2. Dogs Licenses:
 - a. – On 8/9/2022, Bill called everyone on the list of residents who had dog licenses in the past, but did not renew them. Out of 8 residents he contacted, 2 came into the Town Clerk’s office. Bill was unable to leave a message for 1 person. Bill asked the Select Board what they would like him to do with the remaining unlicensed dogs. Rich said that he believes if Bill has to reach out to people about their dog licensed, that it means the dogs are considered unlicensed and the residents would have to pay a \$50 fine per dog. Jon suggested that Bill call everyone again and say that you’ve called once and this is the second call, if we do not hear from you in one week, you will be fined \$50 per dog. Bill should follow up with Karrie and Aimee on Monday next week about the residents who have not responded, and Aimee can issue the fines.
 - b. Barking dog: Complainant still has not filed a complaint.

Bill left the meeting

3. Mansfield Community Fiber:
 - a. The cost for Make Ready is over by \$26,000. Jon moved that the Select Board approve spending \$26,000 of the ARPA money to cover the expense. The Select Board agreed to authorize spending \$26,000 of ARPA money on the Make Ready overage.

Matt Swartz joined the meeting

4. Budget:
 - a. Jon handed out copies of the budget for the Select Board to take home and review. He asked that Select Board members review the budget. The Select Board did a quick overview of the budget. Jon asked the Select Board to make notes on the budget on any line item that they would like to discuss and to point out any items that should be explained to residents in more detail at Town Meeting.
5. Rescue Squads:
 - a. Subscription Letters: Jon received a subscription letter from Fairfax rescue. The letters are addressed to “Postal Patron”. Jon emailed Fairfax Rescue to ask to understand if these letters went out to residents who are served by Cambridge Rescue.
 - b. Summary about Cambridge Rescue: The Select Board reviewed the summary Jon wrote that had Bruce’s suggested revisions. Jon will produce a new document that includes Bruce’s changes. Matt Swartz said he can create a summary with bullet points to add to the document as well. Bruce said he noticed that the Select Board has been spending a lot of time to breakdown the costs of something that isn’t that expensive. Rich said he understands that they’ve spent a lot of time, but it is important for the Select Board to

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hold Cambridge Rescue accountable, especially because Cambridge Rescue may keep increasing the cost year after year. Jon said he wants residents to feel like they were in the room with the Select Board when they met with Cambridge Rescue. Bruce said that he doesn't want to do the town a disservice. Jon said that the Select Board is presenting the information to the residents so that the voters can make the decision, not the Select Board. Rich said he thinks the Select Board is doing their due diligence. Jon will take all the revisions and the summary from Matt Swartz and combine everything and send it back out to the Select Board.

6. Hauling Sand Analysis:

- a. Jon handed out copies of the draft spreadsheet he created that shows the cost for the Road Crew to haul sand. Jon explained that he created this in a spreadsheet so that the numbers could be changed as costs change. Jon asked the Select Board if there are any expenses missing from the analysis. Rich asked how to accurately calculate the maintenance costs. Jon explained that the maintenance costs come from the maintenance costs listed in the Town Report. The Select Board discussed this information. Rich explained that the current sand pile is bigger than usual and the town will have to bring in less sand this year. Rich thinks that, because a smaller amount of sand is needed, this year is a good year to try hiring someone to haul sand. Rich and Jon both explained that if the Road Crew is hauling sand, then other work isn't getting done on the roads. The Select Board discussed how to best track the Road Crew's time.

Karrie and Aimee joined the meeting

- b. Jon asked Karrie and Aimee if it is possible to separate out Road Crew members time spent in each category. Jon explained that Glen is more likely to work on trucks than other members of the Road Crew. Karrie explained that they could run a report at the end of the year to see how much time Glen spent working on equipment.

Karrie and Aimee left the meeting

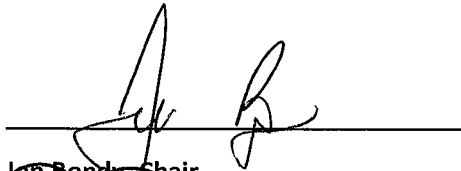
- c. Bruce said he agrees with Rich to hire out for hauling sand this year. Rich mentioned that because of the time of year, they might be limited on who could haul sand. Matt Swartz asked if the Road Crew gets sand from the same sand pit. Rich explained that Norman likes to mix sand types and would switch sand pits if the sand quality is different. Jon asked the Select Board to think about the spreadsheet and what the Select Board would like to do. Jon said that it would be helpful to understand what the Road Crew still has left to do before winter, to better understand if hauling sand is a good option for this year.

7. Snow Removal Objectives:

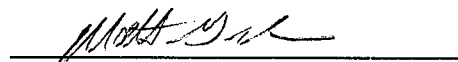
- a. Jon handed out the draft of the snow removal objectives. Rich said he thinks that it reads well. Matt Swartz said that a guidance around snow depth is difficult. Jon would like Matt Gillilan and the Road Crew to review. Bruce said that he agrees with Rich that the document is well written. Jon said that anything can be adjusted in the document.

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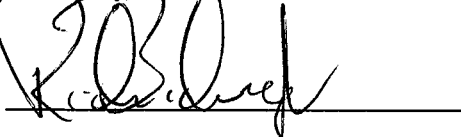
8. Easements need to be done to get the two box culverts installed. When Rich sees Matt Gillilan, he will ask about the easements. Jon suggested that if Rich can take some of the burden of the easements off of Matt Gillilan's plate, that would be helpful.
9. Metcalf Pond:
 - a. Water level: Jon thinks it is reasonable to find someone to kayak to the ledge and measure the water level. Rich said the Road Crew installed the pipes for the beaver dams on 8/5/2022. Jon said that the Select Board should determine if there is a difference in the water level by the end of August. Jon mentioned that if the water level does not decrease, then it is safe to assume the experiment failed.
 - b. Jon also mentioned that there were emails back and forth regarding whether the pond water levels are the town's responsibility or the pond residents' responsibility. Matt Swartz asked if the pond residents believe it is something the town did to cause the water level change. Jon explained that the culvert was replaced with a bigger, deeper culvert which would likely improve the water level. Jon said that if it comes down to it, that the pond residents could form an association to handle the water level concerns. Jon wondered if the association messed with beaver dams, would they get in trouble versus if the town managed the beaver dams? Matt Swartz pointed out in the state beaver policy in Maine, they trap beavers and also utilize beaver mitigation systems.
10. The next Select Board meeting will be September 7, 2022 since there is a holiday Monday, September 5, 2022.
11. Rachael's last Select Board Meeting taking minutes will be October 17, 2022 due to personal reasons.
12. Adjournment: 8:40pm



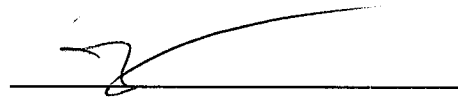
Jon Bondy, Chair



Matt Gillilan



Rich Bidwell



Matt Swartz



Bruce Douglas