

Town of Fletcher – Select Board
Fletcher Town Clerk's Office
July 24, 2023
Regular Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

- Selectboard Members: Rich Bidwell, Jon Bondy, Matt Gillilan, Bruce Douglas
 - Zoning Administrator: Maurice Rathbun; Cory Getty
 - Guests: Jennifer Getty (Fletcher Resident); Greg Tatro
1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm
 2. Jon addressed Greg Tatro
 - a. Following up on the SB meeting two weeks ago – July 10th.
 - b. It now appears, from the Governor's Executive Order, that the Sweet pit cannot be opened/active until an Act 250 permit is obtained from the State and a conditional use permit is obtained from the Town. The Executive Order specifically states that the conditional use permit is required even in the current state of emergency.
 - c. Greg said nothing has been taken from the quarry, because most of flood recovery work was from Morrisville eastward
 - d. Maurice asked if they (Linda Sweet and GW Tatro) were going to get a permit
 - e. Greg replied that he has not decided whether to pursue this or not
 - f. GW Tatro will remove the excavator they had moved to the pit in anticipation of needing it to provide emergency materials
 - g. The Board has rescinded permission to use the pit
 3. Greg Tatro, Maurice Rathbun, and Cory Getty left the meeting.
 4. We received a quote of \$3,990 for a road side speed indicator – Matt S will review, since the quote did not specify whether the sign has the features that we want.
 5. Matt S arrived at 7:18 pm
 6. Jon brought up 8 questions from NBRC.
 - a. He has drafted answers and will run them by Kathy Lavoie
 - b. Matt S feels that the response is progress of a sort
 - c. Rich stated that the General Store was approached by an MCF contractor to install fiber by digging up their parking lot. The GS never requested service, so Jon will look into what happened.
 7. Matt G Road report
 - a. Single axle truck is finally here
 - b. Alan Cary did some work on Kinsley Road
 - c. Sent two trucks to Fairfax for a day to help with flood repair
 - d. Glen offered Fairfax more equipment if needed, but they are all set for now
 - e. Radio North has been contacted for communication equipment installation
 - f. Roadside mowing has been finished and the contractor was paid
 - g. Glen asked about getting another generator for the town garage
 - i. Matt will look into options and report back
 8. Jon brought up the topic of the mechanics of authorizing the purchase of the small truck
 - a. Rich suggested that we authorize the Road Commissioner to approve a truck up to a specific dollar amount
 - b. Rich stated that Norm told him that they found a new \$48K cab and chassis at Handy's in St Albans; it would need another \$12K to \$14K for a dump body
 - c. Current truck is a Chevy 3500 Heavy – so actually a 2-Ton truck

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- d. We would need a 5500 truck
 - e. Matt is willing to look around in addition to Norman
 - f. Rich said that customers are avoiding buying diesels due to reliability problems with emission controls
 - g. We mentioned the purchase of this truck in the Town Report, but only in one place rather than in two: we missed it in the multi-year Equipment Fund plan. We appear to have enough money for this purchase despite this omission.
 - h. The Selectboard authorized Matt to approve purchase of a truck for up to \$70K, in an attempt to allow Matt and Glen to act quickly if necessary, since we lost the truck mentioned in the minutes last week.
9. Rich stated that SB Collins now runs the pumps at the Fletcher Store, so availability of gasoline should improve, both for the Road Crew and for residents.
10. Sybil Jewell extended appreciation to the Selectboard for work on improving drainage on Metcalf Pond over the past few years.
- a. One property owner is kayaking down and trying to keep the drainage pipes maintained
 - b. Sybil noted that Metcalf Pond used to be a 71 acre pond and now is listed as 80 acres by the State.
11. Jon circled back to Broadband funding with the following motion:
- a. The board authorizes paying up to \$35K from non-taxpayer general fund money to support the broadband project when and if the project is re-started (i.e., after NBRC allows the project to continue).
 - b. The motion was approved unanimously.
12. Remains of Lancaster Garage - the Northwest Solid Waste Management District may have money to support removal: Jenn will follow up, specifically asking for examples of how this kind of money has been used in the past by other towns
- a. Matt – David Clark reportedly learned that the site was reported to the State of Vermont; management of the site may be out of the Town’s hands
 - b. Reportedly someone has dropped off trash at the site.
 - c. Will ask Dave Clark to report on status
13. Metcalf Pond Access for Werner – Bruce circulated a draft for review at the next SB meeting
14. Filling pavement cracks – no progress
15. Widening School Road – Matt will follow up with land owner
16. Aimee joined meeting
- a. Contract with Spencer in support of the Listers - Aimee will follow up with Listers next week for Select Board meeting in August
 - b. BCA assessment appeals hearings are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday
 - i. Thomas Road sign is missing
 - ii. Pond Road sign is also missing
 - c. Sale of 2003 Mac – we are up to \$7,500 on a bid. We are having technical problems forwarding Glen’s photos to bidders
 - i. Bidding will end on the 2nd of August
 - ii. Reserve is \$15,000

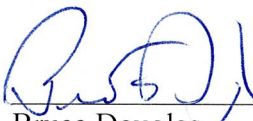
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- iii. Aimee will look into how we might be able to contact the highest bidder if the reserve is not met
 - d. Aimee gave Matt an email containing the guardrail quote. Matt will reach out to them to see how to handle second guard rail (extend the first contract, or create a new one)
 - e. Resident on River Road: utility pole is across the road from his house – he was told that by MCF that he would have to pay to dig up the road to bury the cable under the road. Jon will follow-up with MCF
17. Marshall Road –
- a. Matt went to an onsite meeting regarding discontinuing this Class 4 road
 - b. George Raine will survey road and design a bridge
 - c. Bruce will email the statute to George Raine regarding the process of throwing up a road.
18. Personnel policy -Matt S sent out draft document which we will discuss at the next SB meeting.
19. Rich brought up whether our road crew salaries are competitive
- a. We will need to stay on top of this every year.
20. Meeting Adjourned at approximately 8:34 pm



Jon Bondy, Chair

Rich Bidwell



Bruce Douglas



Matt Gillilan

Matt Swartz