

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – Special Meeting on April 16, 2014

Present: Philip Keenan, John Sears, Bob MacLean – Board
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant
Pamela and Craig Shrimpton, David Cameron (Stantec), Bob and Brandon Root,
Kenneth and Paul Gosselin, Chris Tirone, Rick Kean, Greg Cox

The meeting was called to order at 7:23pm.

1. Bid Opening for Fire Pumper – One bid was received from Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus for a 2001 Rosenbauer Pumper for \$97,500. Bob Root confirmed that it was a truck that they had looked at. The bid was taken under advisement until the Fire Chief could be consulted.

Greg Cox showed up a little further into the meeting; reviewed the bid documents and noted some specs that had not been addressed. He will contact the vendor to get answers so that the Board could consider awarding the bid at the next meeting.

2. Forge Hill Road repair status – Virginia briefly explained the history of the issue. David Cameron addressed Stantec's involvement. He explained that the original proposed repairs were so costly because they involved armoring the bank. Stantec thought it would be more practical to move the road over. However, the design that they came up with for the best repair was too intrusive onto the Shrimpton's property. The Shrimpton's are willing to move the row of rocks and have the trees cut down in order for the road to be moved a smaller distance. Dave explained the stream crossing standards, and that if they redesign again, they might consider bridges instead of open bottom culverts which require two additional permits.

John Sears and David will set up a conference call with DEP hopefully within the next day or two to discuss requirements and any possible leniency due to the small size of the "streams".

Discussion also addressed the possibility of only having access from Pudding Hollow Road, but that caused concern with emergency vehicle access. It is not practical to think that part of the road can be kept open during the winter.

Virginia mentioned the possibility of discontinuing the road and turning it into a statutory private way, but the Shrimpton's and Gosselin's were not at all supportive of that possibility.

3. New business:

a) John provided an update on Vocational Transportation. Charlemont is still not agreeable to the proposed amended plan. The Board is still unanimously in support of the proposed amended plan.

b) Greg asked about Berkshire East access road needing a name. The Board agreed that it is Berkshire East's responsibility to come up with a name. Greg will then file the name with E911.

c) Rick officially thanked Craig for his role and efforts toward hooking up the high speed network. It is now functioning with a guest network and a private network. The Board thanked the Communications Committee as well.

d) Virginia relayed an inquiry from Charlie to see if the Board wanted him to have the Treasurer's files and supplies (that had been delivered to the Town Office so that Virginia could fill in while he was away) back. Phil replied that until the Board is notified in writing to the contrary, Charlie is still the appointed Treasurer of the Town, and is expected to perform the duties appointed to him. Other Board members agreed, and suggested scheduling a performance review after Town Meeting to establish whether or not Charlie even wanted to be considered for re-appointment.

There being no further new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant
Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

Philip Keenan

John Sears

Robert MacLean