

SELECTBOARD- TOWN OF BRADFORD
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, November 9, 2017
Meeting Minutes
6:30 p.m. at the Bradford Academy

In Attendance:

Board Members Present: Thomas E. Unkles, Lisa D. Sharp Grady, Carole P. Taylor, Randy L. Moore, Daniel A. Perry III

Administrative Assistant: Danielle Kingsbury

Others present: Alex Nuti-de Biasi; Ryan Terrill, John Bean, Mollie Hatch, Nancy Jones

Ted Unkles Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Public Comment:

John Bean made the Selectboard aware that water is running across the end of South Pleasant Street onto a State road. The water is beginning to be a problem as cold weather approaches it is freezing and causing the roadway to become icy.

The Selectboard recommended that John Bean take photographs of the road and send them to the State Highway Department and/or the VT Secretary of Transportation regarding the issue.

Planning Commission- DuBois & King Invoice:

Randy Moore made a motion authorizing Ted Unkles to review and sign off on all invoices regarding the Planning Commissions planning grant and also to approve the invoice in the amount of \$9,128 to DuBois and King. The Town's match portion of the invoice is \$6,000 to come out of the "2017 Planning Grant-Town Match" fund and the remaining \$3,128 is to come out of the capital funds.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The draft subdivision bylaws will be coming to the Selectboard soon after the New Year.

McDuffee Road:

Several Land owners on McDuffee Road have been contacting the Town Clerk's Office and the Conservation Commission wanting to give their property to the Town of Bradford and have their taxes excused. McDuffee Road exists on paper but it has never been built, and since its route appears to be right on a streambed, it is not certain if the road could be built. All of the properties are land locked and if someone decides to create a road there are provisions in the deeds for each property owner requiring that all property owners share the cost of maintaining the road if it is ever built.

The Selectboard believes that as long as some of the parcels remain in private ownership it is not wise for the Town to take over any of the land on McDuffee Road. The Selectboard also cannot accept a donation of any parcel in exchange for forgiving the back taxes. Any request to forgive unpaid taxes would have to go to the Board of Abatement. The Selectboard asked that Ted Unkles draft a letter to the property owners that have written and reply that while we appreciate their offer, the Town of Bradford is not interested in accepting any of the land on McDuffee Road unless or until they receive all parcels in that subdivision.

Nancy Jones will continue researching and making calls to other land owners that abut the properties in question.

Memorial Field Guidelines & Application:

Carole Taylor made a motion to approve the proposed regulations for Memorial Field as well as the application.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

2018 Appropriation Requests:

Randy Moore made a motion to approve the following appropriation requests as a slate:

Capstone Community Action, Inc \$1,000 (same amount as last year)

Little Rivers Health Care \$1,500 (same amount as last year)

Orange County Parent Child Center \$1,500 (request not received last year, but the town has supported this organization in the past)

Safeline \$1,500 (same amount as last year)

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

GMP Pole and Wire Installation Old Post Road:

Green Mountain Power has requested approval to put up utility lines along with installing poles and the trimming of trees in the public right of way along Old Post Road.

Randy Moore made a motion to approve the pole placement and trimming of trees as long as Phil Page has reviewed and approved the project as well.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard would like to request that GMP attach a map to the requests next time.

Fire Department- Capital Fund/Air Pack Purchase:

Dan Perry made a motion to approve moving \$5,684 from the Fire Departments New Equipment line item to the Fire Departments Capital Fund for the purchase of the air packs (Town match portion). The air packs will be purchased in 2018 and the Fire Department does not want the money lost in the general fund.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Lisa Sharp made a motion to approve the additional \$270.00 for the installation of LED lights at the Fire Department as Efficiency Vermont is no longer giving rebates for projects at non residential facilities.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Minutes:

Carole Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2017.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Orders:

Randy Moore made a motion to approve the orders dated November 10, 2017 in the amount \$81,939.67.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Randy Moore made a motion to approve the orders for the appropriation requests dated November 8, 2017 in the amount of \$57,464.50.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Other Business:

The next regular Selectboard meeting has been changed to Tuesday, November 21, 2017 as the usual Thursday night meeting falls on Thanksgiving.

Ted Unkles mentioned that the deadline for demolishing the old Nutting house on South Main Street has passed. Jason Fornwalt contacted the Selectboard and let them know that he had hoped to have the house demolished by now but he has run into a few issues along the way. There was asbestosis in the building that they just finished getting rid of and now they are trying to find a place to get rid of all wood clapboards covered with lead paint. The current landfill in New Hampshire will no longer take lead paint so Jason is trying to find someone else who will. Jason hopes to have the building demolished within the next week.

John Bean expressed his thanks to the Bradford Police Department for the good job they did patrolling during the Route 25B bridge closure.

A complaint letter regarding a culvert on Cobblestone Alley was brought to the Selectboard's attention by the Road Foreman. The property owners expressed that they would like the Town to reimburse them for \$1,200.00 in culvert repair.

The Selectboard authorized Ted Unkles to respond to the letter, letting the property owner know that they are responsible for the culvert and any access to their property.

The Selectboard discussed the \$6.00 increase to Upper Valley Ambulance fees.

Nancy Jones and John Bean commended Claude Ciurleo for the work he has done to the Bradford Academy Building.

2018 Fire Department Budget:

The Selectboard reviewed the proposed 2018 draft budget for the Fire Department with Chief Ryan Terrill.

2018 Bradford Academy Building Budget:

The Selectboard reviewed the proposed 2018 draft budget for the Bradford Academy building with Claude Ciurleo.

Personnel- Executive Session:

Dan Perry made a motion that the Selectboard has determined that a personnel issue needs be discussed in executive session because the premature general public knowledge would place both the Town and the employee at substantial disadvantage.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Dan Perry made a motion to go into executive session at 8:19 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue (employee evaluations) as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1). The motion included Ryan Terrill and Claude Ciurleo to attend the session.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 9:31 p.m.

Randy Moore made a motion authorizing the payment of the Fire Chiefs (Ryan Terrill's) stipend.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Litigation- Executive Session:

Lisa Sharp Grady made a motion that the Selectboard has determined that a litigation issue needs be discussed in executive session because the premature general public knowledge would place the Town at substantial disadvantage.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

Lisa Sharp Grady made a motion to go into executive session at 9:33 p.m. to discuss a litigation issue of a potential settlement agreement for a lawsuit against the Town as allowed by 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1). The motion included Danielle Kingsbury to attend the session.

The Selectboard came out of executive session at 9:42 p.m.

Randy Moore made a motion to accept the settlement agreement in the action entitled Dube v. Town of Bradford, Docket No. 187-10-14 Oecv, as negotiated by Ted Unkles and Attorney Brian Monaghan representing the Town, and Kelley Kindestin on behalf of VLCT-PACIF, and to authorize Selectboard Chair Ted Unkles to sign any documents required to effect the settlement.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY.

The Selectboard adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

_____ Thomas E. Unkles, Chair

_____ Lisa D. Sharp Grady, Vice Chair

_____ Daniel A. Perry III

_____ Carole P. Taylor

_____ Randy L. Moore