

Minutes of the May 22, 2007 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Eric Benson, and Delbert Cloud.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, the Board first reviewing and approving the weekly payroll and payables. The Constable's reports of May 13, and May 20, 2007 were also reviewed and placed on file. The Board also signed a "Warrant to Kill Unlicensed Dogs" for transmittal to the Town Constable, this action being per motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Eric Benson, and unanimously carried.

The minutes of the May 7, 2007 meeting of the Board of Selectmen were approved by motion of Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. Regarding a matter of continuing business, it was agreed that payment(s) should be made to the White River Valley Ambulance through June 2007 based on the amount of appropriation approved by the voters at the Annual Town Meeting in March of 2006.

Delbert Cloud conveyed a request from Mascoma Savings Bank for permission to use the Town's Main Street Parking Lot to conduct a free barbecue in appreciation for its customers, to be held on June 1, 2007, the area being needed from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This event has been conducted previously with the Board's approval; motion to approve the current request was made by Neal Fox, seconded by Eric Benson and unanimously carried.

The Planning Commission minutes of May 16, 2007 were reviewed, and applications were again considered for the vacancy existing on that Town Committee. The recommendations from the Planning Commission regarding this vacancy were taken into consideration as well. Ultimately, the motion was made by Neal Fox, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to appoint Cecil Washburn to fill the unexpired term of David Eddy.

The Class 4 Roads Committee minutes of May 7, 2007 and May 15, 2007 were reviewed and placed on file.

Regarding positions on other Town committees, Delbert Cloud reported that Tim Mills, as Chair of the Class 4 Roads Committee, has suggested that Jeff Bedell is interested in serving on that committee and appears to have both the time and insight which could be helpful to the committee's work. Given this information, motion was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to appoint Jeff Bedell to the subject committee. Neal Fox reported that he has spoken with David Aiken regarding the vacancy which exists on the Board of Directors for the "Stagecoach Transportation Services." With the understanding that Mr. Aiken might be willing to serve as the Town's representative to that Board, motion was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to appoint Mr. Aiken subject to his willingness to serve; Delbert Cloud will discuss this with Mr. Aiken.

With the concurrence of the Board members, Delbert Cloud departed from the order of the agenda to discuss various other matters of business, these being associated with the following communications: (1) notice dated 5-11-07 that the Town has been awarded a "dry hydrant" grant by the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, (2) a model riparian buffer ordinance transmitted by the League of Cities and Towns, (3) a 5-17-07 memo from the Vermont Rural Water Association re. funding issues, (4) the Spring 2007 issue of the newsletter from the Connecticut River Joint Commissions, (5) a recorded copy of the Deed to Fort Fortitude property, (6) an ANR "Project Review Sheet" re. a subdivision of land on Route 14 owned by Barbara Piper, and (7) a 5-9-07 memo from the Vermont Agency of Transportation re. paving work to commence on I-89. No action was required or taken by the board on these matters as they were informational only.

Returning to the remaining item on the evening's agenda, Delbert Cloud provided the Board with an update on the following municipal/state projects: (1) the "Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety Project" to be done under the Agency of Transportation Enhancement program, (2) various highway maintenance projects as may be undertaken during the ensuing construction season, (3) the Church Street Bridge replacement project, (4) the River Street Bridge replacement project, (5) the Town Hall roof project (plans having now been received from the architect, Laz Scangas), and (6) the deck replacement project for the Ethelyn Adams Bridge on Lilliesville Brook Road.

Regarding the Town Hall Roof project, it was agreed that Delbert Cloud should review the plans for completeness and assist the architect in advertising the availability of the work as soon as possible.

Representatives of the Building Committee will be asked to review the plans before the bid invitations are released.

With respect to the need to close the highway when the existing deck is removed from the Ethelyn Adams bridge, motion was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to approve closing of the highway as necessary to complete the proposed project. Public notice will be given when the time of closure is at hand.

It was noted that James Giberti had submitted a letter to the Board on March 26, 2007 which has not been formally answered, this pertaining to class 4 roads. The Board members asked Delbert Cloud to reply to Mr. Giberti on behalf of the Board, to advise him that his suggestion(s) are welcome, and that his ideas will be considered as a part of the public review process which will occur for this matter, subsequently to receipt of the Class 4 Road Committee's report on this subject.

As the time was then 8:00 PM, the motion was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to adjourn to the Royalton Academy Building on Route 14 in Royalton, Vermont, to conduct business pertaining to the solid waste program in conjunction with the Royalton Board of Selectmen.

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Neal Fox

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Bill Richards

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Eric Benson