

Brookline Selectboard Minutes
September 16, 2009

1. Chairman Archie Clark called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Present were board members David Ryder, Mike Winot, Alicia Dest, and Doug Wellman. Road Foreman Mark Bills was also in attendance. Also present was member of the public Cynthia Nau.

2. **Bid Opening (Plowing/Sanding and Winter Sand):** Archie abstained from the bid review process due to a potential conflict of interest, and the Doug took over duties of the chair. Dave opened the sand bid. Only one was received. Mike motioned that the bid of A.S. Clark and Sons for 200 yards of sand at \$15 per yard be accepted. Seconded, all voted in favor. Dave opened the plowing/sanding bid. Only one was received. Mike motioned that the bid of A.S. Clark and Sons for \$27,800 be accepted. Seconded, all voted in favor. Archie returned and resumed duties of the chair.

3. The minutes of the September 2nd meeting were reviewed. Doug motioned they be approved as written. Seconded, all voted in favor.

4. **Members of the Public:** Cynthia had some questions concerning progress on the Southern Vermont Loop project. They have been blasting in preparation for setting poles but the poles still have not been delivered. The Planning Commission has continued work on the town plan. There was some discussion on installing a camera for surveillance at the recycling bins because of the volume of unauthorized dumping.

5. **Old Business:**

a. Archie updated the board on the status of the agreement between the Town and the landowner concerning the culvert at 1354 Grassy Brook Road. He has been in contact with Mr. Fabrizio and reviewed the agreement with him. Mr. Fabrizio has some concerns with a paragraph on releasing the town from liability. After some discussion, changes to the agreement were recommended and it will be returned to the town attorney for her review. The board authorized Archie to approve necessary changes after the attorney makes them and if they are acceptable to Mr. Fabrizio finalize the agreement.

b. Alicia has been playing telephone tag with the state contact at the Agency of Natural of Natural Resources for the \$2,900 for erosion control or fish passage projects in Brookline. She will continue to work on this. Later in the meeting a potential project on Hill Road was discussed (see paragraph 6d).

c. Dave has someone who may be interested in researching ancient roads, he should know something by next meeting. There was some discussion on the mass discontinuance process.

d. Archie sent the additional follow-up letter to the owners of unregistered dogs. If they have not responded by the next meeting the matter will be referred to the town attorney.

6. **Road Report:**

a. The only change in working orders was the culvert cleaning on Putney Mountain Road. Tree trimming, gravel and road grading are still open working orders. The Board discussed the need to get the gravel delivered and possible locations.

b. Putney Mountain road ditching has been completed and the rental backhoe has been returned. Total usage was 46 hours. In addition to the work on Putney Mountain Road Mark used it to repair the culvert cave-ins on Grassy Brook Road and Hill Road.

c. Mr. Woo has a contractor working on his driveway and the southern end of Bennett Road (class IV section -- per a previous agreement with the Town). They have concerns about trucking gravel over the culvert on the class III section and have offered the equipment and labor to replace it, if we provide the culvert. Mike motioned the board authorize the purchase a 24 inch culvert. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

d. Mark and Doug again looked at the culvert near 419 Hill Road. It is rusted out on the bottom and will require replacement. Alicia will contact Agency of Natural of Natural Resources to see if this project may be eligible for the \$2,900 in erosion control or fish passage project monies.

e. Dave talked to Ron Bell, the engineer working on the design of the Grassy Brook Road bridge. He will take into consideration the potential of extending it to 22 feet wide. We should have some preliminary information by next meeting.

f. The grader needs to have both batteries replaced.

g. Archie again discussed the need to develop a long-range plan for the highway maintenance. This would be particularly helpful as the board starts the budgeting process. Dave will start an outline listing the roads, which will be reviewed at a future meeting to fill in known areas for improvement. After this is done the board can develop a plan to allocate resources and assign a tentative timeline for action.

7. New Business:

a. The board discussed possible topics for Representatives Obuchowski and Partridge at the October 21st meeting. These were primarily financial in nature, concerning block grants to the town and the numerous unfounded mandates.

b. Sheriff Clark will attend the next meeting to discuss our policing options. It has been several years since we contracted with the Windham County Sheriffs Department. They still do not have 24-hour coverage, which is a concern.

8. Other Business:

a. Current year to date spending was reviewed.

b. The flooring for the Town Office has been ordered. When it comes in Doug will discuss an installation schedule with the contractor.

c. Archie has requested input from the auditors and listers for the fiscal year 2011 budget.

d. The Board of Civil Authority will meet on September 21st to perform the required biannual review of the voter checklist.

9. **Correspondence:** Correspondence was reviewed.

10. **Pay Orders:** Pay orders were reviewed. Accounts payable warrant #6, \$165,572.68 and payroll warrant #6, \$1,714.23. Mike motioned they be approved. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM. The next meeting will be October 7th at 7:00 PM in the town office.

Respectively submitted
Douglas Wellman
Clerk of the Board