

Present

Selectboard:

David Jones (Chair)
Gwen Tanza
Joseph Dutton
Bruce Mello

Town Officers:

Guy Tanza (Town Clerk, videographer)
Mark Bills (Roads Supervisor)

Members of the Public:

Archie Clark

(Meeting transcribed from sound recording)

Call the meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Review changes to agenda if any (none)

Mr. Mello requested addition of items for Round School House and the swimming hole at the bridge.

Scheduled members of the public

A. Archie Clark (present)

Unscheduled members of the public (none)

Approve Minutes

Corrections were made.

Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes for July 15, 2020, as amended. Second by Ms. Tanza. By roll call, **passed with one abstaining.**

A. Minutes from July 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

New Business

A. Paving/Milling Bids

Mr. Jones opened the proposal submissions responding to the RFP for paving and milling, and read them aloud; two paving bids, three milling bids.

Mr. Clark and Mr. Bills also examined the bids.

Milling:			
Company	Description	Sq yd	Total
Arlingont Paving Co./BDM Sweeper Service, Keene, NH	Estimated total 7,800 sq yd roadway milling, incl. traffic control, cold-planing 1-1/2in. deep, trucking rubble to town yard, cleanup	\$1.55	\$12,128.75
Bazin Bros. Trucking, Westminster, VT	Estimated total 6,690 sq yd, Hill Road milling, to depth of 1-1/2in., millings retained by Bazin Bros.; incl. sweeping, water truck	\$1.85	\$12,376.50
All States Asphalt, Inc. 325 Amherst Rd Sunderland, MA	Estimated total 6,700 sq yd, milling to 1-1/2in. deep, disposal not specified	\$1.90	\$12,730.00

There was discussion; of the value of retaining the material; vendors' previous work for the Town; difference between estimated amounts; final amount to be based on actual, not estimated costs; RFP had specified 0.6 mi, 19 ft width, depth 1-1/2 in.; Arlington had estimated highest amount of material, lowest bid, had not worked with the Town previously; no particular concerns were heard.

Mr. Jones moved to accept the proposal from Arlington Paving Co./BDM Sweeper Service for milling at a unit price of \$1.55 per square yard, totaling \$12,128.75. Second by Ms. Tanza.

There was discussion; that Arlington has only submitted a bid for milling; Bazin Bros. and All States submitted the only paving bids; Mr. Dutton noted that his vote would be contingent upon support of the Road Supervisor and Mr. Clark; both expressed satisfaction.

By roll call, **all in favor.**

Paving:			
Company	Description	Per Ton	Total
Bazin Bros.	Machine paving, 1" shim, 2" overlay, type 4 VTRANS-approved hot-mix, half coat for both shim and overlay, estimated 1,140 T.	\$75.85	\$86,469
All States Asphalt	1" shim in place, 2" top in place, estimated 1,140 T.	\$71.90	\$81,966

There was discussion; of previous work costs, coverage; total three-inch surfacing; it was noted that Bazin Brothers had done paving for the Town in the past without problems; adequate funds were noted.

Mr. Jones moved to accept the proposal from All States Asphalt, Inc. for paving, at a price of \$71.90 per ton, at an estimated tonnage of 1,140 tons, Second by Mr. Mello.

There was discussion; the Chair polled the members. **All in favor.**

B. SLP Exterior Painting RFP

Mr. Jones discussed previous conversations about the RFP provided by Mr. Mello, and suggested a summary announcement referring interested parties to Mr. Mello for more details, and the full RFP on the Town website. There was discussion of whether to allow more time, noting that the work is to be completed next year. Mr. Mello suggested publishing immediately, providing two weeks in which vendors can visit the site.

Mr. Mello moved to publish the RFP for exterior painting and staining at SLP as presented. Second by Ms. Tanza.
There was discussion.

The Chair polled the members and called the question. **Passed with one opposed and one abstaining.**

The announcement will be placed in the newspaper for Saturday, and the full RFP on the Town website.

C. Tax Bill Status

Mr. Jones noted that the Tax Rate has not been announced to date. Notice was posted; Mr. Tanza noted about thirty inquiries.

D. Open Wifi Hot Spot

Mr. Jones reported a call from Mr. Company (WRC) that Vermont Emergency Management and the Department of Public Service urges towns to identify a wi-fi location within the town for free access by the public. There was discussion of passwords; a Comcast hotspot that does not require a password. It was suggested that the state's concern is for open access that may be mapped for travelers or anyone who may need connection for medical, educational or emergency reasons.

E. Round School House

Mr. Mello discussed a visit to the Round Schoolhouse, suggesting a powder-post beetle re-inspection, finding signs of possible fresh activity; and suggesting more regular cleaning through the Committee. There was discussion; the contractor will be consulted by Mr. Mello in consultation with Mr. Dutton. It was noted that there is no electricity in the building; and that Doug Wellman has suggested installing a solar powered dehumidifier.

F. Swimming hole at the bridge

Mr. Mello discussed VTRANS closure of a swimming area in Newfane during crowded weekends; and inquired about similar precautions at the bridge. Mr. Tanza suggested that this will be reduced as the season ends. There was consensus that the issue is transitory and has not been urgent; and there is no enforcement.

Old Business

A. SLP Building Update

Mr. Mello discussed speeding incidents in the area; that the remaining windows are in Mr. Holden's possession, and should be done by the weekend, completing the window project; there is outside framing to be done; an unexpected bill involving the water system; a bear problem again at the dumpster, being discussed with the tenant without perceptible progress. There was consensus that it is the responsibility of the tenant to maintain the dumpster in a safe condition; that the tenant should be notified clearly.

Summary / Update / Reports

A. Guy Tanza - Town Clerk Report

Delinquent taxes below \$10,000 again, and within expectations; election day will be the 11th and counters will be needed; that about half of the 426 Town voters will be voting; opportunity to learn the procedures before the November election; Ms. Tanza, Mr. Mello and others have volunteered; that sixteen volunteers would be optimal. Mr. Brimmer offered assistance counting, and throughout the day as well. Mr. Dutton will help count. The signage and website are prepared.

Highways & Roads

A. Mark Bills - Road Supervisor

Mr. Bills reported that DNR had visited to look at sites and issue permits; a site where three truckloads of material had been removed, and with other debris was placed at Papoose bridge, per their recommendations; the rental wheel excavator arrived last Friday, material was leveled, erosion and ditches corrected, reshaped; that the machine is very handy and has many capabilities, and half of Putney Mountain, most of Whitney Hill were done; tornado warnings up; much debris came down and was cleaned up, a large tree down, power lost; power company equipment in the area; the use of the machine helped to protect the roads in a timely manner. Mr. Tanza asked about badly rotted locust trees; Mr. Bills noted that they are in the power company's right-of-way; there had been some wires snapped and some large limbs down in other areas; and is awaiting call back from tree services.

Communications

A. Email

- WRC, final census mapping information for checking
- Exchanged emails with Margo Ghia (PM for the Salt-Sand Shed project) re: possible September meeting

B. Regular Mail

- BDCC re: appropriation request
- Vt. State Police inquiry re: traffic enforcement, for next agenda

Pay Orders

A. Accounts Payable

Mr. Jones polled the members; all had reviewed the Warrant and had no questions.

Mr. Jones moved to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #2020-57, dated August 5, 2020, in the amount of \$2,349.47. Second by Mr. Mello. **All in Favor.**

B. Payroll

Mr. Jones polled the members; all had reviewed the Warrant and had no questions.

Mr. Jones moved to approve Payroll Warrant #2020-58, dated August 5, 2020, in the amount of \$1,378.00. Second by Ms. Brimmer. **All in Favor.**

Set agenda for the next meeting – Wednesday August 19, 2020

- Open SLP Painting bids
- State Police discussion
- Building update

Adjournment

Mr. Tanza noted that the sign-in sheet on the counter in the Town Offices should be used by all visitors to the building as part of pandemic tracking, in case of an outbreak.

Mr. Jones moved to Adjourn. Second by Ms. Brimmer. All in Favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, Recorder, August 8, 2020