

MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 04, 2008 SELECT BOARD MEETING

Board members present were John Devine, Gene Armstrong, Tom Benoit, Dan Champney and RJ Vallie. Also present was Town Clerk Deborah La Rivière and Road Foreman Eric Andrews. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

*Andrews met with the board to give an update on highway projects. Grading and sweeping have been completed and paving will begin on Tuesday. He asked the Board about having the paving company do some work on the shoulders of Bolton Valley Road. The Board felt the roads were in good shape and advised Andrews to continue checking and staying on top of conditions. The Board told him to check with the pavers for a cost on the shoulder work needed. The Board would also like inside parking arrangements for the old truck firmed up before winter. The upcoming season and salt were discussed. Since the deadline for the VLCT to obtain bids for their consortium has passed with no bidders, the Board is considering signed an agreement with Barrett/Cargill for salt. Deb will contact the VLCT tomorrow and see where they stand. The current guardrail budget is \$5,000, but quotes from Lafayette will cost \$5,588. Gene motioned: *“To approve the quote for guardrails for Duxbury and Bolton Valley Roads at a cost of \$5,588 from FR Lafayette.”* RJ seconded. There was no other discussion, all were in favor, motion passed.

*The Board discussed what could be done at the bottom of the Access Road to eliminate the parking problem. In the spring the Board will continue this discussion and consider placing barriers or rocks at the roadside to inhibit parking.

*John motioned: *“To approve the minutes from July 15 and July 23, 2008.”* Gene seconded. There were no corrections or changes. All were in favor, motion passed.

*The Board received copies of CCMPO’s Participation Plan.

*Dan motioned: *“To approve signing the contract with the state of Vermont for the use of the Marshall and Swift program.”* Gene seconded. There was no other discussion, all were in favor, motion passed.

*The Board reviewed the Act 250 permit Bolton Valley received for the expansion of the 4 X 4 school.

*Highway time sheets were reviewed.

*Warrants were signed.

*June’s Treasurer’s Report was read.

Select Board Meeting

August 04, 2008

Page 2

***Travis Peckham and members of CRAG-VT as well as several residents from Bolton met with the Board to discuss the proposed sale of land. Peckham gave a brief presentation outlining the aspects of rock-climbing. He presented a study which indicated rock climbing as an out door with minor hazards. CRAG feels the sale of the two parcels will have a negligible effect on the town's tax base and exposure. He stated that in his research, he could not find any instances of a municipality being sued for climbing accidents on town-owned property. The Board feels CRAG has already proven itself as a good land steward and would like to see the group continue in that manner with this purchase. CRAG feels the long-term safety of keeping this property open to the public for recreation relies on the Town owning it, since CRAG may not be together in years to come. The Board read a statement from the John Conlon of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, who covers the town for general liability insurance, who stated the town would be opening itself up to huge risk if it took over this property. Since the VLCT is an insurance pool, he indicated that should the town be sued, premiums for the entire pool could be at risk. The Board would like written opinions from the VLCT and Robert Fletcher, Esquire before making a decision. Peckham indicated that while CRAG would like to move forward with this transaction, there is no immediate deadline.**

There was no other business to be brought before this Board at this time. Tom motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Gene. The meeting ended at 8 pm.

Attest:

Deborah La Rivière

Town Clerk

Minutes are unofficial until approved. These minutes were read and approved by the Bolton Select Board on August 18, 2008. _____ For the Board.

