

## Selectboard Minutes 3/2/2020

Members Present: David Sander, Bard Hill, Christy Witters, Katie Mather, Roger Brown  
Absent:

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Others Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager; Kathy Daub-Stearns, Admin. Assist.; Connie Bona, Finance Dir; and Ruth Miller was present to videotape the meeting for MMCTV Channel 15, also attending – Christine Werneke, Steve Palmer, Green Mountain Engineering; Mary Andes, G.C. Morris, Judy Rosovsky, Conservation Commission; Bryan Currier.

Called to Order: 7:05 PM

### **1. Welcome by David. No comments.**

### **2. Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present**

#### **I. Additions or Deletions to Agenda**

None.

#### **II. Items for Presentation or Discussion with those present**

##### **a) Vote on approval of the following for the development at 198 Railroad St: 1) name for new road 2) turnaround area at the end of the road**

An overview was given by Brian Currier, project engineer, for Dan Noyes. The overview included information that the turnaround for the proposed new road has been approved by the Fire Dept., the proposed road name is Whistle Stop Lane, and that the development has received preliminary approval.

Roger moved to approve the new road name, Whistle Stop Lane and the turnaround area at the end of the road, Bard seconded. All agreed.

##### **b) Discussion of request for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Elevation Grant**

Mary Andes provided information that she is requesting an elevation grant that would be administered by the Town. The grant would provide funding to elevate her home 3-4' to prevent future flooding. Connie Bona provided additional information that funding for the project is 25% the homeowner responsibility the remaining 75% the Town pays and then is reimbursed by FEMA. The plan moving forward is to make certain the Town is following procedures to ensure federal and state regulation compliance.

##### **c) Discussion of David Savoie's request for the Town to extinguish an easement on his Dugway Rd. property in exchange for an easement on his Pleasant St. property C**

Discussion included whether or not the properties are linked; whether each situation should be looked at on its own merits; the possibility of trading one easement for another; and the possibility that Dugway resolution may help with Pleasant St. easement. It was decided to continue discussion with the property owner and check if there are any unforeseen consequences of extinguishing the trail easement.

#### **d) Consideration of excluding Dugway Rd. from use by overweight vehicles**

Josh reported that a truck weight limit of 24,000 pounds on Dugway Road would prohibit overweight truck, even with an overweight permit, but would still allow for local deliveries but not through traffic.

Roger moved to reduce the weight limit on Dugway to less than 24,000 pounds with the exception of local traffic, Christy seconded. All agreed.

#### **e) Judy Rosovsky to request to reduce Conservation Commission from 9 to 7 members**

Judy requested returning the commission to a board consisting of seven members citing difficulty in having a quorum at meetings as well as the fact that two persons recently resigned their seats.

Roger moved to reduce the Conservation Commission from nine to seven members, Bard seconded. All agreed.

#### **f) Conservation Commission presentation regarding the Conservation Reserve Fund**

Judy provided information about how the Conservation Fund works and that it is moving into a one year renewal cycle. Her presentation included information that:

- the fund is financed through a .01 tax which will be about \$40,000 this year.
- decisions on how to spend money from the Fund requires approval of the Selectboard.
- that there is a one to five ratio of money spending by utilizing grant money available.

The Conservation Commission hopes the Town voters will continue to support the Conservation Fund as they have in the past.

#### **e) Pre-Town Meeting Public Information Sessions: FY21 Budget Presentation**

Josh provided the information that will be presented at Town Meeting.

### **III. Other Business**

#### **a) Consideration of approving a contractor for the Bridge St. Infrastructure project**

Josh reported:

-that the Water & Sewer Commission approved J Hutchins as the contractor for the Bridge St. infrastructure project.

-that four bids had been submitted and that Green Mtn. Engineering and the State had reviewed the bid and recommended the low bidder, J Hutchins.

Roger moved to approve J Hutchins for the Bridge St. Infrastructure project, Bard seconded. All agreed.

#### **b) Update on Bridge St. infrastructure project**

Josh reported that since the contractor has been approved a pre-construction meeting with local business owners and residents can be scheduled.

**c) Discussion of signage regulations in Richmond Zoning Regulations**

Discussion included information that a twenty hour a week schedule doesn't allow for the Zoning Officer to do enforcement; that when a new application comes in the applicant is provided the regulations; and whether to change regulations to allow for two signs. It was decided to ask the Planning Commission to look at it for possible revision.

**d) Consideration of appointing Town Planner, Ravi Venkataraman as the acting Zoning Administrative Officer**

Christy moved to appoint Ravi Venkataraman as the acting Zoning Administrative Officer, Katie seconded. All agreed.

**e) Update on Dugway Rd. project**

Discussion included information that a call with FEMA has already taken place and that documentation has been submitted for the Dugway Road project; and the possibility of an organized parking plan for the summer. This will be an ongoing topic.

**f) Discussion of creating an Affordable Housing Committee**

Discussion of housing affordability being an issue in Richmond included the question of whether there are enough people interested in working on this and whether we want to look at it in a more structured way.

**g) Vote on approval of Access Permit Application**

Roger moved to approve the Access Permit Application, Bard seconded. All agreed.

**h) Signature on Union Bank line of credit agreement**

The Board signed the line of credit agreement with Union Bank.

**i) Vote on opening a deposit account with Union Bank to facilitate use of line of credit**

Roger moved to open a deposit account with Union Bank to facilitate, Katie seconded. All agreed.

**j) Reminder of hearing on Jolina Ct. Zoning amendment to be held on March 9 at 7pm at the Town Center**

**V. Approval of Minutes, Warrants and Purchase Orders**

Minutes of 2-18-20

Roger moved to approve the minutes of the 2-18-20 meeting with a footnote regarding DRB approval, Katie seconded. All were in favor.

Warrants were approved.

**VI. Discuss Items for Next Agenda**

Reconstruction of Dugway Rd

Bridge St. Infrastructure

Legal RFP see when the last one was done

Are there radio services between emergency departments?

**VII. Executive Session if needed**

**VIII. Adjourn**

Katie moved to adjourn, Bard seconded. All agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM