

Minutes of 9/22/2014 Select Board Meeting

In attendance: Ron Tallman, George Wild, Dustin Comstock, Kathie Felch, Lee Youngman, John McNeil, Dean Lafont, Colleen Lafont, Kevin Wilson, Paula Russell, Dan Richardson

Chairman Ron Tallman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Lister John McNeil presented one case of errors and omissions that results in a change in the Grand List. VT Telco's assessment was listed as \$1,223,800 and it should have been 1,233,800, resulting in an increase in taxes by \$189.86. On a motion made by George Wild, the correction was accepted by the board.

Dean and Colleen Lafont came to dispute the ticket they were issued by the Orange County Sheriff's department concerning their beagle. Dean's name is not on the ticket, and they want it re-issued in both names. They want the town to make that happen for them, and would like the date changed to give them time to mount a defense. Ron Tallman agreed to call Officer Holmes of the Sheriff's Department and get back to them this week. He needs more background on the dog. This ticket is dated 9/9/2014, so Ron will also check to see if there is another ticket. The date of the incident pre-dated the 9/9/2014 date.

Kevin Wilson came to talk about the dog belonging to Bonnie French. Her dog has been at his house several times, has killed two chickens and ruined another. John Pellegrini has been over there, and Justin Pickel had also been called in the past. Paula Russell has spoken to Bonnie French about her dog and has given her a verbal warning. Bonnie knows that if her dog gets loose again, it will be impounded and she will receive a ticket. She had offered to reimburse Kevin Wilson for the value of the chickens but Kevin has refused to accept any payment from her. He thinks the town should reimburse him. The Select Board informed him that the town will not and is not liable. Paula also stated that she researched the calls sheets for Kevin's complaints and only found record of 2 complaints. Kathie informed Kevin that she will no longer allow him to bring his animal control issues to her. It is out of her hands, and he must work with Paula Russell, our new animal control officer.

Paula Russell introduced herself to the board. She explained that her compensation is an hourly rate and that the town of Barre has assigned a vehicle to her so she will not be billing us for mileage. She said that on her first week on the job, she clocked a total of 9 hours, and that included the two calls in Orange. Justin Pickel's average had been 30 hours a week.

On a motion made by George Wild and seconded by Dustin Comstock the board went into executive session at 6:45 pm to discuss a real estate issue with the town attorney, Dan Richardson.

On a motion made by George Wild and seconded by Dustin Comstock, the board came out of executive session at 7:30 pm.

The board authorized Dan Richardson to begin negotiations with American Towers Corporation to enter into an Option Agreement. Dan will contact Beth Kohler, the attorney for ATT and draft a new deed for George Chandler to sign.

George presented an issue with a driveway permit request on Smith Road. The property owner put in a driveway and there is no culvert. There is also no ditch to run a culvert through. The way the driveway

sits now, it will cause water to pool and will damage the road. George and Dustin will go look at it, and try to come up with a solution.

George mentioned that he contacted Greg Bartlett clear two beaver dams on Alice Smith's property. The road crew completed the cleanup of debris that was left behind last time Greg had to clear the dam.

Dustin presented a proposal from Barre Town that they will take over care of all of Partridge Road if we will take care of all of Ladd Road. George is concerned that the turnaround on Ladd Rd is too difficult and it will make plowing difficult and time consuming for the road crew. He proposed that we will be happy to sand it, but not plow it. If Barre Town is agreeable to that, then we will do it.

George reported to the board that Jeff is going to reditch on both sides of Lords Road, and they will build it back up. There is a hole in the bridge that needs fixing, too. As soon as John Barnes is back from vacation, they will begin the work for Rock Place Road. That project must be completed by October under the terms of the better back roads grant.

On a motion made and seconded, the board adjourned at 8: 00 pm.

Attest:

Lee Youngman, Assistant Town Clerk