

Board of Selectpersons, Sweden, ME

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was offered at 6 p.m.

Present were Selectpersons Alberta Ridlon, John P. Smith and C. Wayne Miller. Clerk Jane Gibbons, Tax Collector/Treasurer/Administrative Assistant DJ Curtis. Interim Fire Chief James Willey was present at the beginning. Contractor Jason Wentworth. Property owners of the Plummer School Road area included Ann and Brian Diskin, Morris Gibely, Miriam Gibely, David Johnson, Becky Thompson, Catherine Perry, Bill Marion, Linda and Don Bradley, Audrey Mack, Ruth Palmer, Dell Foss. Other residents were Ron Kiesman and Anne Bouchard.

1. Building repairs –

(a) Jason Wentworth presented a bid for replacing the beams at the Old Salt Shed. Pressed wood beams 9 ½ inches by 1 ¾ inches by 18 feet and 14 feet long would be stronger. The single beam price would be \$815. The double beam price would be \$928. He stated that it would not be necessary to install double beams. He would complete the job in up to 2 days.

(b) At the new salt shed framing on the door needs to be replaced.

2. Eric Gulbrandsen gave copies to the Selectmen of the notices sent recently and was encouraged to put “cc to Selectmen” on the cover letter. Notices had been sent to Cindy Tripp, Charles Hicks, Stephanie Abbott, Cliff Purinton, Jonathan Crowe.

3. James Willey stated that he would be mailing in for the refund for the Fire Department radio grant. There was no information about the charge card from Molloy.

4. Roads:

(a) A document was made available to the attendees outlining the anticipated road projects for Hardscrabble, Ridlonville and Plummer School Road. The Selectmen are doing research on how much has been spent since 2007 on each of the roads for which the town is responsible. They had recently received a bill for \$11,000 for gravel, but it was not broken down as to which roads it was for. J.P. Smith had contacted someone at Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission about putting counters on the roads to see just how much traffic they encounter. Various residents asked questions:

Becky Thompson asked if part of the road could be done. Brian Diskin pointed out that property values would go down if the road was returned to gravel. Linda Bradley told about the town paving part of Ledge Hill Road and causing their driveway to wash out. They have a truck load of gravel put in on their driveway every year. They had been promised that by paving the road, it would be paid for in 5 years savings of maintenance by the town. The Selectmen stated that a good road with proper ditching should have ditches 24 inches below the center of the road. David Johnson asked if there were any alternatives to the plan, pointing out that grading and dust control would need to be done several times a year. Miriam Gibely spoke to the UPS and FedEx delivery people who stated that gravel roads were much worse than Plummer School Road. Mr.

Johnson said that the residents were very opposed to returning the road to gravel and would rather have it left the way it is, even though the road was in terrible condition. He proposed that there be a road committee to look at the long term picture, as Selectmen come and go. The proposals need to be worked on with the Budget Committee. Dell Foss asked why they were researching back to 2007. Brian pointed out that violations of road limits had occurred seemingly with the road commissioner watching the process when a house was delivered. Dell Foss brought out the problem of drainage going into Keyes Pond and asked what would the Sodium Chloride do to the pond. Ron Kiesman stated that enforcement of load limits was very difficult.

(b) John Smith moved that road counters be installed in July and October for Hardscrabble Road and Plummer School Road. Voted. (3-0)

(c) Mr. Bennett was hired to fix a culvert on Hardscrabble Road and on Plummer School Road. Gravel was to be applied to a washed out section of Black Mountain Road.

(d) Issues concerning the bonding requirements for road contracts are being worked on.

(e) J.P. Smith is to find out if the state has an engineer who could be engaged at no cost to the town.

5. Finances

(a) The warrant was signed.

(b) DJ reported that a couple of years ago she had inquired of Norway Savings about their services and that they had said they could not give a better deal than Key Bank at that time.

(c) The valuation on the town went up 2%. Alberta moved that the mill rate for 2010 be set at 0.0112. Voted (3-0)

(d) Papers from the country were signed to set their tax rate.

(e) A paper to close out his bond for work on winter road was signed for Rob Drew.

6. Old Business

(a) Dave Monahan replaced a GFI switch at the new salt shed. There is another that he will do later, as a ladder was needed. The sand next to the panel box needs to be removed. Mr. Drew has not cleaned up the oil nor done the other work he promised to do.

(b) J.P. Smith will meet with Ed Dunley. He will have a quote for the cement walkway and a landing by the door of the Town Meeting Hall to meet voter accessibility requirements.

(c) J.P. Smith will talk to Tim Chandler about door repairs in Salt shed.

- (d) No further information about Dell Foss as grant writer.
- (e) A page for Key sign-out of Town Meeting Hall key has been put in reservations notebook.
- (f) The port-a-potty has been installed at the town beach on Keyes Pond.
- (g) Wayne Miller and Alberta Ridlon attended a session on General Assistance. Jerry Bryon will meet with them to help them fill out reports.

The minutes of the June 22nd meeting were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

Jane Gibbons, Clerk