

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 7, 2021

PRESENT: Cindy Silver: Select Board Chair, Kevin Meehan and Norman Brown: Select Board members, all comprising a quorum of the board.

ALSO PRESENT: Kathi Marshall: Assistant to the Select Board, Julia Gilmore: Jefferson Representative to the Coös County Broadband Committee, Mark Dubois: Highway Foreman, Jason Call: Trustees of the Trust Funds Chair, and Terri Larcomb: Deputy Town Treasurer

Kevin Meehan called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/PAYROLL

Norm made a motion to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll items for the week ending May 22, 2021 and to authorize Kathi to pay invoices and payroll. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed, and accounts payable and payroll were approved.

PUBLIC INPUT

Broadband Committee Update: Julia Gilmore said we have not received the information we requested from many of these broadband suppliers. They are all anxious to get involved, but they are not complying with our request for the areas they currently cover in Jefferson. They are obligated to supply this information within sixty days.

At the last Broadband Committee meeting the representative from Consolidated Communications was there. Julia asked him—Jeff McGyver—if he would present to the Select Board, and he was anxious to do that. He is now scheduled to appear before the board on Monday, June 21.

The committee also had a presentation from Netafy with Donald Dawson and his son Andrew. They currently have customers in every town in Coös County, and to date have not been recipients of any grant funds in order to help them expand. They are a relatively new business.

Julia and Joe Marshall had a separate Zoom meeting with Mr. Dawson in order to learn what kind of presence Netafy has in Jefferson, and what their future plans are. Netafy has 157 Jefferson residents presently, and they have ten towers of varying sizes, with a large tower at Santa's Village. They feel confident Netafy could supply internet access to every resident in Jefferson. They do have 14 sites in Jefferson that redirect signals from one tower to another. If they took on Jefferson as a project they would add another hub to cover the extended service needs. Julia asked if the board members would like to have Netafy give a presentation to them similar to what Consolidated Communications will be doing, and the board said it would be a good idea. Norm had concerns about the longevity of the business. He said it was one thing to build up a network of customers, but could the company sustain the service. Julia said that Mr. Dawson was firm in his commitment to be in this for the long haul.

The next Coös County Broadband Committee meeting is June 30, 2021, and Julia and Joe will give another update at the next convening Select Board meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 5.24.2021

Norm made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 5.24.2021 as recorded. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

NON-PUBLIC RSA 91-A: 3 (None)

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTS AND/OR BOARDS

Mark was present at the meeting and presented several estimates to the board for work to be done in the future. The first was an estimate to redo the parking lot at the Community Center. The estimate came with a drawing of the proposed plan, and it included a minimum of three tiers, possibly four, of parking spaces across the front of the building. Mark also submitted an estimate for the repaving of Airport Road which has sustained damage from the large vehicles that regularly use it. The other quotes included apron paving on Davenport Road and Israels River Road, and repairing the railroad crossings on Turnpike Road. Norm asked how many culverts were put in on Israels River Road, and Mark said one.

Mark also mentioned they would like to do some work on Cedric Road that would include seeding to see if they could get some grass growing there. Mark felt there was pretty good soil all the way up through and suggested they have it hydro-seeded. Norm told him to get an estimate.

Board members read and accepted the Highway and Business Office reports for the week.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Permit/Towne: The board approved the building permit for a garage.

Building Permit/Betts: The building permit from Mr. Betts was for a new home, and while most of the required paperwork was included, Kevin mentioned we needed a statement from the property owner that Mr. Betts was authorized to do the work on her behalf. Board members approved the permit with the stipulation that Kathi contact Mr. Betts and ask him to provide the letter of permission.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rent-a-Center TVs: Rent-a-Center has offered to sell the 75-inch tvs to the town for \$1,000 each. Norm said we only need one television, and he felt \$1,000 was a fair price for the new one. Norm made a motion for the town to purchase the new 75-inch television, and Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed, and Kathi will inform Rent-a-Center she needs an invoice, and they need to come and take away the second television.

Water Testing: Kathi checked with DES and when the school was active they tested water every six months. Norm said usually government buildings test more often than that even though it has an artesian well. Norm and Kevin both mentioned that the samples should go to Concord. Norm said DOT makes a weekly run to Concord and will usually take the sample down for the town.

USDA Food Bus: The town received a call from the Food Bank and they are sponsoring the Food Bus that brings meals to children during the summer when school is not in session. They are asking to use the parking lot at the old Town Office site in order to distribute these meals to families in need. They are looking at possibly Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from noon until 12:30 p.m. Cindy asked about the dates they would need the parking lot. Members agreed they could use the site for food distribution, and if anything came up that would prevent the use of that parking lot, they were welcome to use the parking lot at the new Jefferson Community Center. Kathi said she would call them and let them know, and would also get definitive dates on their proposed use of the site.

Pistol Permits: Kathi was going to order pistol permits that would have to be printed up for the town. She asked if

it would be okay to design our own pistol permits and just photocopy our receipt and attached it to the applicant's application. She gave board members a copy of the permit she designed. Norm mentioned that the state seal can't be used without permission, so Kathi said she would use the Jefferson logo on the permits.

Underground Tank Inspection: Tanner Hill Manufacturing will be doing the underground tank inspection, as they are the company that has done the inspection for previous years. They will be coming Thursday, June 17, around noon and said they didn't need anyone to be here as long as the building was open. Norm felt if something is being worked on here in the Community Center someone should be present just to oversee the work. Kathi said she will check with John and Chris to see if they might be available. If they are not, Norm said he would be.

Photocopier Rental: At this point there is only one offer of a photocopier rental. Kathi has reached out to four contacts, but has had no reply. She said she will try to call individual companies to see if she gets a better offer than the one from Conway Office Solutions. Norm wants to be sure the photocopier is on site when the shredding is done. If Kathi can't find another company who can deliver in time we will go with Conway Office.

Transfer Station Container: The town purchased a new container for the transfer station for \$7,150, and Kathi verified the container had been delivered. Norm mentioned the container was not painted on the inside. Kathi called Presby Steel and was told they never painted the inside of the containers because the interior just gets marked up and damaged by the things compacted inside. Norm spoke with them and said the invoice stated the town received a painted container, not a "half painted" one. Presby Steel will come to the transfer station to paint the container on the inside. Kathi verified this with Jimmey, and he will call them when he knows the container will be empty.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The board did receive a statement from Polly that she officially retired as of May 31, 2021.

Kathi informed the board the DOT called to let the town know that the parade permit for 4th of July was faxed to Chris Milligan that day, Monday, June 7, 2021.

Kathi asked if the board wanted the town clerk's new hours advertised in the paper, and Norm said he felt they should be. They also wanted it posted at the Community Center and the other locations in town.

The town's new assessing company is suggesting that the town use the DRA valuation of the Portland Pipe Line or to reach out to an independent assessor, who Linda deemed too expensive. Kevin said in the past we have relied on the valuation from the Portland Pipe Line itself. Board members agreed Linda should go with their price.

Cindy e-mailed the new website design to the board members and asked for input on the design and ease of operation. Kevin and Norm agreed it looked good, and Kevin said he liked the ease of moving from place to place. Cindy said she will find out about training for Kathi and herself.

PUBLIC INPUT

Terri asked why the minutes for the Planning Board have not been uploaded yet. Kathi said usually Charlene e-mails those to her so she can upload them to the website, otherwise she has to scan them all and then upload them. She just hasn't had time to scan them yet. Cindy said when the new website is active each department will

be able to load their own information to their particular section of the site.

Terri asked about the party for Polly's retirement, and wanted to know the date. There is no date set yet because many wheels are in motion right now. Cindy said we will have a date shortly.

Terri also asked if Carlisle Place still rents the parking lot at the old Town Hall location, and Cindy said they do still rent it for weddings.

Jason said there was another raucous party at the Applebrook over the weekend. Norm encouraged people who were experiencing noise issues to call the state police. There is no noise ordinance in Jefferson, but Norm said if the police come once they will tell the people to tone down the noise. If they get called out a second time they can charge people with disorderly conduct.

Jason mentioned the playground behind the community building is looking good. There has been work going on to clear the grounds.

Norm said he will try to draft a letter to the Town of Whitefield for the board to sign regarding the Airport Road issue. He will include the estimate for the road repairs.

NON-PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3 II (None)

ADJOURNMENT

Kevin made a motion to adjourn the weekly Select Board meeting. Norm seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Select Board will be Monday, June 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Jefferson Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,