

Jamaica Selectboard Meeting

May 9, 2016 7:00pm

Minutes

Selectboard Members Present: Paul Fraser (Chair), Lou Bruso, Judith Flower, Andy Coyne, Lexa Clark

Others Present: Joel Blumming, Dr. Ed Flower, Dan Cummings, Keith Hazard (Road Foreman)

Paul Fraser called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Addition of one overweight permit to the agenda.

Corrections to minutes of April 25, 2016 meeting:

Judith Flower: At the bottom of first page, delete "due to an increase in use this year by the Jamaica Community Arts Council" ... changes to Town Hall rental policies were prompted by a recommendation of the VLCT. She also noted that minutes should be signed by the secretary. Lexa Clark moved to approve minutes of the April 25th meeting as corrected. Seconded by Andy Coyne. Unanimously passed.

Report from Highway Dept:

Lou Bruso explained that at the first meeting of every month Road Foreman Keith Hazard will be present to hear concerns from the public or Selectboard, and also to describe the road crew's plans for the coming weeks. Bruso noted that the public can also submit any concerns in writing to the Selectboard to be brought up at the meeting.

Keith Hazard reported that the culverts on West Jamaica road that were mentioned as being hazardous at a previous meeting have since been repaired. Two additional culverts were replaced at the recommendation of the Windham Regional Commission. Hazard also reported that in May the crew focuses mostly on ditching and shaping the roads, and shaping continues through July. Keith also discussed having O'Brien Paving repair the potholes in the Depot St bridge.

Keith supplied information about the four wheel drive excavator they would like to purchase to replace the backhoe, which is scheduled to be replaced this year on the budgeted vehicle purchase plan. Ambrose Equipment allows a one month trial during which Keith plans on using the machine for aspects including ditching, stump removal, etc to make sure the machine is right for their needs. The Selectboard will discuss purchase vs lease options with the Treasurer and have a decision soon.

Public Concerns: Dr. Ed Flower requested an exit interview in executive session. Paul Fraser stated executive session can't be requested by the public advised that a member of the Selectboard could do so. Judith Flower requested executive session for an exit interview for Ed Flower. It was added to the end of the agenda.

Lister Openings: The Town of Jamaica presently has 2 open lister positions. Ralph Coleman and Ed Dorta-Duque have resigned. The positions have been posted. Peter Andrus has expressed interest in helping with grievances as they will be heard in June, but plans to resign after that time as he is not in town often enough to keep the position. Lexa Clark moved to appoint Peter Andrus as lister. Seconded by Judith Flower. Motion passed.

Letter regarding Porta-Potty: After short discussion about most used times of the Porta-Potty next to the town office, Lexa Clark moved that the town pay for the Porta-Potty May through October, six months. Seconded by Lou Bruso. 3 yes votes, 1 no, motion passed.

Report from Fire Dept: Lexa Clark gave a brief report from the Jamaica Fire Department, stating there have been 61 calls this year plus about a half dozen in the last week. The fire ban that had been in effect has been lifted, but stressed the requirement to contact Stuart Barker or Joel Beckwith for burn permits to avoid forest fires. She also expressed a need for more volunteers.

Overweight permit from Miller Construction: Lexa Clark moved to have the Road Commissioner sign the overweight permit with the usual restrictions. Seconded by Andy Coyne. Motion passed.

Other business:

Lou Bruso learned that the "friendly amendment" from the April 25th meeting was not correct. Once a motion is seconded it belongs to the group and any changes need to go to a formal vote.

Lou Bruso informed the group that the town received the structures grant for the bridge at the beginning of Castle Hill Rd. Discussion ensued about putting out an RFP so it can be completed this year and how to deal with traffic during the 3-4 weeks that the bridge will be down. Lou also reported that the town did not receive the paving grant this year.

Lou Bruso also stated that the Windham Solid Waste Management District is meeting to discuss the new recycling policy again, but in the meantime residents should continue to put plastics #3-7 in with their regular trash.

Andy Coyne gave his report as health officer. Current issues include a rental property as well as a rodent problem near the rivers in town.

Lexa Clark responded to a question previously posed by Joel Blumming regarding the cost to heat the new Winhall garage, stating that they have spent \$2900.00 from July 1st to present on heating propane.

Lou Bruso moved to go into executive session for a personnel issue. Seconded by Lexa Clark. Selectboard entered into executive session at 8:05pm, and came out of the session at 8:25pm.

Lexa Clark made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Andy Coyne. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Tweedy