

JAMAICA SELECTBOARD Minutes

August 10, 2020

Selectboard Present: Greg Meulemans (chair), Tom Tolbert, Paul Fraser, Andy Coyne and Jessica Pollack

Public Present: Rob Willis, Joel Bluming, Austin Rice (bctv), Christopher Robbins, John Beagan, Hazel Denton and Dan Dewalt

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Call for any late additions to the agenda:

Update on Town Hall on the hot spots.

Fire Department on cisterns.

Add to our statement that was published.

Update of CUD.

Approve the minutes from the July 27th Selectboard meeting

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 27th Selectboard meeting, Tom seconded. All in favor.

Review time sheets for town office, listers, highway and transfer station

Greg will be in later in the week to sign off on the orders.

Why were there 2 cases of bags for compost ordered? We have been going through a fair amount of them. There are only 50 in a box.

Review pay orders

Greg will be in to sign off on the pay orders.

Updates and discussion regarding town operations

Tomorrow is the primary election.

Discus proposed plan to address speeding and safety issues in town including extensions to the current Sherriff's contract and the purchase of electronic speeding signs

Tom sent out quotes for 9-inch signs that are solar for the speed. For 6 signs, the total was around \$16,000. The machines are radar and will flash and tell people to slow down. There is no data collection.

Terri had a quote from a different place. For 4 signs, that say slow down if you are speeding but there is also an internet contract that you must buy. They are about \$1,000 more each and 350 a year for the software. The total for the 4 is about \$16,000 as well.

10-foot speed humps are \$850 each. They are removable plastic and would be taken up in the winter. They have also been called speed tables.

There is money in the highway reserve account that could be used to purchase some of this. We would also have to have 3 bids because of the amount of money.

Paul would like to do a speed survey before committing to anything.

Andy said a survey was done in 2011 by Windham Regional and there is a lot of data that we could look at.

There could be a couple of different things done to slow down the traffic. We could get a couple of signs to start and maybe paint stripes on the roadway. A lot of the speeding on Pikes Falls are the people coming into town.

The crosswalks need to be painted again and its possible the roads could be painted at the same time.

John Beagan lives near Hamilton Falls, this summer there was been a lot of traffic and trash left at the falls. He is asking if the Selectboard if they could write a letter to the department of forest and parks. It is especially a problem in the covid-19 times we are living with. Will address in public concerns.

Tom will get three quotes for the signs. Paul will investigate what is involved with a traffic survey and painting the lines on the roads.

There was no income for the month for from traffic tickets. Andy will reach out to Mark Anderson to see if he could come to the next Selectboard meeting. They would like his expertise for the traffic issues that the town is having. We could also talk to him about adding or reallocating hours.

Discussion regarding collection of organics at transfer station

The collection of organics has been quite ugly. The bags are a bit too biodegradable and are not making it through the process. Triple T has an option to pick up the containers on a weekly basis. We would not have to put it in the bags. Sawdust could be used again to keep the smell down. The cost is \$20 per container. We fill 3-4 containers a week.

Andy made a motion that we have Triple T collect our organics on a weekly basis, seconded by Tom. This would allow the organics to be collected as they were before, without the bags. All in favor.

Update on CUD and communication committee

Chris had asked the board to form a communication committee to work specifically for the town of Jamaica. It would be a fulfilling part of our Town Plan. There are 2 programs under the CARES ACT that could help people with getting broadband that are without it. Greg moved to accept the resolution that Chris has proposed for the Jamaica communication committee, Jessica seconded. All in favor.

Of the two hot spots in town, there have been 70 users at the town hall and 3 users at the town office.

Receipt of letter from Robert Simmons regarding Rawson Bridge Town Trail

He is asking the town to quit claim the bridge to him and to declassify the town trail. Mr. Simmons has asked for 60 days to get his proposal together.

Fire Department

They are looking into the possibility of putting in new cisterns behind the fire department. The larger tanks would need a crane to install, they are a little over \$10,000 each. The smaller tank would be cheaper but would need more of them. The water sources are so dry, they cannot always get water from natural water sources.

A resident had suggested that the town takes over his driveway as a town road and in return he would allow the fire department to draw water out of his pond whenever they wanted. The road is not up to standards and would need to be brought up to standards. There is other water available in the area. The Selectboard does not want to take any action on this. Paul will respond to the resident.

At the special meeting, there was a motion made. The statement said we will not tolerate any hateful speech. What will the town do if someone does this? The statement was published already. There were concerns on many angles. The tape will be reviewed and see if something was done incorrectly.

Other public concerns

The sheriff does check on the school and other things besides traffic control.

Dog licenses were due in April, was side stepped because of covid. Rob Willis would like to see the town reach out to people and let them know to send in payment in for their dog licenses. He would also like the town to purchase paint that could be used to cover up graffiti on roadways or an anti-graffiti chemical. There is a policy in place to contact the sheriff's department and they contact Vtrans who are responsible for cleaning up any unwanted graffiti.

Tom made a motion to adjourn 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by Sara Wiswall