

Meeting Minutes are in Draft Form until Approved by the Board

KIRBY SELECTBOARD'S MEETING

JANUARY 15, 2018

The Selectboard met at the Kirby Town Clerk's Office on January 15, 2018. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rebecca Hill-Larsen at 5:55 p.m.

Those present were: Selectpersons Rebecca Hill-Larsen, David Chase
and Steven Baker
Road Foreman John Ohina
Engineer Timothy Ruggles
Assistant Town Clerk Marla Waring
Secretary/Clerk Wanda Grant

Timothy Ruggles from Ruggles Engineering was present to discuss the repairing and repaving of Ridge Road. He presented the Board with a preliminary cost estimate of \$351,988. He stated that he arrived at this preliminary estimate by using aerial photos, estimating distances, and using the State's price list – not actual surveying of the site. The actual cost will probably be less by using local contractors. The Board wanted to know if anything could be omitted from the list. He stated that there is \$30,608 in contingency that might be able to be eliminated, also mobilization/demobilization might not be used, and the engineering cost of \$15,304 will probably be less than that. The actual construction cost estimate is \$306,076. There was discussion about changing the paved part of Ridge Road back to a graveled road. Mr. Ruggles stated that this could actually cost more than having it repaved. There was also discussion on using salt on pavement but it was agreed that this discussion was separate from the discussion on repaving the road.

Discussion then turned to funding for the road. It was noted that the Town could apply for a grant from the State, however, the State has a limit of \$175,000 per grant and the Town's share would be 10% or 20%. The Town could try to do the project over two years and apply for two separate grants. At 10% the Town's share would be \$17,500 per year. The Town could also look into a Better Road Grant, however, the deadline for 2018 was in November of 2017 and the work that that grant would cover would have to be done the first year. Rebecca Hill-Larsen will check with Shauna Clifford at the Agency of Transportation to see what grants the Town can apply for. The Board discussed paying for the engineering part of the project from the Town's road funds. David Chase made the motion to have Ruggles Engineering to do the next step in engineering the road. Motion seconded by Steven Baker. So voted.

An email from Lister Jim Sawhill was noted concerning NEMRC's Reappraisal Agreement. The agreement indicates that there will be a lot of lister involvement but the Listers have not been able to get an amount of hours from Ed Clodfelter yet. The Board will wait to sign the agreement until after all information is received.

Chairperson Rebecca Hill-Larsen signed the appeal of the 2017 Equalization Study which was compiled by the State. The Board is asking the State to remove the sale of the Eaton property from the study.

The Board discussed the problem of so much trash and recycling being received every week that the dumpsters are being filled to overflowing and some residents being asked to take recycling to the NEKWMD's site in Lyndonville. Rebecca Hill-Larsen contacted Paul Tomasi at NEKWMD to see if the Town could refuse to accept trash or recycling.

He stated that the Town can refuse to take anymore trash or recycling if the dumpsters are full. The Board asked Wanda to contact Myers to see if the Town can get bigger dumpsters (next size up – 10 yd) and what the price would be.

The Selectboard then worked on the Inventory and Road Equipment and Supplies reports. The Inventory was left at \$116,200 and the Road Equipment and Supplies was raised to \$372,920 from \$178,300. (grader chains were changed from \$3,800 to \$2,800; new truck was added to make 2 trucks, bodies, plows and wing – changed from \$30,000 to \$210,000; truck chains from \$500 to \$1,820; sand screen from \$800 to \$10,000; shop tools and supplies from \$3,000 to \$6,000; and miscellaneous equipment & supplies from \$1,500 to \$3,000).

The Board worked on the 2018 Town, Highway and Cemetery budgets. They arrived at a budget of \$140,825 for the Town (up from \$114,441.34) a budget of \$485,500 for the Highway (up from \$293,200) a budget of \$4,700 for the Cemeteries (up from \$3,000), and anticipated Revenues at \$301,509.14 (up from \$156,508.78). The budget amounts minus the anticipated revenues would make the tax rate \$.5611 (up from \$.4322).

Some of the increases in the budgets and revenues were due to the following:

Town – more elections this year; \$18,800 added for reappraisal; dues for CALEX and NVDA added to Fixed Charges; \$20,000 added to Town Hall Expenses for repairs to foundation; appropriation requests up slightly; and more added to landfill charge for additional fees for larger dumpsters.

Highways – more added to Garage Expenses to include funds for insulating the 3rd bay; health insurance up slightly; monies added to cover compliance with Act 64 Vermont Clean Water Act; truck expenses increased in order to buy extended warranties for new truck; and \$175,000 added for repairing and repaving blacktop on Ridge Road.

Cemeteries – funds added to repair stones in North Kirby Cemetery and to pay for survey of South Kirby Cemetery.

Revenues – added grant funds for Ridge Road repaving (\$157,500); amount received from trash was increased slightly; added \$16,800 to be taken from Reappraisal Fund; \$5,000 to be taken from Building Fund (for Town Hall foundation) was added; \$2,800 to be taken from Highway Department Improvement Fund (for insulating Garage) was added; and \$5,000 to be taken from the Roads Improvement Fund (for paving of Ridge Road) was added.

The Board worked on the warning for Town Meeting – article authorizing purchase of new truck and articles concerning CALEX were deleted and 3 articles were added requesting the voters to authorize the Selectboard to use funds from 3 savings accounts (Building Fund, Highway Department Improvement Fund, and Roads Improvement Fund) to help pay for increases in the budgets. The Board will not sign the warning until after all petitions have been received.

The Selectboard will meet next Monday, January 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm to refine budgets after more information is received and to sign the warning.

Steven Baker made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by David Chase. So voted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda L. Grant, Secretary