

Select Board Meeting, Monday September 9th, 2019 in the Cavendish Town Office
Meeting Room at 6:30 pm

Present: Bob Glidden (Chairman), Mike Ripley, Sandra Russo, George Timko, Stuart Lindberg, Brendan McNamara (Town Manager), Bruce McEneaney (Assistant Town Manager), Jen Leak (Recording Secretary), Ed McEneaney (OkemoValley TV) and citizens as listed on the attached sheet.

1. Call the meeting to order

Bob Glidden, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Act upon minuets of August 12th and August 26th, 2019.

Mike Ripley moved/Sandra Russo seconded a motion to approve the minutes of August 12th and August 26th, 2019 as written. All voted in favor.

3. Hear Citizens

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

4. Select Board to hear request from Roger Sheehan regarding placement of 9/11 Memorial on the Village Green.

Brendan said that Roger Sheehan had spoken with him last week about putting up a 9/11 Memorial. Roger and Bess Sheehan were present. Roger said that it would be similar to the sign currently in place in Ludlow and it would be put up for several weeks in September each year. Roger clarified that he intended to place it on the Proctorsville Green. Brendan added that they had discussed placing it inside the sidewalk away from the state roadway. Roger said that it will be about 26' long.

Bob Glidden moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to approve the placement of a 9/11 Memorial on the Village Green in Proctorsville. All voted in favor.

Roger thanked the Board and said that he would put the Memorial up this week. The Board thanked the Sheehan's for their efforts.

5. Town Manager to present request regarding lowering the speed limit on Tierney Road.

Brendan handed out copies of a written request to lower the speed limit on Tierney Road to 25 mph to the Board members. He read the request aloud. Brendan said that he had investigated how speed limits are set and believed that a feasibility study would need to be done before the speed limit on a town road could be lowered. He said that in years past the state has done these studies but now the town would be responsible for the feasibility study. He said that he was not aware of how much this might cost. He added that enforcement would one of the key points since a speed limit is useless unless enforced.

Brendan said that by town ordinance the speed limits are 35 mph unless posted otherwise. He added that he believed if there are not speed limit signs in place then, by state law, the speed

limit reverts to 50 mph. Stuart asked if there was a 35 mph speed limit sign posted on Tierney Rd. Brendan said that there is not but one has been ordered, along with a weight limit sign. Mike asked those residents present tonight if speed is currently a problem. Svetlana said that it is especially with construction trucks. Doris asked if a “no outlet” sign could be posted at the beginning of the Tierney Road. The Board agreed that it could.

Kem Phillips was present and said that the state has a guide to setting speed limits which he had reviewed. Brendan said that he had also reviewed that guide. Kem agreed that not all the guidelines would be economically feasible but he thought there were some studies that could be done on Tierney Road.

Maureen Savage was present. She said that her family has been building their house over this past summer, and the Eddy’s built theirs last summer, plus there are families at the end of the road with teenagers who have recently become drivers. She said that all of these factors have added to the volume of traffic on Tierney Road. Maureen said that she felt the hand painted 25 mph signs which were put up have created some bad feelings and thought that the neighbors should work things out without involving the town. Svetlana said that the signs she had put up were stolen at the end of August. She suggested that the people who stole the signs should have come to talk with them instead of stealing the signs. Svetlana added that most people who live on the road do drive respectfully but the construction vehicles do not always, nor do some of the vehicles travelling late at night. Kem said that he had thought the speed limit was already 25 mph on Tierney Road, since High Street is 25 mph, and that was why they had put up signs. He said that the road is narrow and twisting and that 25 mph is a more appropriate speed.

George said that he also sees vehicles travelling too fast along Davis Road where he lives. He said that putting up signs only does so much without enforcement. He asked if the school bus goes up Tierney Road. The residents who were present said it did not. George added that dust can be controlled by applying chloride which the highway department usually does, especially after grading the dirt roads.

Brendan said that he would look into the costs of doing a feasibility study on Tierney Road. He suggested that the Select Board members take a ride up that road to see for themselves if they are in the area.

6. **Select Board to review and consider renewal of the Solar Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$291,000.00**

Brendan said that this is the annual renewal of the Solar Bond Anticipation note in the amount of \$291,000 with Berkshire Bank at 2.25% interest. Stuart asked when paid this note will be paid off and how well the array is paying back the bond with savings on the electric bills. Brendan said that the electricity savings are paying the bond back and that it will be paid off in 2025. He said that he and Peter LaBelle keep track of how the solar credits are allocated and make adjustments as needed. George added that, after the bond is paid off, there should be 10-15 years of credits left before the panels need replacing.

Mike Ripley moved/George Timko seconded a motion to renew the Solar Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$291,000.00 with Berkshire Bank at 2.25% interest. All voted in favor.

7. **Select Board to review and consider approval of special event permit for Caledonia Spirits, Inc.**

Brendan said that Caledonia Spirits are requesting a special event permit to serve and sell liquor at the Vermont Golden Honey Festival on Saturday, Sept 14, 2019, from 10 a.m.-5p.m. at the Golden Stage Inn in Proctorsville.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden second a motion to approve a special event permit for Caledonia Spirits, Inc., to serve and sell liquor at the Vermont Golden Honey Festival on Saturday, Sept 14, 2019, from 10 a.m.-5p.m. at the Golden Stage Inn in Proctorsville. All voted in favor.

8. **Board to consider petition from Green Mountain Power for the installation of a primary underground line within the town right of way on Stone Way.**

Brendan said that Green Mountain Power has submitted a petition to install electric lines underneath Stone Way to connect to the house owned by David McGuire who is constructing additional bedrooms. Brendan said that Greg Heaton of GMP has spoken with Randy since there is a sewer main in the area. The road is dirt at this location so they will dig a ditch to place the line and then fill it back in. Brendan said that Mr. McGuire is finalizing a building permit for this project. He said that both Phon and Randy will be present during the digging.

Mike Ripley moved/Sandra Russo seconded a motion to approve the petition from Green Mountain Power for the installation of a primary underground line within the town right of way on Stone Way. All voted in favor.

9. **Town Manager to update Select Board on various ongoing town projects.**

Brendan said that he is thinking about the upcoming winter season. He said that the Wastewater Treatment Plant Aeration System replacement is just about completed and the Plant is operating at full capacity. He said that the new baffles in the lagoons still need to be installed and reminded the Board that they will be paid for with Town funds since they were not part of the Aeration System bond. He said that it has been a challenge to keep the plant running on two lagoons instead of three for the last two years and he thanked Randy Shimp for keeping it operating well.

Brendan said that the Depot Street bridge might be completed this fall if the weather cooperates. He said that the deck is scheduled to be poured by mid –October, so the bridge could be open by early November if all goes according to schedule.

Brendan said that he and Phon have dug test pits in the town-owned property along Route 131 and there is substantial gravel there. He said that he has begun to investigate what permits would be needed in order to access it. He said that an Act 250 permit would not be required since the gravel would be trucked to the town's lower pit and crushed there. He thought that, given the high price of gravel, it was worthwhile to investigate this source. He added that the salt, sand and gravel budgets over last few weeks have been large so any savings in those areas would be appreciated. However, if not economically feasible, then the town might consider selling that parcel.

George asked if the town needed a state permit to access Route 131. Brendan said that the access permit was obtained in 2011-12 but part of the apron may need to be paved. He noted that there is a logging access within ½ mile of the town parcel which isn't paved so he wanted to investigate the paving requirement further.

10. **Other business**

Brendan McNamara – none.

Bob Glidden – none.

Mike Ripley – none.

Sandra Russo – none.

George Timko – George said that the sidewalk along the Proctorsville Green and the Proctorsville Post Office has grass growing in it, which he thought should be removed before it causes cracks to form.

Stuart Lindberg – none.

Kem Phillips added that the majority of Tierney Road residents supported the 25 mph speed limit. He said that someone had commented to him that the roads were not made for runners, which he objected to, and he wanted confirmation that runners were allowed on town roads. Sandra said that she hoped that the 35 mph speed limit signs would help lower speeds, and suggested that Kem wait and see if they do before asking to reduce the limit. She added that perhaps neighborly problems could be resolved between neighbors. Brendan said that runners were fine on town roads.

11. **Adjourn**

Mike Ripley moved/George Timko seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. All voted in favor.

Minutes Approved: _____

Date: _____