

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen Work Session Minutes June 26, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Fred Kidder II, Tom Steketee
OTHERS PRESENT: Terry Straight

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm

Discussion of Bids for Quinttown Road removal and replacement of dual culvert project

Detailed review of bids opened at 6/24/2020 Selectboard meeting: bids ranged from a low of \$13,630 to a high above \$54,000. Two highest bids rejected because they included items that were specifically itemized as being “do not include”: 2 headwalls and 1 culvert which the Town was purchasing directly.

Lowest bid of \$13,630 by Paige did not fully itemize what was to be included and to be done. This bid is less than 1/3 the cost of any other. It makes it hard to understand how it could be inclusive. The Selectboard determined more information was need from this bidder. Mr. Paige was called during the meeting. He claimed it was complete but would verify that as soon as he got back to his office from a job site he was at and let Fred know either way if it was accurate or a mistake.

The second lowest bid of \$40,345 from Thomson, was determined to be complete per bid request.

Action: *Motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to accept the Paige bid, ONLY if complete and if not then accept the Thomson bid. Vote results: 3 approved, 0 not approved.*

The cost of the culvert that the town will purchase is being done under the State culvert bid buying program, so no additional/alternate costs are needed. The headwalls will require more research to determine an economical and appropriate purchase in accordance with the Purchasing Policy.

Discussion of “back field” condition:

It was recently called to the attention of the Selectboard that the field (old playground) above the Town office was growing in along the sides and there were tree branches or limbs that had fallen into the area cut under the mowing contract. Fred reviewed with us, the details of his examination and we conducted a site visit. There is one tree near the back ramp (west) that could use some attention also.

It was determined that there is no money for this work currently. The estimate is \$300-\$1000. The lawn mowing contractor will be notified he is authorized to “go around” limbs that are in his way. The item will be reviewed as part of next year’s budget preparation.

Discussion of Town Office parking lot.

There currently is a lot of sand that has accumulated in the parking lot at the Town Office building. This sand is from years of winter sanding and is hiding broken pavement. The extent of

that broken pavement is not known. Terry was authorized to obtain costs to rent equipment to remove the sand and to obtain a cost to refurbish the blacktop of the existing parking lot. Once those estimates are known they will be used to determine a budget in a future year.

Other: Discussion of Removal of Pine tree at end of Town Office parking lot.

There is a large/tall pine tree at the corner of the Town Office parking lot between the exit ramp and the propane tank. It has been dropping significantly sized limbs. One estimate was obtained to remove it and cut it up using an outside contractor: \$1,400. At this time the project will not be authorized but we will monitor the situation.

Adjourn

Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Steketee to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm

Respectfully submitted:

John Adams