

# TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Fred Kidder II, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Todd Haywood, Jason Bachus, Sandra Marsh

## Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Roll Call** – J Adams-present, Fred Kidder-present, Chase Kling-present

## Approval of Minutes

*Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kling to accept the minutes of 05/12/2021 (as amended)*

*Motion Passed 2/0 (Kidder recused himself as he was not at this board meeting)*

*Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to accept the minutes of 05/19/2021*

*Motion Passed 3/0*

## Reports

- A. **Assessor**-Todd Haywood presented his monthly report to the Selectboard. He did inspection for the remaining abatements and will have a recommendation for the board at the June 23rd meeting. He completed a site visit at the P&V campground and updated the assessing information, and sent letters to two residents requesting information on structures on their property that's not reflected in the Avitar system. He reviewed the NH DRA's letter to the Town of Orford regarding the USPAP manual completed by Steve Allen, our previous assessor. He doesn't believe any of the missing data is critical for the day to day operation of the assessing office, but can provide table information from the CAMA system to the NH DRA, but can't answer specific questions around specific adjustments made by Allen. Dobbins-Marsh was told only the report is non-compliant, not the Town.
- B. **Police Department** – Chief Bachus provided his report and statistics for the month of April. There was a total of 61 calls which included 2 burglary complaints, 5 thefts, 1 vandalism and 12 follow-ups for previous criminal investigations. The burglaries and 5 theft complaints are tied to two individuals that have been arrested, with warrants issued or pending. Motor vehicle enforcement included 18 stops in which 5 summonses were issued.  
The e-ticket printer for the cruiser stopped working and was replaced (\$328) and is back operating. The body camera also stopped working and while the camera is outside the 12-month warranty, it was replaced at no cost to the Town as other agencies have also had similar issues. Bachus continues to research for a replacement cruiser. Bachus was thanked for his presence at the annual town meeting.

## Old Business

- A. **Quinttown Road Grading** – Sandra Marsh provided a letter to the Selectboard regarding the condition of the Quinttown Road. She requested it be read into the minutes.

*"I listened in on your meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> when you talked about "road grading by residents". I think you should have asked yourselves what drove this resident to take matters into his own hands on a sunny Sunday afternoon. Please find attached the request that has been made before, and is now being made again.*

*This time I have typed a letter, request, complaint whatever you want to call it, I have gone above and beyond and have asked other people for signatures if they agree they have signed it. I do not feel I (or Quinttown road) am more important than anyone else in this town, we are all equal. I just want Quinttown road graded properly and maintained properly. Also, communication is key, this is a heavy traffic road with a lot of truck traffic. If we all know when the grading will be happening we can do our best to plan our schedule around you. Please lets all work together on this matter instead of working against one another. It does not have to be this difficult. Sandra Marsh (44 years on Quinttown Rd)".* 34 residents signed the attached request for Quinttown Road grading to be completed.

While most of the roads have been graded, Kling agrees that Quinttown Road and the remaining roads need grading too. However, the weather often plays a role in reasons for not grading. Kidder said it's important to allow the Road Agent to do his job, but having a grading schedule is important. There should be a schedule of roads to be graded, with priority placed on the heaviest travelled roads. Marsh said it would be helpful to know the grading schedule, or at least have notification to residents on town roads as to when grading will occur. The Selectboard will notify the Road Agent to place a sign at the Quinttown Road entrance to notify residents a few days before the grading will occur.

*Motion made by Kling, seconded by Kidder to have Quinttown Road and Grimes Hill road graded by the end of the work day on June 3, 2021. Motion Passed 3/0*

## **B. Update of Outstanding Projects**

- a) Illegal Junkyards- the Selectboard reviewed the month progress report from this property owner
- b) Hazardous Building – no response has been received from the property owner regarding access to review the property
- c) FEMA Updates
  1. Quinttown Road Culvert project – the expense reimbursement has been authorized by FEMA, and funds should be deposited into the Town's account within the next two weeks
  2. Town Road #100 – the first invoice from JP Sicard, for the culvert and temporary bridge, was submitted to FEMA and NH DES. The project subcontractor for the guardrail installation challenged the engineering design, but that issue has been cleared up. After the rails are installed the project can be declared significantly completed, and a site meeting will be held to create a punch list of items to complete before signing off the project
  3. Mousley Brook Culvert Headwall – this FEMA project is still pending. The Selectboard discussed what options are available to the Town to repair or replace the culvert. Under FEMA, the project will be similar to the Town Road #100 project. Kling will look into the cost to install a temporary bridge as he feels work could be done without interaction with the stream which would avoid permits from NH DES being required.

### C. Other

1. Meeting with Town Attorney was cancelled due to her illness, so no action was taken on the "Permit to Construct" application. The meeting will be rescheduled for June 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm
2. Summer Events – the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade will happen this year, the beaches will be open and swim lessons will occur at Indian Pond.

### New Business

**A. Open bids for River Road Paving** – none were received

**B. Open bids for the Road Aprons** – one bid received from Blaktop for \$31,413. This would be for road aprons at the Sawyer Brook, Baker, Orfordville and E. Cemetery Roads.

*Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Kling to accept the bid. Motion Passed 3/0*

The Selectboard discussed obtaining bids to include Quinttown Road, and maybe one other road, in lieu of the River Road paving. Dobbins-Marsh will ask the Road Agent for the bid specs and post a legal notice.

**C. Discussion of Annual Meeting results** –Kling discussed the point of order that was raised by a resident because he felt comments being made were just a continued rant on the same topic. Moderator Pease explained he can't stop residents from speaking based on an assumption of the what will be said. Tempers flared between two residents at the microphone, and words were exchanged between the two. The tone of the town meeting was very high pitched and loud, making many attendees very uncomfortable. We need to have an orderly and respectful town meeting where all attendees feel comfortable speaking their opinion.

Can the Moderator delay a motion to "call the question"? Kling will do research on what options the Moderator has, specifically when there are people waiting to speak on a specific article.

Kidder feels his role as a Selectboard member is to listen to comments – it's the Town's day to speak their minds, and for the Selectboard to listen and take notes to address at Selectboard meetings. There are many open meetings around the budget where the public can ask questions and comment on what the Selectboard is asking for funding. He doesn't mind the passion, but agrees it is uncomfortable when a speakers' emotions over take their passion. The Selectboard agreed to invite the Moderator to June 9, 2021 meeting to discuss how to make Town meeting

Specific articles were discussed as follows:

- The article for the highway truck passed. The Road Agent will make his recommendation at the June 9, 2021 Selectboard meeting
- The article for the Archertown Bridge over Jacobs Brook passed. This will be discussed in greater detail at the June 9, 2021 Selectboard meeting
- The article for the construction of a grader cover and garage addition both passed. Dobbins-Marsh will work with the Road Agent to update the construction specs and put out to bid.
- The petitioned article for 50% of Current Use change tax remain as income to the Town passed. Dobbins-Marsh verified that 100% of funds received prior to April 1, 2021 will be paid into the Conservation Commission account, with 50%

of funds received after April 1<sup>st</sup> being paid into the Conservation Commission fund.

- The petitioned article to establish a Town Road Commission passed. The Selectboard asked Dobbins-Marsh to have legal council review. A town mailer will be sent requesting residents interested in being on the committee to submit their name and qualifications to the Selectboard.

**D. Review of received “Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”**

- Property Owner: John Bischoff and Charlotte Zabawa, Map & Lot #001-91-32C, Forrester: Bruce Streeter
- Property Owner: John Bischoff, Charlotte Zabawa, and David Bischoff, Map & Lot #001-91-12, Forrester: Bruce Streeter

**E. Correspondence**

- Email was received from John Miller requesting the Road Agent and Selectboard work to prioritize a maintenance project on Orfordville Road such that the wetlands are stabilized.
- An application for the Emergency Management Director was received. The Selectboard want the Road Agent/Fire Chief, Police Chief, Admin Assistant to review and report back to the Selectboard.

**Manifests, Payroll and Accounts Payable folders**

The manifest, payroll and accounts payable folders were reviewed and signed where necessary.

**Non-Public Session**

*A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel matters at 7:52 pm. A roll call vote of member’s present was taken with a decision in the affirmative (Kling recused himself from this meeting).*

*The Board resumed the regular meeting at 8:12 pm. A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Motion Approved.*

**Adjourn**

*Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Adams adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh