

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fred Kidder II, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Terry Straight

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- *Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Kling to accept the minutes of the 07/28/2021 Pubic Hearing (as amended). Motion Passed*
- *Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Kling to accept the minutes of 07/28/2021 (as amended). Motion Passed*

Reports

Fire Department – Chief Straight presented his July report to the Selectboard. In July there were 10 calls (6 Medical and 4 Fire) – YTD 67 calls compared to last year at 55 YTD calls. Included in fire calls are department responses for downed power lines. This requires the department to be at the location until the electrical company arrives, which sometimes can be lengthy. Straight reported the fire ponds are in good shape and are checked weekly. The department held 2 pump trainings – 4 members attended on 07/05, and 5 members attended on 07/19. The fire truck inspections and annual service is scheduled for September 2021. Straight wanted to make sure it's still okay to rotate the fire and highway vehicles being taken to Reeds for service and inspections. The board agreed to this.

Highway Department – Terry Straight presented his July report to the Selectboard. The department continues doing maintenance on the trucks and equipment on a daily and weekly basis, which is helping keep the maintenance costs down this year. The department rented an excavator and has been ditching Blackberry Hill road. Cold patch has been added on paved roads as needed, and grading the gravel roads was done as weather permitted. Kling said he'd received good reports from residents on the work being done by Roger Hadlock and Jeff Roberts on Blackberry Hill road. Kling asked the cost to rent the excavator (\$3,900) and asked what else it will be used for. Straight said it will be returned on 08/23, so if time permits it will be moved to other roads. Straight said the 2nd grading will begin soon – Kling asked if a first grading was done on Tillotson Falls and Piermont Heights roads – Straight said Tillotson Falls road will be completed soon, and Piermont Heights was graded from Bear Tree Road to Route 25A. Once the work on Town Road #100 is complete, the department will work on the road in preparation for winter. Kidder asked about a time to meet to walk River Road – Straight will contact him with some dates.

The Selectboard asked on the status of the new truck – Straight will contact Reed's for an update, as well as checking into what the estimated trade in value will be for the 2008 International. Straight met with Tiffani Vance to discuss work she'd like to do to the Class

VI section of Prettyman Road. Straight discussed the culvert size and using ¾" stone to fill in deeper holes, then cover with gravel.

The Selectboard asked for a work plan from now until plow season. Straight said in addition to grading, there are a few culverts to be replaced (Mud Turtle Pond and Upper Baker Pond roads). Straight said he's reluctant to use up all the culvert inventory as there's a shortage of culverts at this time and wants to have inventory in case of emergencies. The company hired for the roadside mowing is back logged – Straight is hoping they will be in Orford within the next few weeks. Straight mentioned the condition of the culvert on Orfordville Road by the bog/dam. The department has had to fill in a sink hole on a regular basis, and the culvert is in bad shape. Dobbins-Marsh said Horizons is putting together bid specs and a cost analysis for this project. The estimation for the total costs will determine if we have to put out to bid or not.

Old Business

A. Update of Outstanding Projects

a) FEMA Projects

1. Town Road #100 – the guardrails will be installed on Saturday, August 14, 2021. Bob Durfee from DuBois & King is putting together a punch list to review with the contractor.
2. Sawyer Brook Culvert – the headwall has been repaired – the project is complete. As this is considered a small project, the Town of Orford has already received funds from FEMA.
3. Mousley Brook Culvert – the Road Commission have not yet looked over this project, so there was nothing to report to the Selectboard.

B. Orfordville Road Bog/Culvert Project – see comments under the Highway Department discussion

New Business

A. Review of Actual vs Budget expense report – the Selectboard will review and submit questions or clarification of the report to Dobbins-Marsh

B. Barn Easement Reviews – last year, letters were sent to the owners receiving the Historical Barn tax credit requesting information on updates since the last visit by the Selectboard in 2019. In 2021, physical visits should be scheduled. Kling wanted to review the folders for each barn to acquaint himself with the properties. The Selectboard will address at the 08/25 meeting.

C. Review of received “Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”

Property Owner: Green Woodlands, Map & Lot #07-32-3, Forrester: John Fogarty

D. Correspondence

1. David Smith submitted his monthly status report on the work being done at his property on Route 10
2. Eastern analytical report of E-coli testing on 08/03/21 – all the beaches continue to have low readings

E. Other

1. Bio Spray is no longer available to spray the mall walk for vegetation control. Dobbins-Marsh is looking into other vendors to use, but for this year there will be no spraying.
2. Sand Pit – Kling reported there is an area where the boundary is close to the 50' abutter zone. Kling will meet with Straight to mark where the 50' abutter zone is.

3. Planning Board – Kidder reviewed the Planning Board meeting actions – the Eck's came in for a preliminary discussion on their potential subdivision. They are also looking at a boundary line adjustment. The Planning Board is working on updating the applications and fees. Vicky Davis will be putting together a training exercise for members.
4. The Selectboard reviewed the Land Use Change Tax application from Kenneth & Anne Miller. *Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Kling to accept the Land Use Change Tax application for Kenneth and Anne Miller, Map & Lot #1-91-34. Motion passed.*

Manifests, Payroll and Accounts Payable folders

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

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh