

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Terry Straight

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Kling, seconded by Adams to accept the minutes of 09/22/2021 (as amended)

Motion Passed 2/0 (Kidder abstained from voting)

Reports

- A. **Fire Department** – Chief Straight presented his report for September. There were 9 calls in September, bringing the year to date total to 86. (Last year at this time there were a total of 87 calls). For September the 9 calls consisted of 3 medical and 6 fire calls. Seven members attended a pump training on 9/20/21, and Chief Straight attended a Mutual Aid meeting on 9/21/21, and was voted in as Vice President for the group. All 4 fire trucks went out for yearly maintenance and inspection. The air pack annual service was also completed.

Straight addressed the possibility of refurbishing of the 1995 Engine 3 in 2022. The engine is scheduled to be replaced in 2026, but refurbishing would prolong the life of the truck by 10 years. The estimation to refurbish is between \$20,000 and \$30,000, vs the replacement cost of close to \$800,000. The Selectmen asked Straight to firm up the cost to refurbish, then write up a warrant article to be reviewed.

- B. **Highway Department** – Terry Straight presented his report for September. Equipment and vehicle maintenance are ongoing each week. The oil was changed in trucks 1,2 and 3 by the Highway crew, and all trucks went to Reed's for their annual inspection. Truck #3 is currently at Reed's for repairs to the wiring system.

Grading of roads continues as weather permits, along with adding gravel and stapak where needed, as well as cleaning out culverts when working on these roads. Cold patch was added to paved roads as needed. Straight said a resident of Orford has volunteered to install the exhaust fan at the Highway garage. The Town would purchase the fan and supplied needed – total cost will be under \$1,000. The Selectboard agreed to move forward with this work, as it's part of the recommendation list from Primex. Straight presented salt contracts and pricing for the 2021-2022 season from Cargill (\$72.77/ton), Morton (73.85/ton) and Eastern Mineral (75.93/ton).

Motion made by Kidder, seconded by Adams to accept the contract from Cargill for 175 tons of salt at a rate of \$72.77 for the 2021-2022 season. Motion passed 3/0

Straight told the Selectboard he'll be attending a UNH-T12 Highway Municipal Mutual Aid conference on 10/15, and a Primex Snowplow Operator Safety course on 10/26. Kling asked Straight about the plow schedule in coordination with the bus routes from Rivendell. Straight said he'd already printed the bus route schedule and is on the

Rivendell contact list when schools are cancelled or delayed. Kling also discussed markers he'd placed around the sand pit perimeter to mark the 50' setback. Kling said there are a few places where the 50' setback has been breached – Straight will take a look at the area.

Old Business

A. Update of Outstanding Projects

1. FEMA Updates
 1. Town Road #100 Culvert – the punch list was completed by JP Sicard and the Highway department by the due date of October 13, 2021. Adams will take photos of the completed work and submit to the engineering firm of DuBois & King. The dissatisfaction with the work performed by JP Sicard and the deadlines missed by them will be reported to FEMA and can be used as a reason not to use them for future FEMA projects, even if they are the low bid.
 2. Mousley Brook Culvert – The requests for engineering estimates from the two newest firms should be received by the end of October 2021
2. Safety Hazardous Properties – Kidder presented a letter to be sent to the owner of the Orford Inn. Dobbins-Marsh will mail certified, return receipt requested.
3. Archertown Bridge at Jacobs Brook – DuBois & King presented their study to the Selectboard for review. The Selectboard needs to let D&K know which option to go with. Adams needs to do some research at the Grafton County Reg of Deeds to determine the width of the ROW of the bridge. Kling suggested having a title search completed on this area to determine property lines. Adams will contact the Town attorney to start the process.

New Business

- A. Budget vs Actual Review** – the Selectboard will review the report and address any questions or concerns at the next meeting
- B. Complaints** – none received
- C. Review of received “Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”** – none received
- D. Contracts** – Salt Contract was addressed during the Highway Department report
- E. Correspondence**
 1. The family of Glenn Pease would like to replace the photo of him currently hung at the Town Office building with another one. The Selectboard agreed to this.
 2. An update was received from Dave Smith on the cleanup of his property.
- F. Other**
 1. Kling addressed the Boston Cane transfer. He will speak to the next recipient and report back to the board at the next meeting. Dobbins-Marsh will order a new short cane for the presentation.
 2. Kling reviewed the list of outstanding taxes. There are approximately 10 tax payers that are historically behind, but overall seem to be doing their best to make payments.
 3. The Selectboard asked Kling to speak with the owners of the Burke Forestry lot that's for sale regarding the potential of the Town purchasing the property.

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 adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh