

TOWN OF CLARENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
REGULAR
Monday July 27, 2020
Minutes

Attendees:

Select Board

Mike Klopchin, Chair
Bob Bixby, Clerk
Cash Ruane
Rick Wilbur

Heidi Congdon, Treasurer
Katie Rock, Board Secretary
William Chmielewski, PEG-TV

1. Call to Order

Chairman Klopchin called the meeting to order at 6PM.

2. Agenda additions/deletions

Selectman Wilbur motioned to add East Street speed limit discussion under Highway, Selectman Bixby seconded, and all approved.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Selectman Bixby motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from July 13, 2020 as is, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Highway

Road Commissioner Report-The Road Crew has been replacing culverts on East Tinnmouth Road and it should be in good shape for a couple years, with minor grading maintenance. Roadside mowing is continuing. Road Commissioner Ruane has received numerous calls about the height of the grass at the intersection of Walker Mountain Road and 133. The State only does one pass but that's not enough. The Road Crew would like to take 30 minutes to mow that corner down, for safety purposes. Cash Ruane asked Katie to let Brian Sanderson know that the Town was going to mow the corner and ask that the State hand cut some trees.

The voters approved \$80,000 for paving, and it doesn't look like the Town will get any paving grants this year. Cash asked the Board what they'd like to do. Cash suggested paving a section of Middle Road, parts of Alfrecha Road or Moulton Avenue. Selectman Bixby recommended Cash getting bids and agreed to start on the section of Middle Road and see how far the money goes. Selectman Wilbur motioned to allow Cash use his discretion about which sections of road need paving and get bids for said roads before the next meeting, Selectman Bixby seconded, and all approved.

East Street Speed Limit-Chairman Klopchin read a letter from the Gabauer family in regards to the speed limit on East Street. They would like the entire length of East Street changed to 25mph for the safety of adults and children. Selectman Ruane motioned to change the speed limit from 35mph to 25mph for the entire length of East Street and the Clarendon portion of Haven Hill Road. Selectman Wilbur seconded for discussion. Selectman Bixby wondered if the Board should get more feedback since they only received concerns from one couple in Town from the South side.

Selectman Ruane reiterated that the slower the speed limit on the road, the more cost savings there is with maintenance. The Board voted 2 to 1 on the motion. They asked Katie to contact homeowners via phone on the South end of East Street to receive their feedback by the next meeting.

Cash and Katie updated the Board and the public about the Kingsley Covered Bridge meeting that will be held jointly with VTrans on August 10 at 6pm at the Clarendon Community Center.

5. Approval of Select Board Warrants

All new warrants and warrants previously signed by the designated Select Board Member were approved and signed by all Select Board Members.

6. Guests

N/A

7. Public Comments

N/A

8. Old Business

Fire Alarm System – Selectman Wilbur recused himself from the vote because of his involvement with Royals along with Dave McKinnon. Wade Masure, VLCT insurance agent, stopped by last week to go over the bids. He had a few questions. Heidi suggested sending them to the contractors and see what their answers were before making a decision. She did recommend going ahead with approving the safety grant.

Approve Traffic Ordinance amendment- the Board decided to wait till the next meeting to discuss.

9. New Business

Approve Safety Grant application- Selectman Bixby motioned to approve, have the Board Chair sign, and send in the safety grant application, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Tax Rate- Heidi presented the FY21 tax rate and requested that the 2021 taxes be due Saturday October 17, 2020. The education tax rate, provided by the State has gone up 5 cents. The Town and Local Agreement tax rate has gone down fractions of a cent. The Homestead Property tax rate is \$1.59, while the Non-residential Property tax rate is \$1.61. For example, a house worth \$150,000, the tax bill would go up about \$80. Selectman Wilbur motioned to accept the tax rate as is, Selectman Ruane seconded, all approved.

10. Town Officer's Report

Heidi is still working on reports from FY20. She will have copies available for the public of a side by side for the tax rate from last year to this year as well as budget status for this year.

Katie will be sending in the safety grant application tomorrow, she sent out letters to East Street residents concerning the Kingsley Covered Bridge.

11. Select Board Member Concerns

N/A

Approved August 10, 2020

12. Adjournment

Selectman Bixby motioned to adjourn at 6:40pm, Selectman Wilbur seconded, and all approved.

SIGNED: Mike Klopchin Mike Klopchin, Chair

SIGNED: Robert Bixby Bob Bixby, Clerk