

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

March 25, 2013 ~ Minutes

Present: Chris Brooks (Chairman), Marge Freed (by phone), Mike Connors, Michael Oltedal, Steve Jones

Absent:

Also, present: R. Gaiotti (Town Manager), David Wilson, Danny Pinsonault, Sandra Pinsonault, Mike Feron (GNAT-TV)

C. Brooks, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Approve Minutes of December 21, 2010

M. Oltedal moved and M. Freed seconded to approve the February 19, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment

D. Wilson was present to ask about the status regarding the Transtar Ltd property landscape screening. R. Gaiotti explained that the Town had tried to make an agreement with Transtar, but it was not accepted. C. Brooks asked about the line of sight along Route 30 when exiting the property and R. Gaiotti replied that it was established that the three or four small diameter trees were in the Route 30 right-of-way and it was believed that a subcontractor working with Transtar may have taken them down. C. Brooks suggested a site visit to determine if there is a problem when exiting the property. D. Wilson stated that he was told that Mr. Waite did the original cutting and M. Connor noted that he was told that an independent trucker who had a problem exiting the site had done it. R. Gaiotti clarified that someone had a close call with an oncoming car when exiting the Transtar driveway which triggered the tree trimming. D. Wilson felt that the screening agreement with Transtar has been violated and that D. Dorr is responsible for the property and the screening even if he did not create the problem. He felt that Transtar should have petitioned the Select Board to legally change the agreement if there was a line of sight problem. C. Brooks recommended that R. Gaiotti talk to the State to see if there would be any issue replacing or allowing the trees to re-grow in the State right-of-way and what is the proper line of sight for the driveway. S. Jones felt that the trees were far enough out of view of the driveway as not to be a problem and M. Connors commented that large trucks, when turning out of a driveway, cannot always stay in their lane and would need to see as much over the hill as they can. C. Brooks suggested petitioning to continue the lower speed limit of 30 mph until after the driveway going north. He noted that the Town has a binding contract with the owner and he wants the State to do a site visit to evaluate the sight distances needed for the driveway and their recommendations about planting or allowing the trees to grow. It is necessary to make sure there will be no consequences to the Town. D. Wilson stated that the trees were there for 25 years and the State never said anything. M. Connors noted that the trees have also been growing for 25 years which may have contributed to the problem. R. Gaiotti is to draft a petition to the State to extend the 30 mph speed limit on Route 30 from Dorset Village to Paul's Way and also to extend the 40 mph speed limit from Paul's Way to the Dorset Town line. M. Freed said that assurance

from the State Police about enforcement will be needed. R. Gaiotti is also to find out about using the speed sign from the Bennington Sheriff's office.

Passenger Rail Presentation

The presentation is to be rescheduled.

Review Board Appointment Schedule

The Select Board members reviewed the appointment schedule with R. Gaiotti who noted that he has already prepared the letters that need to be sent out to existing Board members to see if they are interested in continuing in their positions.

Town Service Officer Appointment

It was the consensus of the Select Board members to appoint Ellen Maloney as the Town Service Officer.

Liquor Licenses

M. Oltedal moved and S. Jones seconded to adjourn as the Select Board and convene as the Liquor Board at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

It was the consensus of the Select Board to sign the liquor licenses for: Inn at West View Farm, Chantecleer Restaurant and Mio Bistro.

S. Jones moved and M. Oltedal seconded to adjourn as the Liquor Board and reconvene as the Select Board at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Finance Report

R. Gaiotti reported that the Town was three-quarters of the way through the fiscal year and that the salt line item was expended. M. Oltedal asked about the recreation funds and R. Gaiotti responded that most of the budget was used and there might be an additional purchase for Emerald Lake (standup paddle boards). C. Brooks asked if the State has approached the Town for another program and R. Gaiotti said it might be a possibility. C. Brooks suggested asking about holding a "Dorset Day" at Emerald Lake.

Manager's Report

Discussion ensued regarding delinquent taxes and online payment of taxes with regard to ACH transfer setup. M. Freed asked what happens if a resident uses an ACH transfer and the funds are not available and the consequences of notification to the property owner and delinquency. S. Pinsonault commented that sometimes people who pay online create the payment for a certain date, but the banks still have to create the check and mail it which could cause the payment to be late. It was suggested that R. Gaiotti find out how to get the banks to recognize the Town of Dorset as an automatic payee.

R. Gaiotti reported on the roads – winter storm cleanup, culvert cleanup and stone application. A new Agency of Transportation Bridge and Highway Standards has been received and will need

to be adopted by the Town by 2014. R. Gaiotti is to evaluate the changes with a cost-benefit analysis and report back to the SB.

It was the census of the Select Board members not to send a letter of support for the adoption of a local option tax by the Town of Bennington.

R. Gaiotti was asked to talk to the Manchester Police Department and the State Police regarding speed limit enforcement along Route 30 in the 50 mph zone leading into Dorset in response to the letter received from Bob Craig.

The Board was also informed about the Tour of the Dragons race course, Kelly Road documents, Dorset build-out study survey and the Verizon wireless project support letter.

Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Week of 5/25/12

It was the consensus of the SB to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for the week of 3/19/13 as presented.

Other Business

- R. Gaiotti is to find out if there are Bennington County funds available to paint the Dorset fire hydrants red instead of black as they are non-functioning as fire resources.
- C. Brooks asked if the Town has any studies done concerning the sales of homes in Dorset and the speed of the housing turn over as the Board should know what the market is doing and whether they should be taking any action.
- The Southern Vermont Chambers of Commerce shared monies from a flood recovery grant.
- The next Select Board meeting will be April 16, 2013.

M. Oltedal moved and B. Tyler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Select Board

Date 3/25/13
 Regular Meeting _____
 Special Meeting _____

(Please Print) Name	Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes or No)
<i>Dave Wilson</i>	<i>Dorset, VT</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Danny Pinsonault</i>	<i>E Dorset VT</i>	<i>self</i>	<i>NO</i>
<i>Sandra Pinsonault</i>	<i>Dorset</i>	<i>town clerk</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>MIKE FERON</i>	<i>SWOENLAND</i>	<i>CINAT TV</i>	<i>NO</i>