

Regular Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

August 18, 2015 ~ Minutes

Present: Mike Connors (Vice-Chairman, Michael Oltedal, Brad Tyler, R. Gaiotti (Town Manager)
Absent: Chris Brooks (Chairman), Henry Chandler
Also, present: Marilyn Kinney, Andrew McKeever (Manchester Journal), Sandra Pinsonault, Danny Pinsonault, Allan Sullivan .

M. Connors, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Minutes of July 21, 2015 and August 11, 2015

M. Oltedal moved and B. Tyler seconded to approve the July 21, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Tyler moved and M. Oltedal seconded to approve the August 11, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment

It was voiced by A. Sullivan that he felt it was difficult to find out the dates and times of the Board meetings and that there was a lack of notification for these meetings. He noted that the odds of people showing up for these meetings were slim even though the Boards complained that people do not attend meetings because they did not know about them. It was also noted by A. Sullivan that during the July 21, 2015 Select Board meeting, the members elected to have an Executive Session to discuss contractual issues which he felt did not meet the requirements of having such and the Vermont Statutes are very specific about the procedure for Executive Session. A. Sullivan quoted sections of the Vermont Statute regarding Open Meeting Laws and Executive Session. He felt that the discussions of police, fire and rescue were important and the public would be better served hearing all the information unless the information very specifically would jeopardize contracts and/or negotiations. M. Oltedal requested that A. Sullivan provide a written statement to the Select Board outlining his view regarding the July 21st Executive Session with regard to the Open Meeting Law. M. Oltedal said that he hoped people could understand the sensitivity of contract discussions, especially when it involves another Town. A. Sullivan stated that living up to the specificity of the law is necessary and it is important for everyone to hear about the issues now and not at Town Meeting. R. Gaiotti commented that there was a well-attended, formal presentation given by Dorset and Manchester regarding public safety. S. Pinsonault informed A. Sullivan that the notices for Board meetings are posted around Town and in the Bennington Banner. A. Sullivan suggested the Town use Front Porch for meeting notifications. R. Gaiotti said that notification is given on the Town web site and posted in four locations in Town along with the newspapers.

Public Safety Plan (Continued)

R. Gaiotti presented a memo outlining the Public Safety Plan updates which included his involvement in:

- Attending meetings with the Manchester Rescue Squad (B.Weiss & J. Salsgiver) and Manchester Town Manager for organizing a strategy for supporting their services.
- Development of cost, funding and oversight structures for a potential Manchester/Dorset policing option as most people want to know the costs involved before making decisions.
- Attending Dorset Prudential Committee meetings and working on a plan with A. Casey (Fire Chief) for the installation of dry fire hydrants.
- Meeting with Chad Smith, Bennington County Sheriff Department, and the Select Board to discuss services that could be provided by his department.
- Joint meeting to be held on August 24th with the Select Board, Dorset Prudential Committee and East Dorset Prudential Committee to discuss mutual collaboration efforts.

Town Road Right-of-Way Permit Process Review

R. Gaiotti suggested that the Town right-of-way permit process be reviewed and updated to develop a more efficient model of implementation and updated language. To be pro-active in informing contractors or any other vendor that might work in the Town right-of-ways, the updated forms could be sent out to them so they are aware of the permitting process ahead of time.

Suggested changes to the permit form included:

- #6 ~ delete the word “tamped” and use “compacted”
- #7 ~ delete the end of the sentence. The entire item would be: Where water pipes are laid under a road, they must be put to a depth of at least six feet.
- #8 ~ clarify wording with regard to excavators/crawlers and exclude all metal track equipment
- Reference should be included regarding flowable fill and backfill
- Include numbered item regarding the presence of a Town staff member at the construction site ~ to be determined by the Town manager, if and when necessary.
- Include numbered item for traffic control
- Include statement that the vendor has to replace materials using the exact materials taken out with only the top six inches to be new material

M. Connors suggested reviewing permit fees and comparing them to other Towns and R. Gaiotti noted that they might want to address the fee schedule to include staff time for being present at the construction site. R. Gaiotti is to revise the permit form and present it at a future meeting for review.

Finance Report

R. Gaiotti noted that the delinquent taxes for 2014-2015 were \$41,795 and the total delinquent taxes stand at \$196,887. The second notice for tax sales are being sent out by the Town Attorney and there are two to three potential residences that will go to tax sales.

- The Town is approximately 14% through fiscal year 2016, but due to large sinking fund line items being transferred, it appears to be 23% expended. This will even out during the year.
- Truck #4 is half way through it life cycle and the side dump hydraulics have been replaced.
- Salt pricing has increased to approximately \$81 - \$85/ton based on the vendor
- Audit is almost complete and should be available soon. There is a positive fund balance from FY15 of \$66,000.

Manager's Report

- Mad Tom Road pavement project is complete with just the shoulders left to be done
- Squirrel Hollow Road retaining wall is almost complete and resurfacing may happen in the fall
- Village Street North pavement was coated
- Review of pavement/bridge projects and equipment purchases to be updated and reviewed in September or October
- M. Connors asked about the wood bridge in Dorset Hollow and R. Gaiotti responded that the State just did their inspection and found that the I-beams can't be maintained as they are too close to the water. The Town will have to start thinking about replacement of this bridge.
- Discussion for next meeting regarding water district upgrades to water system and roadways for Dorset Hollow – approximately one and one-half miles.
- Solid Waste joint study meetings and public hearings.
- Attended the August 10th Dorset Prudential Committee meeting
- Fundraising efforts for the Owls Head Town Forest project is \$100,000 short of the Town goal of \$650,000
- Marble sidewalk project preparation. M. Connors asked about the white fence and the right-of-way and adding one foot to make a big difference for parking. R. Gaiotti noted that he has talked to the homeowners and they have said that anything that is removed, they want replaced again. B. Tyler expressed that he thought that the Sidewalk Association said they would be responsible for this.
- M. Connors & M. Oltedal gave their approval for the curb cut on McNamara Road and asked R. Gaiotti to get the necessary approval from C. Brooks and/or H. Chandler.
- Jim Sullivan will give a presentation on Development Review Boards versus PC/ZBA Boards on September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office. M. Connors expressed concern regarding having another Board to get members for as it could be a huge time commitment and it might be difficult for attendance. D. Pinsonault noted that the PC struggles sometimes with regulations in the Historic District not being clear and this creates frustration and that reviews for applicants sometimes take time away from planning. There will also be new amendments for the Historic District. R. Gaiotti noted that there is a State Preservation office which has all the pertinent information on historical accuracy. M. Oltedal asked if J. Sullivan could review this information and R.

Gaiotti said that there could be a follow up meeting on that data. M. Connors commented that there were already a lot of meetings for a small community (SB, PC, ZBA, DRB) and adding two more meetings for a Design Review Board would be difficult.

Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable for the Week of 8/18/2015

It was the consensus of the SB to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for the week of 8/18/2015 as presented.

Other Business

- R. Gaiotti notified the Board when he would be out of the office.

M. Oltedal moved and B. Tyler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset Select Board
 Date 8/18/15
 Regular Meeting
 Special Meeting

(Please Print)

Name	Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes or No)
<i>Matthew Kinney</i>	<i>East Dorset</i>	<i>SELF</i>	<i>NO</i>
<i>Andrew McKeena</i>	<i>Sunderland</i>	<i>Manchester Journal</i>	<i>NO</i>
<i>Sandra Pimmault</i>	<i>E Dorset</i>	<i>SELF</i>	<i>YES</i>
<i>Danny Pincusault</i>	<i>E Dorset</i>	<i>me</i>	<i>NO</i>
<i>Allan Sullivan</i>	<i>McNamara Road</i>	<i>Self</i>	<i>NO</i>