

Town of Panton
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2010
6:00 p.m. – Panton Town Offices

Board:

Eric Carter
Beth Tarallo
John Viskup, Chair

Administration:

Rick Cloutier

Guests:

Chris Cook Peter DeGraff
Joe Kuhn John Deming VPWD

Call to Order: Chair Viskup called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Motion by Beth Tarallo, seconded by Eric Carter to approve the minutes as presented. So voted.

Public Comment: Joe Kuhn mentioned there are potholes by Ann Sullivan's that needs to be filled. Commented that he would like to see widening of Panton Road by the bridge in anticipation of a bike path. Stated that he wants a Town Manager and contacted ACRP who made a suggestion but isn't sure if he would fit our need. He added that this person is a road guru and asked the Selectboard to invite him to a meeting to discuss the possibilities. Chair Viskup commented that it wouldn't do any good unless other towns cooperate (Waltham, Addison, New Haven) as Panton can't afford it alone. Joe commented that possibly there could be a budget if the town didn't have two highway people. He added that he doesn't think the two people are busy enough. Rick commented that the town is saving money in the winter by having two trucks manned and that it's a safety issue not having two men. Joe mentioned again about collecting penalties using the enforcement bureau and that he contacted his legislators regarding the situation and asked the Selectboard to contact them as well.

Water District Upgrade: Pete DeGraff, Otter Creek Engineering, spoke about the aging equipment at the water plant and that it has gone beyond its' useful life. An evaluation was completed and they are finishing the design of an overall plant upgrade, electrical, pumping and system filtration. Challenges are keeping the existing plant operational. Peter asked Panton for temporary construction easement for the water district to use for storage and parking. Chair Viskup commented that it must be compatible for people to use the boat launch. Discussion ensued on various possibilities for parking/construction and the problems with public parking at the launch. Mr. DeGraff suggested designating employee parking in a specific area of the boat launch with the storage trailers farther up from the launch. Chair Viskup said this would be preferable. Mr. DeGraff stated he preferred that job trailers were within line sight of the plant but he is just realizing parking is a problem. Chair Viskup recommends that the Board and Peter visit the job sight to decide what will work. All were in agreement with this and the sign visit will be scheduled before construction begins in the fall. Joe Kuhn recommended that Mr. DeGraff inquire of parking with adjoining landowners. The Board agreed this was a good idea and until they hear back from Mr. DeGraff they will postpone a site visit. There will be an Open House and funding for the upgrade will be by bond vote. Upgrade estimate is at approximately \$1m. Peter mentioned that they need a temporary easement signed by the Board, which the Board will consider after the next meeting.

Road Foreman Report: Rick advised that the work on Stove Pipe City is complete. Removed the pavement from Allen Road; telephone poles will be moved on Panton Road by the end of the week. Job Corp to look at the tree on the West side of the town hall. Rick mentioned that the tanker trucks hauling manure are not breaking up the pavement but the tractor with tanks are damaging the road. He commented that he would like to see all the farmers use the tankers and better yet haul in the winter. Advised that the town will not be receiving a paving grant again this year (fourth year in a row) which cuts down the paving that should be done. Rick spoke to Dick Hoskings at AOT who responded that some towns haven't had a grant in six years and that Middlebury needed it more than Panton. It was mentioned that a former AOT agent told the town they would be eligible every three years.

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Road Foreman (cont'd):

Rick mentioned that Chris Dion is being paid for fire calls (refer to Vergennes/Panton Fire contract) as well as being compensated by his hourly pay. Discussion on permitted fires versus unpermitted fires and how it is billed out. Joe Kuhn asked when Rick will take down the snow fence on Panton Road. Rick advised that Dennis Mueller asked him to wait until it dries up more.

New Business: None

Old Business:

Discussion on the next steps needed to start work on the town hall. Chair Viskup still wants to meet with Ron Atkins and Board to look at the town hall roof and also get a quote from the roofer used by Joe Kuhn.

Traffic Ordinance – Discussion on the next step, changing/placement of speed signs and associated costs.

Financials/Correspondence:

Reviewed the information from the town's attorney regarding the Vorsteveld violation and will invite Zoning Administrator Hanson and attorney to next Board meeting.

Discussion of Sue's plan to reduce her hours starting July.

Financials were reviewed and warrants were signed.

Chair Viskup adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Torrey, Clerk

Next meeting June 8th at 6:00 p.m.