

Town of Panton Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, August 14, 2007
7:00 PM-Panton Town Office

Selectboard

R. LaFleche, Jr.
J. Moulton
A. Sullivan

Administration

R. Cloutier
S. Torrey

Guests

S. Ashcraft
M. Bedard
J. Kuhn
K. Mitchell

Call to Order: Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by J. Moulton, seconded by R. LaFleche to approve the minutes of the July meetings as presented. So voted.

Public Communication:

Doug Dows – Speed Limits (unable to attend)
Dwight Bessette – Culverts (not in attendance)

The Chair advised that Kathy Mitchell had spoken to her about the possible removal of the tree on the corner of her property (Jersey & Pease Roads) and said she would rather have some of her cedars removed than the oak tree. J. Moulton replied that neither would need to be removed per a visit to the site by State and local officials and that signage will be utilized instead. It was mentioned that during the site visit they observed vehicles not stopping at the stop sign at the bottom of the Pease Road intersection. Speed was discussed as being a major problem versus visibility. K. Mitchell thought visibility was improved since the road crew cut and removed the overgrown brush.

Sharon Ashcraft explained that in researching the history of her house, she found many interesting historical facts about the town which may be helpful in the town obtaining grants. She recommends that the board prepare an ordinance so that Panton can be designated as a historical area and presented a format to use. Chair Sullivan mentioned that she thought Panton was already established as a historical area but Ms. Ashcraft stated that Panton is not listed on the State historical website. Establishing a historical society was discussed as were historical tours of Panton homes.

J. Kuhn advised that he cannot obtain information on how much roadside garbage has been identified by the Sheriff's Department and asked for the help of the Selectboard to obtain this. Fines from depositing trash on the roadsides are forwarded to the Solid Waste Department but there isn't any record of anything being paid. J. Moulton added that someone deposited trash at the door of the town garage and even though a name was found and forwarded to the authorities, as far as she knows nothing was done. Chair Sullivan mentioned that she would speak with Joe Sullivan about helping out with this.

Financial Report: Check warrants were reviewed and signed; correspondence was reviewed. Clerk Torrey was directed to open a new account for the Addison County Sheriff contract expense. It was noted that the town almost broke even between the expense and speeding fines received. Clerk Torrey advised that the Town had received the grant money from the State for paving.

The Traffic Ordinance was discussed and it was mentioned that Doug Dows offered to perform a Traffic Study for the town. Further discussion on the interpretation of the statute regarding setting speed limits.

Road Foreman Report: Advised that the excavator had arrived; advised that Richard Thurber had a manure tank that could be utilized for spreading chloride and he would trade it for three loads of our white stone. Chair Sullivan expressed concern on the cost of retrofitting the tank and if it would be just as economical to purchase a new one. The road foreman advised that they cost approximately \$10,000.00. Discussion on having some of the parts needed on hand. All Board members agreed to the barter but no motion was made. The foreman mentioned to the Board that M. Price from the DOT advised that Pantown enact an ordinance for weight limits and post them on our roads as she noticed that we had overweight trucks on our highway. Although it was thought the trucks were using our roads to travel to Shelburne, they were delivering to the Hatch farm on Jersey Street. Discussion on weight permits. The Board mentioned to the foreman that they weren't aware he and the helper were working four ten hour days versus five eight hour days. They added that this was all right in the summer months but not in the winter months and it is expected that starting October they resume their eight hour days. The Board advised the road foreman that he should have written goals for the month. R. LaFleche offered to help him with this. It was mentioned that work is being done that the Board is unaware of until they receive a call from a resident asking about it. J. Moulton asked the foreman to update the culvert inventory. The foreman said that he would give the information to the Town Clerk and she will update the database.

Chair Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.