

Town of Panton
Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, July 8, 6:00 p.m.

Board:

Lynn Donnelly
Rejean Lafleche – Chair
John Viskup

Administration:

Rick Cloutier
Sue Torrey

Guests:

Joe Kuhn
Gary Norton

Call to Order: Chair Lafleche called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by L. Donnelly to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by J. Viskup. So voted.

Public Comment: None

New Business:

Old Business: S. Torrey commented that the town has officially been granted the structure grant for replacement of the Lake Road culvert. The amount approved is \$33,544.49 (90% of the total cost). Discussion on bids for the job and Chair Lafleche stated that the bids were already in and contracts decided.

Comp time was discussed and L. Donnelly stated that she doesn't understand why there aren't any personnel policies. S. Torrey reviewed the Road Foreman job description with the Board and then commented that previous Boards had talked about writing policies but no action was ever taken. It was discussed that the Selectboard ultimately sets salary range, benefits, etc. It was also discussed that because of insurance increases and education increases, the benefit share may require modification. Motion by L. Donnelly to amend both highway job descriptions that comp time must be used by June 30th each year. Seconded by J. Viskup. So voted. S. Torrey will modify the existing Road Foreman job description to use as a job description for Highway Helper and email to the Board for approval. S. Torrey commented that the residential tax rate is up from \$1.3538 to 1.5818 due to Panton spending 46% above the education base. It was then discussed that the Board should attend the school budget meetings as education is the largest share of the tax base.

Road Foreman Report: Discussed the Jersey Street project. Gravel price increases were discussed and R. Cloutier commented that Pike asked for a project list so they can quote a better price. Discussed where to stockpile material during Lake Road culvert project; road will be closed for approximately five (5) days and S. Torrey will put a notice in the paper to this effect. R. Cloutier gave the Board his list of equipment needs and comment was made that the listing should include anticipated purchase dates.

Discussion on the budgeting process and the possibility of forming a committee to procure highway equipment. S. Torrey suggested putting together a five (5) year plan. L. Donnelly commented that she would like the highway equipment listed by need and date and possibly do a power point presentation at Town Meeting. G. Norton recommended completing a section of each paved road every year until all roads are up to standards. It was discussed that this would be difficult considering budget constraints and limited grant funds. J. Viskup suggested making a list of roads to be done and put money aside.

Financial Reports: Motion by L. Donnelly to pre-buy propane at \$3.10/gallon, seconded by J. Viskup. So voted. Correspondence was reviewed and warrants were signed. Discussion on why the Planning Grant was not completed. Explanation is requested from the Planning Board.

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At 8:40 p.m. Chair Lafleche recessed the meeting until noon July 17th at the town office at which time the tax rate will be set.

Respectfully,

Susan Torrey, Clerk