

DRAFT
Town of Panton
Select Board Minutes
October 13, 2015 - 6:30 P.M.

In Attendance:

Select Board:

Howard Hall
Beth Tarallo
John Viskup, Chair

Administration:

Jean Miller, Clerk
Diane Merrill, Treasurer
Rick Cloutier, Road Foreman

Guests:

Hans Vorsteveld
Gerard Vorsteveld
Rudolf Vorsteveld
Lolke Vorsteveld
Lincoln Lande, groSolar
Rod Viens, groSolar
James Dayton
Charlotte Ancel, GMP
Kirk Shields, GMP

Call meeting to order – J Viskup called the meeting to order at 6:32.

Review/Approve Minutes of September 22, 2015 – J Viskup made a motion to accept the minutes of September 22, 2015. B Tarallo 2nd. All approved.

Road Foreman Report – Culverts that were scheduled to be replaced on Arnold Bay Road are done.

Next week paving will be done over the tops of the culverts that were replaced on Arnold Bay Road.

The Road Crew is going to start putting the plow gear back on the trucks.

Hopkins Road has been graded. Adams Ferry Road and Spaulding Road will be graded Wednesday.

The Road Foreman believes that the Park and Ride that is planned for Jersey Street across from Town Hall is going to happen. It is a 90/10 grant. There will be 14 parking spots.

Panton will be hosting the Road Foreman meeting Wednesday. G LaBerge will be doing a demo on grinding ledge.

Bird's Eye Construction has told the Road Foreman that D Hopper has volunteered to move the monument that is on Arnold Bay Road back to Arnold Bay. The Select Board has given their approval.

Arnold Bay Culvert Project – review combined report from the following agencies: Natural Resources, Agriculture, Transportation and Better back Roads program – On the Report Overview received from Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets – Agricultural Resource Management Division – Agency of Natural Resources – Watershed Management Division – Municipal Roads Program – Agency of Transportation and Vermont Local Roads – It is the Select Board's understanding that Bird's Eye Construction working for D Hopper will take care of items 5 – 8 on the map. Item #4 is asking for a check-dam to be installed (rocks to slow down the water flow) which the Town will do.

Highway Financials – Highway financials were reviewed.

B Tarallo made a motion to add Approval for Computer Monitoring at 7:15 and 911 naming of private road that was a driveway on D Hopper land and junk ordinance check-in at 9:30 to the agenda. J Viskup 2nd. All approved.

Illegal Curb Cut – There was an illegal curb cut installed. The proper paperwork was not filed with the Town. The curb cut was not installed by the landowner. It was done by a neighbor. The landowner will talk to the neighbor and straighten this out and then decide if he wants the curb cut or not.

Review/Approval of Bills – Bills were reviewed and approved.

Review Paystubs/Vacation/Sick Time – All were reviewed.

Approval for Computer Monitoring – After some discussion it was decided to table this until a review of prior costs could be done.

Public Comment – No public comment.

Select Board Meeting

October 13, 2015

Page 2

911 Naming of Private Road – A driveway that now has three houses on it needs a 911 addresses so each house can be identified. **B Tarallo made a motion to name the private road/driveway on D Hopper property Aerie Point Road. J Viskup 2nd. All approved.**

Junk Ordinance Check-in – There has not been any petitions regarding the Junk Ordinance. Therefore, it is expected that the ordinance will become affective in 11 days. There is a question of who will do the enforcement. Enforcement procedures will be added to October 27th agenda.

Front Porch Forum has asked the Town for a donation for support. H Hall made a motion to send FPF a donation of \$100. B Tarallo 2nd. All approved. It was discussed making this a line item it next year's budget.

Vorsteveld Encroachment on and Application to use/building Jersey Street Right of Way – Discussion ensued. After certain things were agreed upon by both the Select Board and Vorstevels, a motion was made. **J Viskup made a motion for Vorsteveld farm use of Right of Way on Jersey Street – Removal of all junk in ROW, Sunset clause or lease stating that after 25 years the new structure would be removed, removal of old silo and old milk house that is in Town ROW and that if there is a violation and litigation is required it will be Vorsteveld Farm expense. B Tarallo 2nd. All approved.** The Town Attorney will be contacted to write up a legal document for use of the ROW. It was also stated that no building should occur until said document has been signed.

Kirk Shields/GMP/Vorsteveld Solar – Project site is approximately 900' north of Panton Road and 1000' East of Jersey Street. This will be a 40 acre site. It is a single axis tracker, meaning panels are laid out in rows and move East to West. The Town will receive taxes on the site from GMP. There will be a micro grid. If there is a power outage selected buildings in Town would still have power. Construction will probably start about this time next year. There will be landscaping to create screening for the site. At the end of the project's life GMP will remove everything and the site will be back to original before the panels were installed. Estimated life of the project is 25 – 35 years.

ACRPC Solar Siting Assist Letter – ACRPC has a draft policy for Solar Siting that could be included in the Town Plan. The draft will be sent to DRB and SB for their review.

J Viskup adjourned the meeting at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Miller, Clerk

Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets - Agricultural Resource Management Division
Agency of Natural Resources - Watershed Management Division- Municipal Roads Program
Agency of Transportation
Vermont Local Roads

October 1, 2015

Report Overview:

This document is a multi-Agency trip report that summarizes the site visit conducted on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 related to a citizen complaint that was submitted to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AGR), Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), and Agency of Transportation (VTrans). This report includes an overview from each agency representative, an overview of the site visit conducted, additional notes and considerations and maps to illustrate general locations within the landscape.

We evaluated each culvert location on Arnold Bay Road and discussed potential best management practices (BMPs) that will help in slowing down runoff from the landscape and also allow for a reduction in sediment in the runoff. Potential BMPs could include: settling basins, check dams, grassed waterways, rain garden like structures and potential combinations of these practices.

Recommendations/Trip Report:

On the enclosed map there are locations that we discussed where opportunities may be possible to install some of these practices. Below is a quick summary of our observations and general thoughts and recommendations:

At the culverts to the north (points # 1, 2 & 3), there may be opportunity for BMPs to reduce runoff from the field. Based on the initial assessment, practices would need to be located in the farm fields as there appears to be limited opportunity on the west side of Arnold Bay Road. The highlighted areas indicate areas for potential grassed waterways in the field. During the roadside evaluation, there was no evidence of gully erosion in this field, nor was there evidence of sediment deposits from field runoff. There was evidence of erosion on the west side of the road in one location.

There are currently small ponds or basins near points # 4 & 5. We discussed cleaning out the basin at point #5 as the town noted that the basin has filled in with sediment and we would like to explore opportunities near point #4.

At the waterways located near points # 6 & 8, there are already densely vegetated grassed waterways visible from the roadside and we discussed the possibility of installing BMPs such as settling basins closer to the road slow down runoff and allow sediments to settle out.

We discussed a rain garden like system to mitigate runoff near the main drive way of Arnold Bay Farm where there is a drop inlet that goes under Arnold Bay Road (point #7).

All of the town's recently installed and proposed replacements are appropriately sized and installed at the correct locations.

The town's previous and present practices for culvert installation and maintenance have been in line with both required and suggested BMP's for water quality. Pantown's town residents can be proud that their Highway Department is doing everything reasonably possible to mitigate sedimentation and polluted runoff escaping into Lake Champlain.

We discussed exploring opportunity to look into additional water quality monitoring at or near the drainages to determine what impact the runoff may be having in the way of elevated levels of sediment and nutrients.

An evaluation related to farm management and compliance will be conducted as related to the complaint. There is an appointment scheduled with the farm to evaluate compliance with the farm's Large Farm Operation (LFO) permit. It is important to remember that the LFO permit establishes the required minimum standards. Once compliance has been evaluated, AGR will assess and discuss opportunities with the farm for BMPs as related to the complaint.

The current level of LFO permit and related nutrient management plan review has determined that the farm has been using reduced tillage and alternative manure management techniques, such as manure injection, on much of their annual crop land (mostly corn). These cultivation and manure management practices exceed LFO permit standards and are not required. In addition, the farm has implemented BMPs to better manage generated wastes and farmstead runoff. BMPs have included upgrading manure management systems and systems to collect and treat runoff from feed bunks. Some of the systems were required under the LFO permit, but some were not and were installed to help improve overall management.

Additional Notes and Considerations:

Coordination may need to occur with additional ANR colleagues to assess that all potential permitting is in place prior to any work being done in mapped waterways. The waterways associated with points # 4, 5, 7 & 8 all appear as mapped surface waters on USGS topographic maps.

The Better Backroads Program may be able to assist with culvert headers, settling pond clean out, and/or outlet green storm water infrastructure practice. There may be the opportunity for culvert headers at some of the culvert locations.

Opportunities for funding will be explored during this collaborative effort and may include AGR's BMP or Grassed Waterway Program, ANR's Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) grants, landowner contributions, and potential funding through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

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Panton Trip Report
Southern Section Map
2015.09.17

