



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Selectboard Meeting

October 9, 2018

Selectboard Member's present: Howard Hall, Zachary Weaver, and Teresa Smith. Also present was Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia, and Road Foreman Rick Cloutier.

At 6:34pm, called the meeting to order.

2. There were no additions, removals, or adjustments to the agenda.
3. Zachary Weaver moved to approve the September 11, 2018 minutes, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. Howard Hall moved to approve the September 25, 2018 minutes, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed. Howard Hall moved to approve the October 2, 2018 minutes, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.
4. There were no public comments.
5. Road Foreman Report – Road Foreman Rick Cloutier stated that the winter sand is all up and a little salt is coming tomorrow. He stated that the price is \$78 per ton this year. Rick stated that the last invoice is in for the Better Back Roads Grant reimbursement. Rick advised the Board of another Better Back Roads Grant that could help with the road inventory which is a category 8 grant of up to \$8,000. Rick explained that Category B of the Better Back Roads Grant would be used to finish up Arnolds Bay and Category A would be used for a special project on Adams Ferry Road as part of the \$6,400 Mitigation Grant of which the Town would need to match \$1,000 to \$1,500 of the grant. Rick stated that he would ask Otter Creek Engineering to give him a price. Rick advised the Board that he needs the Better Back Roads grant to fix Adams Ferry Road where the recent rain storm slid the stone down exposing the liner. He advised the Board that he can't leave that unfixed because of the municipal permit. Rick advised the Board that the Agency of Natural Resources met with him on Lake Street to access what Dirk Smits cleared from his land and dumped at the Panton town line of which he was getting ready to dump into the raven. Rick stated that Mr. Smits could be fined \$1 per square foot by the State,

estimated to be a \$100,000 fine. Rick stated that he called the Agency of Natural Resources because there is only a four foot culvert right there. Rick advised that Bob Hartenstein will put in the new posts and he will take the old ones for blocking if Bob needs a place for them. Rick stated that the new truck shipped out on October 8th and will arrive any day. Rick advised the Board that he will see the truck in November and then he will finish putting on the accessories. Rick advised the Board that he noticed the highway cell phone bill was \$10 over this month and stated that it was because he went over the allowed gigabytes. He advised the Board that he was expecting to use a lot in the next couple of months due to an APP he needed to use on his cell phone to help him connect road segments on the municipal permit. Rick advised Teresa Smith that he would bring the snow fence over to her next week. The Board advised Road Foreman Rick Cloutier that the cupola will not go with the carriage barn when it is cleared out. Howard Hall went over the Memorandum of Understanding for Kevin Sullivan with Road Foreman Rick Cloutier. Rick stated that the road crew will level off the area when the carriage barn is gone because it will be made into a parking lot. Rick stated that he has gotten the letter from Claudia Allen giving the Town permission to dismantle the carriage barn next to her property at 3170 Jersey Street. Rick stated that getting another container to put behind Town Hall would be a good use for storage. Howard stated his concern about using a dehumidifier for the storage of the records and advised the Board that Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia was working with Paul Sokal on the records retention. Rick advised that the brush had been cleaned up by Whispering Pines and the Town of Waltham would have the same arrangement as last year. Rick advised the Board that Waltham will put in 400 yards of salt and sand, will put 100 gallons of fuel in Panton's tanks, and also plow on their way into Panton.

6. Town Hall Committee – Howard Hall stated that he has not contacted the guy from Poultney on the aluminum cupola yet. He advised the Board that he will do this sometime next week for another meeting a month out.

7. Police Services – Howard Hall stated that his understanding after both presentations from the Vergennes Police Department and the Addison County Sheriff's Department is that the Board is happy using the county sheriff. Teresa Smith stated that even if the Town needed more services, the Board would have to go with the county sheriff due to cost. The Board briefly discussed the amount of hours of coverage in the two proposals. Howard Hall advised the Board that he talked with Vergennes City Manager Matt Chabot who stated that he had looked at the City budget and thought that Chief George Merkel is overreaching. Howard stated that City Manager Matt Chabot made it very clear that Vergennes Police is going to stay in Vergennes and only cover Vergennes. Teresa Smith stated that the Board will contract for more services from the Sheriff's Department if the Board finds they need more. The Board advised that they will talk with Deputy Brent Newton after election about trouble spots with speeders. Howard Hall advised that the Board should write a letter thanking the Vergennes Police Department for the proposal but, at this time, the Board will continue to contract with the Sheriff's Department and also notify the Sheriff's Department of the Board's decision. Teresa Smith moved to contract with the Addison County Sheriff, Howard Hall seconded. The motion passed.

8. Review of Financials/Timesheets – The list of invoices and timesheets were reviewed.
9. Communications – Howard Hall stated that he met with Vergennes Town Manager Matt Chabot and talked about eliminating garbage and getting out of the garbage service. Howard stated that Casella does not want to service the whole community with garbage pickup and Ferrisburgh wants to put the transfer station where the park and ride is by the train station. Teresa Smith stated that Vergennes is trying to eliminate garbage but mandate pickup with no centralized location. Howard stated that the fee should be proportional and determined by the head count. Howard advised the Board that the Vergennes police will not be coming out to Panton.

The Board briefly discussed the Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to the carriage barn and the work to be done by Kevin Sullivan. Zachary Weaver moved to accept the memorandum of understanding, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.

New copy machine – Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia stated that the maintenance costs on the new copier with overages would be less than \$50 per month. Based on the motion made at the September 25, 2018 meeting to read, “Howard Hall moved to accept the lease with Symquest unless the maintenance cost is less than \$60 a month, Teresa Smith seconded,” Pam advised that she did not believe the motion was stated to accept the lease due to the lower maintenance costs and is looking for clarification. The Board briefly discussed the lease option and the maintenance costs of the new copier. Zachary Weaver moved to lease the new copy machine, Teresa Smith seconded. The motion passed.

Howard Hall stated that given the recent event of the need for corrected tax bills, he wanted to express his appreciation to Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia for her hard work and the extra effort she put in to correct the situation. The Board was pleased that the problem was addressed in a timely manner with a smooth end result. Teresa Smith stated that Town Treasurer/Clerk Pam Correia handled it very well.

At 7:30pm, Teresa Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia
Town Treasurer/Clerk