

TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE

Tuesday January 9th, 2024 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:07pm

Present: Mike McPhetres, Mariah Cilley, John O'Brien, Gary Mullen, Rodney Hoyt, Ned Swanberg, Liz Williams, Elizabeth Brown, Israel Provoncha, Brenda Field, Rudi Ruddell, Maryann Caron, Becky Hoyt, John Echeverria, Kyle Katz, iPhone Janet, Sue Salster, Amy Frost, Peter Klinck,

Road Report- Rodney Hoyt

Getting done with our fourth mud season. Hoping that this storm doesn't bring us to our fifth mud season. Still some ruts, so trying to do a little bit more sand. Mullen gives his praise to the road crew for their work on the roads, and that the milk truck driver says they are so good in comparison to neighboring towns. Currently seeing more mud seasons than usual. The new truck has been ordered from Freightliner. Hoyt is wondering what our next steps are on the Strafford Road. The engineer has done core samples on the road, but would like to do a survey of the road now. Have been having some issues with the ton truck. Hoyt asks Cilley to reach back out to the state to see if she can find where the places are for the new truck. Hoyt thinks the loader needs a brake job and new tires. Should it be fixed back up and keep on going with that, or will we purchase a new one soon. Hoyt still has enough material left for March and April even with all of the mud seasons that we have been dealing with. Mullen tells Hoyt that he has permission to get the survey done on the Strafford Road and to keep working away on that.

Floodplain Update- Ned Swanberg & Kyle Katz of TRORC

Wanted to touch base with the Selectboard and give an update on Floodplain Maps and Bylaw updates. We will be updating from a Flood Hazard Boundary Map to a Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map. Even though we don't have zoning, Tunbridge does participate in the National Flood Insurance Program which is overseen by bylaws, which we are discussing tonight. The current maps in Tunbridge are 50 years old. By Spring 2024 we should have a White River Watershed Work map meeting and by Fall 2024 there will be preliminary maps and a deadline of final maps by Fall 2026. FEMA is updating these flood studies. Our last bylaw update was from 2014, so it is due for an update. If the town adopts River Corridor Protection, we would go from 12.5% to 17.5% reimbursement from the State during an emergency. Swanberg will send along a model bylaw update that the town can adopt.

Dam Removal Grant-Brenda Field, Rudi Ruddell, Maryann Caron & Amy Frost

There is a new hazard mitigation grant money available that we will try to apply for the second bank failure on Strafford Road. The Planning Commission will call FEMA to see if we can apply for this grant work since we already have the BRIC grant in play as well. There is a 25% town responsibility for the total cost for this grant. Caron wanted to remind us that these grants take a long time and work wouldn't be able to happen until 2026.

Town Meeting Warning/Appropriation Questions & Discussion

Cilley discusses two appropriation requests that were received, one of which was Great Dane

Rescue of New England and White River Natural Resources Conservation District. The Selectboard requests that the Great Dane Rescue of New England get petitions from the voters to be added to appropriation request. They voted to add White River Natural Resources Conservation District to the appropriation list for \$1000.

Cilley also discussed the warning and went over the articles to be discussed. Cilley will have a final draft next Selectboard meeting.

Budget Meeting #4

Hoyt goes over the budget with the Selectboard.

Other Business:

Peter Klinck came in asking that we put an article on town meeting to discuss going back to pre-covid election protocols where we do not use a Dominion Voting machine and send out absentee ballots to everyone. Cilley tells him that this is not at the town level, this is at the state level and we wouldn't be able to change it. Klinck still wants to have it on the warning. Mullen tells him that he should bring it up during Other Business at Town Meeting.

The Certificate of Highway Mileage is signed and approved with no change.

Approve Warrants:

McPhetres makes a motion to let Mullen sign the orders. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved. All warrants were signed and approved.

Approve Minutes:

Minutes signed and approved.

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Gary Mullen, Chair

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

John O'Brien, Clerk

