

TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE

Tuesday September 12th, 2023 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:09pm

Present: Mariah Cilley, John O'Brien, Mike McPhetres, Gary Mullen, Loretta Stalnaker, Susan Salster, Fred Pond, Todd Tyson, John Echiverria, Rodney Hoyt, Simon Bradford, Brenda Field, Jamie Howe, Becky Hoyt, Kathy Galluzzo, Thorton Hayslett, Rudi Ruddell, Sylvie Desautels

Road Report-Rodney Hoyt

Hoyt and Bradford discuss bridge closure at Tuttle Road. The new concrete bridge will be here in four weeks. Hoyt will meet on September 13th to look at putting in a 4ft culvert to divert the brook prior to constructing the new bridge. O'Brien asks if we can reduce to a single lane to put in the culvert so the road isn't closed. Currently it is reduced down to a single lane. VTrans had an engineer come and look at it and they think it should be closed sooner rather than later. Hoyt has put up no trucks signs. There is a 25mph sign up as well. Once we do close the road to redo the bridge, it will be closed for up to three weeks. Bradford will need to know ahead of time so he can plan for emergency access.

Aldrighettis is still a few weeks away from getting the project done. They wanted to wait until after the fair. Hoyt is trying to finish putting roads back together. McPhetres makes a motion to buy the prefabricated concrete bridge for \$132,000. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

Transfer Station Attendant Interview

Jamie Howe is interested in the transfer station position. He states that he is good with other people and machines. The Selectboard informs Howe that you need to be able to tell people what they can and can't put into bins and to call Casella when it needs to be changed. The Selectboard would start the new hire off at \$16.90/hour for the first 90 days and then increase to \$18/hour after that. The Selectboard will discuss and let Howe know if they decide to hire him.

Policing Discussion- Chief Loretta Stalnaker

Stalnaker discusses policing with the Selectboard. States that we need to have ordinances in place if we want to start collecting money back and then she would be able to enforce these ordinances. Royalton has a Constable that is in charge of Animal Control. Stalnaker will email over a contract. Her office is staffed from 6am- 10pm.

Spectrum Account Update- Treasurer Becky Hoyt

Spectrum has sent us to collections. After we switched to EC Fiber, they kept billing us. Hoyt tried to call multiple times to cancel our account but no one called us back. McPhetres tells Hoyt to have our town attorney Tavian Mayer call and handle this.

Playground Upkeep Discussion

Galluzzo states that they are having a tournament in a few weeks to raise money for playground upkeep. They are looking at putting new tires down and cleaning up a few things. Mullen asks if there is anything else they want to do or get down there and asks Galluzzo to come up with a few different ideas and lists of things they would like to get for the Recreation Field playground.

Galluzzo will come in to another meeting with ideas. Galluzzo also states that she would love to have parents of children who use the playground come and volunteer get involved in the Rec Committee.

Town Solar Array Site Meeting- Todd Tyson

Tyson is meeting to put the Solar Array at the Town Garage. He would like a Selectboard member to go and look at the project site. O'Brien states that he can go. Tyson states that there is plenty of room for a buildout of a bigger array. He would like to stakeout the site so that if we ever decided to do a buildout we had the room.

Legal Trails Communication/Usage/Maintenance Policy Clarification- Todd Tyson

Jonathan Bicknell ordered signs for each trail. They have a trail name and then a spot for trail status. Tyson walked Orchard Trail. He says there is a large tree down (4 trees in total). There are wet areas but they are minimal. The trail was in good shape compared to previous years. Rudi Ruddell and Thornton Hayslett state that the town website and trails posting need to be in sync. The trails are currently under planning review. Ruddell states that the trail is wet again with more rain on the way. Tyson asks why there were branches in the pathway with yellow plastic tape on them. John Echeverria says he forbids anyone from coming on his land and moving branches. Tyson asks when the trail will initiate the maintenance of the trails so they can be used by other members of the public? Tyson also asks if the case will be ripe if the Selectboard appoints him to cut the trees and maintain the trail. The trail is currently under planning review and the Dodge Farm is still closed to VAST.

Ruddell and Hayslett's primary concern is the wetlands. Hayslett asks Echeverria if they can cut the trees down and clear the trails and Echeverria says no. Hayslett reminds him it's a public Right-of-Way and the town has the right to maintain ROW's.

Other Business

Brenda Field- The radios are in.

Sue Salster- The yearly horse ride won't be going on in town anymore.

Sylvie Desautels- On October 5th, 2023 the WRVSU will be hosting the Bethel Energy Committee discussing the most effective way to heat buildings and move away from burning stuff.

Approve Warrants:

All warrants signed and approved.

Approve Minutes:

Minutes 54 were signed and approved.

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Gary Mullen, Chair

Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

John O'Brien, Clerk