

## **TOWN OF TUNBRIDGE**

Tuesday November 26th, 2024 at 6:00pm via Zoom and Town Offices

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

Present: Mike McPhetres, Mariah Cilley, John O'Brien, Gary Mullen, Todd Tyson, Peter Hayden, Betsy Gaiser, Rudi Ruddell, Maryann Caron, Sean Ogle, Jonathan Bicknell, John Echeverria, James Maguire, Becky Hoyt

### **Road Report- Rodney Hoyt via Mike McPhetres**

Called about the tractor in New York on Monday morning and couldn't get ahold of anyone. The trees have been cut on the second slide on Strafford Road. Hoyt's truck is getting fixed in Lebanon at ATG and is getting the motor mount replaced as well as replacing the transmission fluid. The crew has gotten the trucks all ready for winter. Most of the tires are done now.

Cilley discusses Strafford Road Slope Number 1 and the bid opening that took place last week. McPhetres makes a motion to contract with Northwoods Excavating on Strafford Road Slide 1 for \$212,790.00. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

### **Update on the Tunbridge Solar Expansion- Todd Tyson**

Tyson, Hoyt and Amos Post went back out to the site at the garage and looked at the footprint of where the new solar panels would go. Budget wise, based on the MERP grant, it looks like it will come in on budget. Certificate of Public Good Application will be sent out next week by the Law School. Tyson asked Post if they were approved with the CPG and it was a go ahead, did Post have to do the work in 2025. Yes, he does, he could do it in either Spring or Summer of 2025. Caron updates stating that Two Rivers Ottaquechee Regional Commission told us we should verify that the remote solar array would be approved with the MERP Grant Coordinators since the original grant was for an on-site array versus a remote solar array.

### **Emergency Coordinator Position- Brenda Field**

Field was not present for the meeting. James Maguire came to the meeting to be appointed as Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator. McPhetres makes a motion to approve James Maguire as the Emergency Management Coordinator. O'Brien seconds. All aye. So moved.

### **Upper Valley Trails Alliance Update- Sean Ogle**

Ogle gives an update regarding The Crossroad trail. He states it's a gully most of the way down and it needs to stay in the gully. He is aware that the trail goes through the gully, but Mullen states that we have a 3 rod right of way so it could move one way or the other if need be. Ogle says it's possible to keep it in the original trail it would just take a bit of work to update. What could be done would be to excavate and create a channel drain and use some of that material to build the trail on the other side. Ogle also states that the quick fix could be to update the ditch by hand and move some of the water every 20 feet or so by clearing fallen trees and brush. The whole area that needs this drainage is 1500' worth of trail. The first 750' are the worst parts of the trail. O'Brien asks if we would need any permitting. Ogle states that a project he did in Norwich did require a permit but he would have to look into it further. Jonathan Bicknell asks if

the trail that was created would be able for bikes to travel on this as well. Ogle states that yes it would be. Ogle states that his total cost for him and a crew is \$500 a day.

Orchard Trail was mentioned regarding drainage being needed, but not much other discussion was had that was not spoken of previously.

**Budget Meeting #1**

Current budgets are looked at and discussed.

**Other Business:**

Maryann Caron goes over a spreadsheet regarding the MERP grant and what we requested. Caron also shows a spreadsheet regarding the original ARPA funding. There is an update on anticipated actual expenses and the remaining balance. Caron states that in another meeting we should decide if we want to hold another round of Special Project Applications or if we want to hold on to the surplus dollars to fund overage on the MERP Grant or to pay for the grants manager etc. O'Brien asks if there will be FEMA reimbursement for Maryann's time that would go toward this offset. Caron states that we are finishing up the other Category C projects and that is a Cat Z project that will be submitted last, but we should be getting around \$20,000 back in Administrative Time.

**Approve Warrants:**

All warrants were signed and approved.

**Approve Minutes:**

Minutes from October 8<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 meeting were .

McPhetres makes a motion to adjourn. O'Brien seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

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Gary Mullen, Chair

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Mike McPhetres, Vice Chair

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John O'Brien, Clerk

