

Town of Readsboro  
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting  
The Readsboro Town Office  
November 13, 2019

Selectboard Present: Raymond Eilers, David Marchegiani, Joseph Berard  
Others present: Karen Boisvert, Melanie Matt, Tracey Cole, Riley Cole, Vince Guest, Jay Durand, Jeremy Green, Larry Hopkins, Mitchell Holland, Normajean Marchegiani

**Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Agenda Additions/ Deletions Approval of Agenda:**

Discussion on Health Insurance to be moved to Fiscal Matters

Joseph made a motion to accept the agenda as corrected, David seconded. So voted.

**Reading & Approval of Records:**

**Minutes of previous Regular Meeting of 10/30/19:**

Raymond made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous Regular Meeting of 10/30/19 as written, Joseph second. So voted.

**Minutes of previous Special Meeting of 11/6/19:**

Raymond made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous Special Meeting of 11/6/19 as written, Joseph second. So voted.

**Fiscal Matters:**

**Review of Budget Status Report:**

There was a discussion of splitting up the black top money for the East Main Street water project and Raymond asked for it to be on the next agenda for discussion. The "To Be Transferred" part of the report was clarified. David stated he had not looked into the water and sewer accounts yet.

**Jay Durand, MountainOne- Harris Fund Update and sign paperwork:**

The Selectboard updated signature cards removing previous members from the accounts and adding the new members. Mr. Durand gave a brief update on the Harris Fund as well as the Cemetery Fund. Both accounts are in good shape and he recommends not changing anything at this time. The Selectboard had no questions for him and stated they were happy with the current structure of the accounts.

**Health Insurance- Discussion & Action:**

Tabled

**Selectboard Administrative Report:**

Karen stated that the Tax Map update was almost complete. Larry had a few things that he wanted CIA Technologies to look into before it was signed off on. Karen sent them the list to correct. Windham Regional is helping with the 2021 Better roads Grant, Karen is waiting for them to finish some mapping and a letter of recommendation to send the grant paperwork in.

**A) Updates:**

David stated he felt last weeks joint meeting with Whitingham, and Wilmington went well. He also stated that Omar Smith and Sue Bailey were given an award and the article was in the Brattelboro Reformer.

**Old Business:**

**A) Parking Ordinance- Discussion & Action:**

Raymond made a motion to sign the updated Parking Ordinance, David second. So voted. Melanie Matt asked if a sign was to be installed notifying residents of the new no parking on the left side of East Main St. from the bottom of Glen Ave. to the top of Glen Ave intersections. She was told yes there would be no parking between signs posted.

**B) Snowmobile Ordinance- Discussion & Action:**

Corrections were made as requested by the board. Raymond made a motion to sign the Snowmobile Ordinance, David second. So voted.

**C) Budget- Discussion & Action:**

Amber and Karen are gathering the preliminary budgets from each department. David would like the winter and summer roads to be split 6 months of each or doing away all together with winter/summer roads. Amber stated that it was recommended by Chris Taft not to combine the two as it could hurt the town in the long run financially. Amber feels the Highway Department should have their own separate budget to be able to keep the monies appropriated for them each year and not have a surplus roll back into the general fund. This would help with paving. Larry questioned if the surplus would need to be voted on every year. Amber will investigate it.

**D) New Town Garage- Discussion & Action:**

Raymond stopped at the new Shaftsbury garage and feels we could scale back the size of our plans. Size to be discussed at a future meeting. The Selectboard would like to have something to present to the voters at the next Town Meeting.

**New Business & Communications:**

**A) DPW Report:**

**DPW REPORT AS OF 11/6/19**

“ In the past two weeks we have continued ditching, leaf blowing, and getting the plows and trucks ready for snow and ice. We measured for blacktop and checked culverts. The culverts on Bosley Hill are in poor shape and should be replaced before blacktopping. Beavers have been cutting trees along River Road past the water tub down to the Power Co. maintenance garage. Manually cleaned out both ends of culvert. Received salt from Apalachee. Removed the barrier so sand can be delivered. Got one company to come give an estimate for the electrical work at the garages. I called 5 of them and only 1 had time to do it, the rest said well after new year’s. Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> was a busy day with multiple trees down and turning water from the roads. Replaced a bad 12” culvert with an 18” one on Gold Mine Rd. The furnace in lower garage kept going out so I had Richie Codogni come service it. The exhaust pipe was all rotted, so he had to replace it. The furnace in the upper garage needs to be replaced, the side of it is burnt through, Richie is getting a price for me. All the trucks are ready to fight the weather. The pieces for the grader wing piston came in and I’ve started welding back together. Had to put salt and sand out Tuesday.”

Brief discussion on next years paving: Parking areas on Branch Hill to be included on the 2020 Paving RFP. The Selectboard would like separate bids as well as lump sum for all roads. Raymond will speak to the camp owner on Howe Pond road about the possibility of straightening the top corner. Raymond would like to consider paving Potter Hill in the future. Raymond asked Jeremy to get the State to come help with the estimate on a plan

to fix Bosley Hill. Melanie Matt stated to Jeremy that there was a culvert on Turner Hill that was eroding and making the road narrower. He will investigate it in the morning. Jeremy told the board that the sign in front of the Inn was being fixed in the morning and the winter parking notices would be hung on it when erected.

**1. Palmeri Proposal:**

5 requests went out to local electricians and Palmeri was the only one to respond. Raymond made a motion to accept the proposal from Palmeri to perform work at both garages for a combined total of \$4,250.00, Joseph second. So voted.

**2. Tree on Tunnel Street:**

The tree in Vince Guests yard has partially fallen down and needs to be removed. It is located within the towns right of way. Vince was asked for his input as he is the landowner and he told the Selectboard he had no problem with the town removing it. Jeremy has an estimate from A&S Logging to perform the work for \$1,500- \$2,000. Raymond made a motion to hire A&S Logging to remove the tree on Vince Guest lawn, David second. So voted.

**B) Funding request from Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS)- Discussion & Action:**

A request came in for \$ 2,289 for the current year. This was not in our budget. Selectboard will look at with other requests as the finalize the budget or put it on the Town Warrant for March.

**Hearing of Visitors:**

Melanie Matt presented the Selectboard with a petition that stated “ We, the undersigned legal voters of the Town of Readsboro hereby petition to hold a special meeting to vote by Australian ballot to dissolve the merger and withdraw from the Southern Valley Unified Union School District”. Through discussion it was stated that Halifax has a similar petition being circulated in their town. Amber will review the petition and get back to Melanie. Karen will follow up with the Town Attorney and inquire of the next steps to be taken.

**Executive Session if needed:**

**VSA 313 (2)**

Raymond made a motion to enter executive session at 8pm, Joseph second. So voted. Attendance: Raymond Eilers, David Marchegiani, Joseph Berard, Amber Holland. Raymond made a motion to adjourn executive session at 8:21pm, David second. So voted. No decision at this time.

**VSA 313 (3)**

Ray made a motion to enter executive session at 8:21pm, David second. So voted. Attendance: Raymond Eilers, David Marchegiani, Joseph Berard, Karen Boisvert. Ray made a motion to adjourn executive session at 8:36pm, Joseph second. So voted. Karen is to arrange a meeting of the Selectboard with the Zoning Administrator.

**VSA 313 (3)**

Raymond made a motion to enter executive session at 8:36pm, Joseph second. So voted. David was asked to recuse himself before Normajeane was invited in and he refused. Attendance: Raymond Eilers, Joseph Berard, Normajeane Marchegiani, David Marchegiani. Raymond made a motion to adjourn executive session at 8:40pm., Joseph second. So voted. No decision at this time.

**Fiscal Matters:**

**A) Signing of Selectboard orders/bills-**

AP and Payroll were reviewed and signed.

**Adjournment:**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Boisvert, Administrative Assistant  
November 14, 2019