

**Town of Plainfield  
Select Board Meeting  
September 24, 2018  
Approved Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Alexandra Thayer (Select Board Member), Ross Sneyd (Select Board Chair), Keith Swann (Videographer), Cindy Wyckoff (Minutes Recorder), Bram Towbin (Road Commissioner), and Sean Odom (Macedonia Baptist Church).

**Ross Sneyd called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.**

**AGENDA**

- Call to Order; Review Agenda
- Public Comment/Announcements
- Call for Appointments: Twinfield School Board; Planning Commission
- Town Clerk's Report/Warrants
- Road Report
- Road and Bridge Standards, Approval of Certificate of Compliance
- Approve Painting of Crosswalks in Village
- Consider and Possibly Approve Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Recycling Container Grant Application
- Sean Odom, Discussion of Halloween Event at Rec Field
- Other Business
- Approval of Minutes
- Adjourn

**REVIEW AGENDA**

- Alexandra Thayer suggested that items for the next meeting's agenda routinely be listed at the end of each meeting. **Sneyd made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was approved.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sneyd noted that early voting begins next week, 45 days in advance of the November 6 general elections. Those wanting to cast early ballots should contact the Town Clerk's office for information.
- Thayer reminded that the tag sale to benefit the Plainfield Fire Department will be held on 10/6/18 from 10am to 3pm.
- Road Commissioner Bram Towbin announced that Plainfield resident Will Hull came in first in the Sprint Car Championship race at Bear Ridge Speedway.

**CALL FOR APPOINTMENTS: TWINFIELD SCHOOL BOARD; PLANNING COMMISSION**

- Sneyd noted that people are needed to serve on various Town boards and commissions, including the Twinfield School Board and the Plainfield Planning Commission. Thayer encouraged young people to apply for those positions.

## TOWN CLERK'S REPORT/WARRANTS

- Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells was not present.
- **Sneyd made a motion to approve warrants of 9/17/18 and 9/21/18. The motion was approved.**
- **Sneyd made a motion to approve a fleet permit request for Grizzly Mountain Trucking. The motion was approved.**
- Sneyd noted a letter received from a Plainfield household that had paid its taxes late, which resulted in a considerable penalty. Stating that discussion on the issue should include Wells, he suggested that the item be considered at the 10/8/18 meeting. A brief discussion ensued regarding the Town and State policies in place for penalties imposed as a result of late tax payments.

## ROAD REPORT

- Road Commissioner Bram Towbin stated that Select Board approval is needed for the Certificate of Compliance with regard to Road and Bridge Standards. Sneyd stated that the topic would be considered during the next agenda item. Towbin noted that a culvert under Brook Road is in serious need of attention and cannot be addressed until the paperwork is filed.
- Towbin reported that he had gotten a quote from L&D Safety Marking Corporation to paint two stop bars and two crosswalks for \$3,480 using the higher-grade thermo-plastic paint. The figure does not include the cost of flaggers. Towbin stated that Road Foreman Mike Nolan prefers stop bar and crosswalk painting to be done in the spring after the snow plowing season. Thayer suggested that the paint is unlikely to adhere to the streets as the weather gets colder, so delaying the work until next spring might make the most sense. Noting that the painting, whether done this year or in the spring, should include the other crosswalks in the Village that were not included in the quote, **Sneyd made a motion to authorize Towbin to spend up to \$4,000 for painting crosswalks and stop bars. The motion was approved.**
- Towbin reported that the paving company has not yet paved the areas around the manhole covers on Creamery Street, which was supposed to be completed by the end of September and that now has been delayed until the middle of October. Towbin suggested that penalties should be imposed for such delays and advised that the Town plans to bill the Water/Wastewater Department for the work that the Road Crew has had to do in the interim as a result of the paving company's delay in completing the work.
- Towbin noted that the new portable radar sign should be delivered by 10/4/18.
- Towbin stated the need for filling in cracks in roads, noting that the company can complete one mile per day at a cost \$3,700. Plainfield will likely require additional time into a second day for the roads that need this work.

## ROAD AND BRIDGE STANDARDS, APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- Towbin stated that Road Foreman Mike Nolan had reviewed and confirmed that the work of the Road Crew was in compliance with the Road and Bridge Standards. **Sneyd made a motion to adopt the Town of Plainfield Road and Bridges Standards as submitted by Towbin. The motion was approved.** Towbin noted that all of the culverts in the Town have been inventoried. **Sneyd made a motion to approve the Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory. The motion was approved.**
- Sneyd asked about the work being done at the bottom of Middle Road where it meets Barre Hill and Lower Road. Towbin explained that the Road Crew had stoned the ditches on both sides.

## **ROAD REPORT (CONTINUED)**

- Towbin stated that the Town Constable had raised the issue of trimming the island of trees and brush that is blocking the street lighting to the Recreation Field parking lot. Thayer noted that Travis Hodgkins had offered to trim the lower branches of the trees between the parking lot and the Recreation Field. Sneyd suggested that money might be put aside in the upcoming budget discussions for someone to do that work. Towbin thanked Road Foreman Mike Nolan and Dan Caddy for their swift work in removing a fallen tree that was blocking the road where Lower Road turns into Plainfield Brook Road. The spot is technically on the Barre side of the town line, but Nolan and Caddy performed the work in the interest of safety.
- Thayer raised the issue of exploring an internship program in the Highway Department to help with the work of the Road Crew as well as the possibility of identifying potential new employees when positions open.
- Sneyd reported that the Recreation Committee had discussed the proposal regarding the open/close hours for the Recreation Field and is not in support of it. Sneyd will put the item on the agenda for either the 10/8/18 or 10/22/18 Select Board meeting and invite Recreation Committee chair Dan Gadd and Town Constable Kathleen Hayes to attend.
- Towbin noted that he has not found anyone to pour the cement pad for the new bus shelter location on US Route 2, which means the work will be put off until the spring. Sneyd suggested the possibility of allocating funding for the work during upcoming budget discussions.
- Tobin inquired as to whether Green Mountain Power had yet responded to the Select Board's request to move the power lines to an already-installed pole on the other side of the street and remove the existing pole that sits in the middle of the sidewalk on the portion of Main Street leading up to the Park and Ride. **Sneyd made a motion to authorize Bram Towbin to follow up with Green Mountain Power regarding the pole and line movement on Main Street. The motion was approved.**

## **APPROVE PAINTING OF CROSSWALKS IN VILLAGE**

- This item was discussed and voted on during the Road Report.

## **CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RECYCLING CONTAINER GRANT APPLICATION**

- Thayer reported that she and Betsy Ziegler had not had the opportunity to do the work needed to apply for the grant by the 9/30/18 submission deadline. It was decided that the application could be submitted in the spring.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- It was decided that discussion regarding appointments of Deputy Health Officers would take place during the 10/22/18 meeting at 7pm, with the start of regular business following at 7:15pm.

## **MINUTES**

- **Sneyd made a motion to approve the minutes from the 9/10/18 regular Select Board meeting as amended. The motion was approved.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

- Sneyd noted that the Select Board should begin thinking about upcoming budget meetings. Thayer suggested talking earlier in the process with Energy Coordinator Bob Atchinson regarding energy efficiency issues he would like to propose. Sneyd stated that rates from Blue Cross/Blue Shield for insurance coverage for Town employees need to be known going into the budget process. Thayer noted that the Town Clerk/Treasurer and Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer have increasingly heavy workloads, which may require the addition of more staff at some point. Sneyd suggested resolving the issue of the open Emergency Management Director position prior to the start of the budget season so that the person who takes on that role can make budget recommendations for the coming fiscal year. Thayer voiced her frustration at not being able to obtain any records from the former Emergency Management Director.

### **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Policy regarding late tax payment penalties
- Discussion with Recreation Committee and Town Constable regarding open/close hours for the Recreation Field
- Consultation and appointments of Deputy Health Officers

### **SEAN ODOM, DISCUSSION OF HALLOWEEN EVENT AT REC FIELD**

- Sean Odom introduced himself as the pastor of the new Journey Fellowship that is opening up where the Macedonia Baptist Church used to be on US Route 2. Odom explained his proposal to hold a "Trunk and Treat" event on Halloween in Plainfield and wanted to coordinate with the organizers of the annual Halloween parade. Sneyd suggested reaching out to Paula Emery and/or Ben Graham for advice on where to set up the event as well as to generally combine forces. Sneyd stated that Select Board approval for the event was not required. Sneyd invited Odom to attend either of the two Select Board meetings in October prior to the event if more discussion is needed.

### **ADJOURN**

- **Sneyd made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm. The motion was approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Wyckoff