

TOWN OF MARLBORO
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
Thursday, February 13, 2019
Town Office
5:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Present were Select Board members Ty Gibbons, Chair; Jesse Kreitzer, Vice Chair; Julia von Ranson, Member; David Elliott, Road Foreman; Jean Boardman, DRB, Village Resident; Malcolm Moore, Resident; Christina Haskins, Dufresne Engineering Representative; Edie Mas, Planning Commission/Village Wastewater Subcommittee Chair; Marcia Hamilton, Wastewater Committee; Ernie Symes, Wastewater Committee; Donald Sherefkin, Planning Commission; Suzanne Whitehouse, Wastewater Committee; Aaron Betts, Select Board Candidate; Lauren MacArthur, Select Board Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER: Tyler Gibbons, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:13 pm.

Changes to the agenda: “Excess Weight Permit for Newport Sand/Carroll Concrete” added to “Old Business”.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

Aaron Betts introduced himself as a Select Board member candidate. He will be on the ballot in March.

David Elliott checked in with the Select Board about road crew member applicants. The Select Board shared a resident’s concerns about plowing on Stark Road. David stated that Stark Road does get plowed by the Town, but the road is not always a priority because there are no residents on the Marlboro end of the road. The Select Board also shared another resident’s concerns about lack of plowing on Stratton Hill Road and Adams Brook Road. David assured the Select Board that these roads are on the plow route, but don’t always get sanded. David will check in with Tommy Manton, who has Stratton Hill and Adams Brook Roads on his plow route. David reported that Tommy has been helping the Road Crew with plowing and sanding, but he prefers not to work during ice storms; therefore the Road Crew has been quite short-staffed lately. Without a third full-time road crew member, plowing and sanding has been taking making more hours than usual. Tyler will report back to residents who have expressed concern about specific roads.

Christina Haskins from Dufresne Engineering visited the Select Board to give a presentation about the Village Wastewater Planning Project Report that has been completed. Christina explained that this is a proactive planning project; there is no immediate need to construct wastewater improvements in Marlboro. Because the Town Office and Meeting House have no space for replacement septic systems, it’s important to have a “design on the shelf.” The study includes soils investigations, estimated wastewater flows, site-developed solutions, estimated costs, and recommendations. Field investigations in northwest and southeast corners of the study area were completed, including six test pits.

Christina explained that a system of 6500 gallons/day or more requires two permits and two alternating septic fields (and almost doubles the cost of the treatment system). Right now, the total estimated for a community system in the village district would be 6100 gallons/day (including an estimate for the Town House and increased flow of the Community Center).

Christina explained the differences between different filter types, and she recommended biofilters which don't require electricity. She also explained that gravity would work for most of the system, (except for one residence, which would require a pump station).

Dufresne is recommending alternative #1 as outlined in their report because of its flexibility. Prohibition of development on this parcel is recommended (or only strategically developing it, if necessary). The system wouldn't have to be built all at once, but could be built in incremental stages, which could help in spreading out costs.

In moving forward, Christina recommended:

- that the town add the system to its long-range plan, investigate funding options, and perhaps put aside money in a reserve fund
- considering different locations within the studied parcel for the community septic system, depending on need (e.g. if the Town Office system fails, the south location would make more sense)
- determining in advance who would pay for, own, and manage the system and what user fees would be (if any)
- deciding about development restrictions in advance because it is not easy to expand a system, once installed

Christina shared some information about possible funding for moving forward, such as the Clean Water Fund (a state revolving fund). Planning loans and planning advances also exist. The USDA also has limited funds for design, but for construction, they offer 2% interest loans for 20-30 years and also have subsidies. (USDA is a grant/loan program, so they offer both, depending on finances.)

This presentation of the final report is the last step of the municipal planning grant. Edie will follow up about possible funding. No action is needed right now. The Dufresne report is posted on the town's website.

The Select Board signed pay orders.

The Select Board approved the minutes from the regular Select Board meeting on 1/23/20. (Gibbons, von Ranson) The Select Board also approved the "Select Board Report" for the March/April issue of *The Mixer*.

OLD BUSINESS

Jesse gave an update from the Marlboro College Campus Working Group. They met on February 3, 2020. Bill Kaplan, a hired consultant, has been researching markets and identifying real estate

firms that specialize in educational institutions. He is also communicating with prospective buyers and using Emerson's connections to reach out to other potential buyers. He has met with representatives from Emerson and is working to target appropriate markets that will accommodate the Music Festival. Jesse will continue to share on Marlboro News, Weather and Hearsay, and will update tinyurl.com/tuupflx with meeting minutes.

The Select Board reviewed and signed a draft of a letter to the Wilmington Select Board regarding the installation of a road sign on the Wilmington end of Higley Hill Road, stating "Rough Dirt Road Ahead/Proceed With Caution".

Tyler will follow up with Adam Grinold, BDCC's executive director, and ask for information about their communication with the college and ways that they can support those facing potential job loss when the campus closes.

Tyler gave an update about preparing to live-stream Town Meeting. Today, Andy Reischman, Forrest Holzapfel, and Tyler had a successful trial run of live-streaming from the Town House to Facebook. Forrest is going to buy a repeater to ensure a stronger signal at the Town House. The event can be set up as a scheduled event on Facebook and the link can be shared and promoted ahead of time. BCTV will also be able to broadcast the link after Town Meeting. Hiring BCTV to record and broadcast Town Meeting in future years was discussed.

Tyler has written a missive about recycling and will post it on Facebook and Front Porch Forum. It will also be published in *The Mixer*.

The Select Board approved Newport Sand and Gravel/Carrol Concrete's Excess Weight Permit, granting access to all roads except for Higley Hill Rd.

NEW BUSINESS

The Select Board signed the Certificate of Highway Mileage.

The Select Board authorized Linda Peters, Town Treasurer to borrow from the Equipment Account.

The Select Board authorized Linda Peters, Town Treasurer to speak with Stephanie Huestic at Brattleboro Savings and Loan about getting a line of credit for the Town up to \$200,000. By way of explanation, the Town has paid for the Lahar bridge job and have not been reimbursed from FEMA yet for \$168,000

The Select Board reviewed the SBCC/SeVEDS Town Project Survey which detailed six projects in town: The Marlboro Community Center and Library, town energy efficiency upgrades, Marlboro Elementary School building improvements, future plans for the Marlboro College campus, the quest for universal broadband in Marlboro, and the village wastewater project.

The Select Board signed liquor license renewal forms (a first class license and an outside consumption permit for Beer Naked Brewery/Pizzapalooza).

The Select Board signed a liquor license renewal form (a second class license) for Hogback Mountain Gift Shop.

INFORMATION ITEMS AND MAIL:

The Select Board received information about SeVEDS/BDCC's call for CEDS project submissions.

The Select Board received information regarding VLCT's selectboard trainings, including the Spring Selectboard Institute and Transparency Essentials Workshop.

The Select Board also received a letter by mail from Jim Levinson regarding the Charter for Compassion. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.