

Sutton Select Board Meeting  
February 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Chairman Tim Simpson.

Attending the meeting: Tim Simpson; Scott Spencer; Joe Solinsky; George Colburn; Gail Weed; Amy Nixon, Caledonia Record; Deb Jackson; Rick Jackson; Dana Patoine; Dennis Royer; Mary Gray, Clerk

Scott made a motion to accept the minutes for January 28, 2016 as printed. Joe seconded the motion. Tim asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none. Tim called for a vote. All voted in the affirmative.

Scott made a motion to accept the special meeting of February 18, 2016. Joe seconded the motion. Discussion: Correction on the date to accept the bids should have read 2016 not 2015. Tim called for a vote. All voted in the affirmative.

Scott made a motion to accept the treasurer 's report as printed. Joe seconded the motion. Discussion about voided checks: Brookfield and Lyndon Truck were the voided checks. Tim called for a vote. All voted in the affirmative.

Tata & Howard: Gary Leach – Gary handed out the bid tabulation showing all the bids. Tri-State is still the lowest bidder. There was an error of \$250.00 addition in their bid and that was corrected. The bid should have been \$364,025.00 After talking with Tri-State, Gary sees no problems with awarding them the bid. Tri-State did not list all the sub-contractors in their bid but once the bid is awarded, Tri-State will get Gary the list of sub-contractors for him to review. Gary explained that the next step will be to have a meeting to sign everything and get the time frame firmed up. Based upon everything that Gary has reviewed, a letter was read by Tim from Tata & Howard recommending awarding Tri-State the bid.

Scott made a motion to award the water project bid to Tri-State Drilling & Boring, Inc. of W. Burke in the amount of \$364,025 as recommended by Tata & Howard and send a letter from the select board to Jonathan Harries at USDA Rural Development indicating we are awarding the bid to Tri-State Drilling & Boring, Inc. Joe seconded the motion. Tim called for discussion. Hearing none. Tim called for a vote. All voted in the affirmative.

Gary will call a meeting with Tri-State Drilling & Boring, Tata & Howard and the selectmen to have everything gone over and signed. Gary said there may be a little shortage on the money, but Gary has talked with USDA and Gary said USDA has this covered. When they did the test pits they did not hit ledge, but there may be ledge that have to deal with. Gary will get hold of the select board to set up the meeting at the town offices.

Dana Patoine, representing the Sutton Fire Department updated the board about a replacement tanker. The truck is a 1989; the tank steel and has rusted in a few places. A few weeks ago the department spent about 80 hours trying to fix leaks in the tank but after all the work that was done; it still leaks. They were looking at used trucks at first which would get them a 20 years old truck. They would like to get into a schedule of replacing trucks every 5 years. This week they were informed of a grant for a new truck. This might possibly be matching grants money for a new truck. If this new truck is purchased through the grant it should last 25 to 30 years. Tim stated we understand the need and thanked Dana for informing the board, but asked to be kept in the loop.

Tim stated to Dana and Dennis, the select board want to close out the firehouse fund reserve and get this taken care of now. According to our records the remainder of the money available in the loan is \$5,789.86 and want to know if there is any reason to believe this will change to get the certificate of occupancy. Dana explained the flow test was done on February 19, 2016, the bill has not been received yet. The report was submitted to Brad Sharron yesterday, and Dana Patoine states that should be the final bill. As it stands right now, \$49,386.77 in the reserve fire house fund, plus 10,000 hydrant grant = \$59,386.77. That still leaves us with \$5,789.86 in the building fund remainder of the loan. That can be used toward the engineer to we can apply \$59,386.77 towards the principle.

Scott made a motion to close out the fire department reserve account from Passumpsic Saving Bank of \$ 59,386.77 and apply that to the principle towards the loan, less penalty of closing the cd early. Joe seconded the motion. Discussion: do you want to renew the note and cut the payment down the now the payment is \$56,000? This would reduce this to 9 years, in theory we could reduce the repayment to 8 years. The governing body could always refinance. Any other discussion: Hearing none. Tim called for a vote. All in favor of applying \$ 59,386.77 less penalties applied to the principle of the fire house note say "I". All voted in favor. Motion passed

Paul Brouha has two items. The collaborative development plan that he wanted the selectmen to look at. And the second repurposing the grange hall.

Paul informed the board, there was an editorial in the Caledonia Record: there is an issue of where local control of energy sights placement should be. Paul wants the board to adapt a resolution for Sutton. The board wants to have a survey done first before they adapt any resolution. Suggestion was made to have a survey written up for the town meeting. Paul said that he could have something there.

Repurposing of the grange hall Paul had Lisa Ryan from Vermont Preservation of Vermont that has some grants. Because we have 3 real needs of the town, the town offices are not handicap accessible; the garage and offices through VLCT wanting it separated because of exhaust fumes in the office; then there is a separate issue with traffic with the grange hall. Possibly move the grange up the hill; Joe Witt took a look at the sight and started to proceed with a feasibility study. Small grants would be presented to USDA. These would probably be matching grants. This would be about a 10 year project. The board is asking Paul to bring some figures to the board. In 2017 there will be signage and a flashing light that would work on a sensor at that intersection. The grange is considered an historical building. With some grants if the building is historical, they would frown on moving the building with grant money.

Warrants and checks were signed.

Scott made a motion to table the correspondence until the next meeting. Joe seconded the motion. All in favor of tabling them motion passed.

Tim wants a meeting set up with Shawna for programs for 2017. Around the 1<sup>st</sup> of April then the board will know if there is any funding for the roads.

The board wants to thank Gail for all the work she did on the town reports.

Scott made a motion to adjourn at 7:45PM Joe seconded the motion to adjourn.

Mary Gray, Clerk