

**TOWN OF BURKE
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January 7, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.
SELECTMEN’S MEETING
Burke Town Clerk’s Office**

PRESENT: Joe Allard, Christine Emmons, Darryel Corrow (Selectboard), Dave Kaufman, (Road Foreman), Jim Hinman, Sean Heath (Road Crew), Andrea Kuptez, Dean Shatney, Mike Harris, George Frank

Joe opened the Selectboard meeting at 5:00 p.m. with the reading of the December 3, 2018 meeting minutes. Christine made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Darryel seconded. All in favor.

VISITORS: Rick Hackett, Cemetery Sexton, came before the Board to discuss putting new fences for Woodmont and Howland cemeteries. He was hoping to get on the fence companies list to start replacing in the spring. Rick had updated the Board in the past as to what was needed and gave them an estimated price to replace them. He has gotten a verbal quote of \$11,514.00 from Round Hill Fence in Orleans. Chris suggested that he get other quotes from other fence companies. Rick will work with the office to see if there are other companies that would like to give a quote.

Rick also wanted to discuss putting in roads in the new section of the Hillside Cemetery that is beginning to get plots reserved there. Rick gave a few suggestions to the Board. Joe told him that the Board would take a look at it in the Spring and discuss it and make a plan.

Dean Shatney, Caledonia County Sheriff – came before the Board as requested by Christine to talk about possibly providing more coverage for the Town by the Sheriff’s Department. Mr. Shatney said that he is not here to replace the State Police but to assist the Town when and if the State Police were not available. He explained the procedure to the Board and said that they would be available if and when needed. He left a copy of a typical contract which the Board will review. Christine said that she would be in favor of the Caledonia Sheriffs Department doing coverage, but she did not want to loose the contract with the Vermont State Police because once you are out of it you cannot return. Burke and one other Town are the only two towns that the State Police contract with. The Board will discuss it further and make a decision soon.

Andi Kuptez – Representing the East Burke Fire District – The Board received a letter from TATA & Howard, Gary Leach, P.E. head of the new water system in East Burke on January 4, 2019 basically asking the Town of Burke to contribute to cost over runs in their project due to the installation of the sidewalk and retaining wall. The Board told her that they were not prepared to respond to the letter and they would have to discuss it and get back to them.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT – Prior to Dave’s regular monthly report, Town employees where here to discuss and ask questions about the retirement plan that the Selectboard are considering putting in this year’s budget. First off, Jim and Shane and Dave wanted to thank the Board for even considering a retirement plan. The employees were given three options: 1) Municipal Retirement Plan Group, B with

no raise, 2) Contribute Equivalent to existing 401K or 3) Opt out of Retirement plan and take a raise of \$.50/hr. The employees felt that they could not afford to contribute to Group B without a raise and even if they did get the raise they would still be bringing home less money than they are now. After some discussion the Board told them that they would discuss it further and get back to them.

Dave gave his monthly report. He told the Board that it was going to cost \$4,100 to fix a plow that was damaged. He wanted to purchase some new scraper blade edges at \$4,800.00, Dales truck continues to have issues. He would like to get the loader sandblasted. He said the it is in good shape but was looking rusty. The rubbish truck is being repaired. The Town Garage is having serious issues with leaky roof. The Newark Street is breaking up and will need serious attention soon.

Dave would like to get the proposed Town Garage Committee going and get to making some plans. Priscilla gave the Board a list of interested applicants which consisted of George Frank, Brook Road, West Burke; Cathi Feeley, East Burke; Dan Tanner, Evergreen Lane; John Gillespie, Gaskell Hill Road; Dave Kaufman, Road Foreman, Gaskell Hill Road and Joe Allard, Selectboard. The Board discussed some of the Towns like Brownington and Glover that have recently built new Town Garages. Joe and Dave would like to visit some of those buildings. The Board gave permission for Dave to take the lead and get the ball rolling on this project.

CONSTABLE REPORT – No Report

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: Mike Harris, Interim Zoning Administrator came to the Board to give his report on Zoning issues. Mike has sent out letters to Rick Schwag and Tom Williamson properties that have Violation issues. The Registered letters have not been accepted and have been returned to the Town. Mike would like to have the Sheriff’s department physically serve the letters to them. The Board gave their permission for him to use their services. As far as the ZA wages it was mentioned to be \$20.00 per hour and Mike will keep track of his time and also the time that the office puts in.

The Ella Skwold email was discussed and Mike will contact her and let her know that because of the weather they would not be able to do anything until Spring after the snow is gone so they can determine where the boundary markers are to see if Kevin Lajoie is in violation of setbacks. Mike will give her a call.

- OTHER BUSINESS –**
- * Signed the 2019 Arbitrage Account with Community Savings Bank
 - Accepted the bid from P & H (Jeff Cleveland) for plowing and sanding the East Burke Church, \$40.00 for snowplowing and \$30.00 sanding for a total \$70.
 - Accepted the Bid from Summit Contractors for Sidewalk Plowing for 2 years at a cost \$350 per plow.
 - Signed the annual Generator Preventative Maintenance Agreement
 - Signed the Certificate of Highway indicating there are no change in highway mileage.
 - Discussed adopting a Purchasing Policy. After reviewing one that was presented the Board decided on one and it will be adopted at the next Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: Reviewed Water System Sanitary Survey Letter. John Stevens is handling all the details and making the corrections as required by the State.

Reviewed the Pavement Deficiency Permit #39414 letter from the State of Vermont.

Discussed the letter from Ella Skalwold re: Kevin Lajoie property. Mike Harris, Interim ZA will be handling this issue.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: The Board reviewed the payables and signed the warrant as submitted.

With no other business to come before the Board, Joe made a motion to adjourn. Christine seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla Aldrich, cvc, cvt, cmc
Town Clerk and Treasurer