

Town of Burke  
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September 4, 2018  
Selectboard Meeting  
5 P.M.

Members Present: Joe Allard (Chairmen) Darryel Corrow, Christine Emmons

Visitors: Rick Hackett, Joe Bolch, Tiaan Van Der Linde, John Kresser, Susan Pierce, Ella & Eric Skalwold, Cathi Feeley, Hank Butler, Dave Kaufman, Brent Shafer.

Joe opened meeting at 5:00 P.M.

Minutes from the August 6, 2018 meeting were approved, Chris motioned to accept them as written, Darryel seconded, Minutes approved,

**Road Foreman Report:** The Burke Hollow Road project will be starting next week. They will be fixing 3 slopes in the road and replacing culverts. Dave will contact the school if necessary, if this will affect the bus route.

- Plans are to haul winter sand next week from Bob Doyon's pit.
- The Town has a grant for \$17,000.00 to do ditching and replace culverts on West Darling Hill, the work has been done. Dave has met with Doug Morton, on the West Darling Hill repair. The repairs can go toward the towns matching requirement.
- The town needs to purchase an I-Pad. This is part of the Better Roads grant requirement and needed to maintain the inventory. Also very useful when out in the field to upload pictures of the projects that are being done, it can determine slopes of the land, show where property lines are. It also has a GPS. Dave will be able to get maps from Agency of Natural Resources that he can download.
- Roadside mowing has been completed. It cost \$6000.00 to rent the mower for two weeks. In the future they would like to rent it for a longer time. Dave asked the board to consider purchasing a mower unit. To purchase a new mower, it would cost \$100,000.00.
- They will keep cutting trees and brush. Some people were not happy with the trimming of some trees and apple trees that were in the right- a way. Any tree can be trimmed that is in the highway right-a- away.
- Dave would like to get a sectional plow blades. He has talked to V Trans who use them and they work really well.
- Shane will be going to the Snow and Ice class, on September 13, 2018 in Orleans VT.
- Garbage truck has issues, it has been getting a lot of repairs lately. They have fixed a leaking seal, and it needs brakes.
- Dale's truck has electrical issues. It needs new hydraulic lines, which cost about \$3000.00. The dump cylinder, needs replacing. Some of this is because they have no place to wash the trucks in the winter.

- Dave suggest the Board think about trading trucks every 7 years. This will help to keep down repair bills because the trucks will still be under warranty.
- Looking into doing their own truck inspections. There is a class available to do that, which Shane will take.
- Dave asked if anything had been done about a new garage, that has been previously discussed.
- Bob Doyon is selling his house and doing a subdivision. We believe the gravel pit will be a separate lot.
- Grants are available to build new salt and sand shed. Which may help with costs and low cost loans are available. Dave will try to get in touch with Bob.

Jake Lavelly from Wells Fargo was not here.

Tiaan Van Der Linde from OneBurke, updated the board on the traffic and safety discussions. He asked what had the Select Board done. OneBurke did not want to repeat what Selectboard have done. Chris mentioned the water project in East Burke is holding up the traffic study in East Burke. Traffic study is needed to pursue flashing speed signs in the village.

The plan is to have flashing light speed limit signs, but the traffic study has to be done first and with the construction, this can't be done at this time.

Intersection in Burke Hollow is also of concern. Maybe more signage is needed, Can be very dangerous at times with people going to Brook Road off from Burke Hollow Road or Sugarhouse Road and going to Bugbee Crossing. Selectboard and the Road Foreman will look into this.

They are working on getting a bike trail to West Burke, to bring some of the business on this side of town.

The Board approved Tiaan to go to the VCRD Community Leadership Summit fall conference, to represent the Town of Burke.

**Rick Hackett** updated the board on the trees at Hillside Cemetery. He has spoken to Neil Lefebvre who will be sending a quote to take down the some of the leaning trees. He also spoke to some bikers who were parking at the East Burke Park to let them know, they couldn't park there. He pointed out the sign that has been posted by Kingdom Trails on No Parking.

**Joe Bolch** has concerns on how big Kingdom Trails can become. He had talked to Abigail Long about future plans. She is thinking 15 percent increase each year. Joe wants to know when does this level out? He is a biker, but can see we already have problems with, parking, congestion with people, cars and bikers. Not everyone benefits from them. He suggested Kingdom Trail should move their office to the mountain. There is plenty of parking up there. He also thought a fee should be added to the pass, which the town could benefit from. The Board agrees there are issues but, want to keep a positive relationship with Kingdom Trails. They are an important business in Town.

**ZA Report-** Brent has sent out violation letters to Mr. Schwag and Mr. Bailey. Mr. Schwag's letter came back unsigned for. The Sheriff will have to serve Mr. Schwag. Mr. Bailey received his letter and Brent explained to him what he needs to do. He also told Mr. Bailey the next step is the Town Lawyer will get involved and fines will be applied.

Ella and Eric Skalwold purchased Cliff Payne's property on Marshall Newland Road and also one of the subdivided lot. They are concerned that Mr. Lajoie has built in the right of way of the class 4 road, which will affect access to the lot they purchased and impact the town. A map on file supports this. They also don't feel that Mr. Lajoie has access to that property from Marshall Newland Road. Brent said he will meet with the Skawolds next week about this.

Brent has received a call from someone wanting to purchase the Kerrigan Store and turn it back into a garage. This was a garage many years ago.

There is interest from someone to purchase the mansion & use it as a Bed & Breakfast.

Hank Butler from the Conservation Committee has been talking to Passumpsic Valley Land Trust about the possibility of purchasing Pete's Pond (which it is up for sale) in order to preserve this land for the wildlife. Passumpsic Valley is non-profit and this would mean this property would be taken off the tax role for the town. The Selectboard didn't see this to be a problem and told Hank He could continue with discussing this with them.

Hank showed the board the signs that LI will be making up for the Town Forest. They will be very discreet and look like Mason Jar Lids. Cost will be about \$75.00.

The board approved Hank to talk to Rick Hackett about watering the trees in the park at East Burke. Hank said Rick can use his tank and this would be much easier than using a bucket.

The town owned land on the mountain road needs to be listed again. Cathleen Feeley will call Andi Kupetz at Century 21 to relist this.

The softball bases at the park in East Burke need to be fixed. Travis Corey will be contacted to see if the Burke Softball League can do this.

The board approved a vendor permit for Zeb Smith, DBA Natural Express LLC. He has a food truck which he will be setting up in the Orange Rind parking lot. He has his state permit, and landowner approval. He will be there from September 5, 2018 until November 30, 2018.

- The board signed paperwork for the Gage Station.
- Approved Errors and Omissions from the Assessor's Office to combine parcel at 229 Burke Green Road.
- Signed the Check Warrant
- Approved Accounts Payable bills
- Approved 2 Cemetery lots

The Board reviewed the Selectmen's Correspondence. No action taken

No other business, Christine motioned to adjourn, Darryel seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted;

Linda Hackett-Corey  
Assistant Town Clerk

