

TOWN OF SWANTON
MINUTES
REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
Swanton Town Office Building
1 Academy Street, Swanton, VT 05488

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Present: Joel Clark, Selectboard Chair; James Guilmette, Dan Billado, and Jeff Raleigh, Selectmen; Cathy Fournier, Town Clerk; David Jescavage, Town Administrator; Yaasha Wheeler, Secretary; Derick Billado, Animal Control Officer; Rose Johnson; Donna Drake; Ch. 16.

A. Call to Order

Mr. Clark called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Clark led the attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Agenda Review

Mr. Clark was in favor of doing 8(a) and 8(b) under executive session, and also wished to discuss a legal issue in executive session. Mr. Billado added 4(b) for Building Repair. Mr. Guilmette added discussions on Hazard Road and Tabor Point under Highway. Mr. Jescavage noted that the CAI Technologies contract renewal had been added to the agenda under Item 6.

D. Meeting Topics

1. Minutes

a) May 3, 2016 SLB Finance Meeting

b) May 3, 2016 SLB Regular Meeting

Mr. Guilmette made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

2. Public Comments

Donna Drake, from the trailer park along Sunset Terrace, said that, a week ago, she had had an encounter with two neighborhood pitbulls. These dogs had been “coming after the kids in the park” and had been aggressive to a number of people in the neighborhood. These were recent events.

Mr. Billado requested the Animal Control report to be presented to give more information on the matter.

3. Animal Control

a) SW Animal Control Officer Report

Mr. Derick Billado came forward to present his report. He had had a lot of calls this month: loose dogs, confined dogs, a few bites. The biggest issue was the issue with the aggressive dogs in Sunset Terrace trailer park. He had been out there multiple times for multiple complaints; Swanton Police Department had an open case file on this situation. He did not believe the dogs were aggressive when he visited the Pattersons, but he had given both

written and verbal warnings and spoken with multiple neighbors. He had seen a video of that dog acting aggressively. He wrote a \$150 fine for the aggressive dog (\$75 per dog) due to the issues, received multiple calls again today about the dogs being loose, both from neighbors and Swanton Police Department, and wrote a \$300 ticket (\$150 per dog). He added that he could never get down there when they were loose. The owner seemed to be considering the matter seriously, but they worked all day, and whoever was keeping the dogs during the day was just letting them out.

Mr. Dan Billado commended Mr. Derick Billado for his work. He suggested a vicious dog hearing, with verbal, written, and video testimony of the aggression. The dog should be on a leash or chain 24/7 or in the home.

Rose Johnson said that new people had moved in to the neighborhood and the dog “came after” the grandchildren. Other neighbors had been threatened by the dogs, and other dog owners did not dare to take their dogs out. She added that the dogs were out at all times of the day or night.

Mr. Jescavage would prepare a letter for the owner calling for a vicious dog hearing, both for the dog owner and the landowner. The hearing would be held at the first June Selectboard meeting.

Ms. Johnson and Ms. Drake thanked Mr. Derick Billado for his professionalism and availability. “I feel very safe with Derick handling it.”

Mr. Derick Billado said that he had impounded a dog, returned it, and had warned the owner that she had 10 days to register it.

4. Old Business

a) Review RR Museum Shingle Quotes

The Selectboard reviewed single quotes. Ricky Gabree proposed \$4,675 to strip and replace with 30-year shingles on the south side, or \$11,925 to do the entire roof. Gary Smith Roofing proposed \$5760 to strip and replace the south side or \$3960 to go over the top of the existing shingles. Mr. Jescavage added that a perfect match of color could not be found; he proposed \$13,200 to rip off and replace the whole roof or \$9680 to go over the top of the existing shingles.

The Selectboard discussed the bids and the scope of the work. They felt they needed more clarification on exactly what the roofing companies intended when they designated a certain scope of work. Mr. Jescavage said he would speak with them.

b) Building Repair List

Mr. Jescavage had not yet received any quotes to inspect the roof on the Town Office building. He would get in touch with the companies to get information. Other repair items should be considered. Mr. Clark recommended putting together a list of repairs that should be done on the Town Office building, and having David Jescavage be the point person.

5. Economic Development

None.

6. Community Development

a) Sign CAI Technologies Annual Maintenance Contract

The Selectboard reviewed the contract. Mr. Jescavage explained that it was \$3300 a year for the standard maintenance agreement with the Town of Swanton. Mr. Guilmette made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to approve the CAI Technologies contract for updating the town maps for the year April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017. Discussion: Mrs. Fournier explained what CAI Technologies did and affirmed that they were worth the money's worth. Mr. Jescavage said that they had been doing additional, more precise

mapping in West Swanton; Tanya Dufresne and Jim Pratt would be reviewing that work and recommend whether or not to continue with other parts of the town. Mr. Jescavage said that a software difficulty had been delaying some updates, but it would be resolved. Discussion concluded. Motion carried.

7. Expenditures

a) General Orders (April 20, 2016 to May 17, 2016)

Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Guilmette, to approve the General Orders as printed. Motion carried.

b) Highway Orders (April 20, 2016 to May 17, 2016)

Mr. Guilmette made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clark, to approve the Highway Orders as printed. Motion carried.

The Selectboard discussed Hazard Road, recalling that Mr. Manning paid half of the maintenance and the Town paid the other half.

c) Payroll Orders

Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to approve the Payroll Orders as printed. Motion carried.

8. Highway Department

a) Review Part-Time Highway Worker Applicants (Executive Session)

b) Review Full-Time Highway Maintenance Operator (Executive Session)

This was postponed until later.

c) Street Updates

Mr. Guilmette said he had received a compliment from a Mr. Fournier for the Hazard Road work. He had also received a phone call from a resident on Lakewood Drive, who wished for more maintenance in that neighborhood. Mr. Clark said he had driven Lakewood Drive with the road crew. They planned to work in the industrial park, Babbie Boulevard, Jonergin Drive, Tabor Road, and Lakewood Drive. Mr. Clark assured that there would be work in the Hog Island neighborhood this year and next year.

d) Other Updates

The truck was back; the oil pan had been changed.

9. Correspondence

Nothing.

10. Any Other Necessary Business

Mr. Billado reviewed the calendar/schedule for work to be done. Mr. Jescavage reported on some grant applications. Mr. Billado recalled that the employee's handbook should be updated, since it was a project that had been put off for a while. Mr. Clark was in favor of doing it right after the new employees were hired, probably mid-June.

11. Public Comments (Reprise)

None.

12. Upcoming Events

- a) Wednesday, May 18, 2016 @ 6 pm, Planning Commission meeting in Town Offices & First Street Site Walk

- b) Saturday, May 21, 2016, 8 am to 2 pm, Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, Swanton Town Highway Garage, 221 First Street
- c) Thursday, May 26, 2016 DRB Meeting @ 7 pm in Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- d) Monday, May 30, 2016 Memorial Day Parade starting at 2:30 pm
- e) Tuesday, May 31, 2016 Swanton Brownfield Revitalization Committee Meeting @ 7 pm in Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- f) Wednesday, June 1, 2016 Planning Commission meeting @ 7 pm in Town Offices, 1 Academy Street
- g) Tuesday, June 7, 2016 SLB Meeting @ 7 pm in Town Offices, 1 Academy Street

13. Executive Session (personnel & contracts)

Mr. Guilmette made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to go into executive session at 7:53 p.m. for contracts and legal matters, because the individuals and the Town would be at a disadvantage if the matters were discussed publically at this time. Motion carried.

Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to exit executive session at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried. Action taken: Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Guilmette, to offer the part-time, temporary highway worker position to Nick Jettie at \$14.00 per hour until September 30, 2016, with no benefits and no guarantee of continuous employment. Motion carried.

Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Guilmette, to bring in the 7 finalists for interviews on Monday, May 23, 2016, starting at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried. The Selectboard would like Highway Foreman Harold Garrett to participate in the interview process. The Town Administrator will contact all applicants to let them know.

E. Adjournment

Mr. Billado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Raleigh, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Motion carried.

Received and filed by:

Cathy Fournier, Swanton Town Clerk

Date