

Town of Danville
Unapproved Selectboard Minutes
August 6, 2020
Danville Town Hall (6:00 pm)

Board Members Present Using Zoom: Ken Linsley, Kellie Merrell, Kristin Franson, and Henry Pearl

Board Members Present: Eric Bach

Others Present: Audrey DeProspero, Carole Kuligoski, Rusty DeWees, Robert Larose and Glenn Herrin

Others Present Using Zoom: Paul Tomasi, Craig Morris and Jenni Lavoie

1. **Meeting was called to order** by Vice Chair Eric Bach at 6:00 pm.
2. **Additions to the agenda:**
 - Vermont State Police
 - Public Utility Commission - Solar
 - Masks from State
3. *Motion by Ken Linsley, 2nd by Henry Pearl to approve **minutes** of the **Regular meeting of July 16, 2020 with changes. Vote 5-0-0. Unanimous.***
4. **Visitor**
 - Rusty DeWees – Independent entertainer seeking to perform on the Danville Green. He would like to do a Tiny Gazebo Tour starting the first week of September either on a Saturday or Sunday or possibly both days. The show would start around five o'clock and be about ninety minutes. Set up would be done in the afternoon and posters would be put around town for advertising along with information in the Caledonian Record and on Facebook. There would be no cost to the Town.

Henry Pearl inquired if tickets would be sold.

Rusty DeWees noted there would be a ticket purchase with a \$15 charge and persons would reserve by calling. Payment could be made when persons arrive. There would be a jar that persons would drop their money in to. Social distancing would be adhered to and areas could be staked and taped off and only a certain number of tickets would be sold. People would be regulated by postings and the stipulation would be that persons must have tickets and wear a mask. Social distancing will be adhered to according to the CDC and Vermont Department of Health regulations. Reservations would be required to attend.

Ken Linsley noted the Green is a public space, not private, so person could not be turned away.

Rusty DeWees discussed setting up a suggested donation amount in case persons walk up.

Kristin Franson discussed parking and noted it was a concern and needed to be taken into consideration.

Eric Bach discussed using the Church and Bank parking lots along with the Town Hall parking lot and school parking lot.

Ken Linsley suggested Rusty DeWees contact the school to see if people could park there.

Rusty DeWees noted signage could be put up and his postings could indicate where parking is.

Ken Linsley discussed Criteria List and noted that #1 on the list says local residents.

Kellie Merrell discussed modifying the Criteria List. She noted Rusty's events bring in large crowds and are successful which could turn into something that is not safely controlled during a pandemic.

Selectboard discussed Criteria List for allowing use of Town Property and noted changes were required.

Eric Bach and Henry Pearl noted they would work together to determine the number of spaces available on the Green for social distancing and let Rusty DeWees know.

Rusty DeWees will work with Audrey DeProspero regarding dates available for shows.

- Carole Kuligoski – 600 McReynolds Road Water Flow – discussion of water damage to her driveway from road water runoff. She spoke of a swale which was previously created and suggested another be made. Her concern was with the water that goes down the hill and flows into the field. The dirt builds up in that area which does not allow for mowing. She requested a gully be put in between the culverts to alleviate the problem. She would like the neighbors to share the water flow.

Keith Gadapee discussed drainage problem below her driveway and berms on both sides of the road above her area. Water cannot get off the road which is an issue. A swale was put in about seven year ago and he has recently spoken to the other neighbor who has agreed to add a swale and give up some of his land. This area is a work in progress. He agreed that the spot needs drainage and has identified the drainage problem.

Both Keith Gadapee and Carole Kuligoski agreed that work needs to be done.

Keith Gadapee noted the road is on the list to be done and he would keep in touch with Carole Kuligoski regarding the progress.

- Glenn Herrin, Planning Commission – Train Station Restoration Committee – discussed Planning Commission's thought regarding one organization in Town handling the renovation, restoration, current use, and future use of the train station which would interact with all persons. The proposal to the Selectboard could either be long term or temporary. Various persons have expressed interest in the committee. The committee would be coordinating efforts so all would be working in one direction toward a common goal. The committee could be a subcommittee of the Planning Commission which would report to Selectboard.

Ken Linsley suggested a mission statement for the organization and consideration to apply for grants with Selectboard approval.

- Craig Morris – Town Property Criteria List – Craig disconnected himself from Zoom, no discussion.
- Bob Larose – Train Station – Composting/Recycling/Signage – discussion began regarding the Town being in the recycle business and whether or not the Town in fact did want to continue to do such. Trash haulers in Town are required to take recycling. Space limitation issues are beginning to become evident with the train station usage and the Town does not currently have the money to do something with the current building or another building/location for recycling. The capacity of the train station is being utilized to its fullest. The overflow has expanded to the other side which can now no longer be used. The current space is just not ideal for what it is being used for. The location not only has a recycle item overflow but also has parking space issues. The lot is small and vehicles have bumped each other causing owners to have to exchange insurance information and with the lot having limited parking spaces, it has effected Waste Management when they come to pick up recyclables as sometimes vehicles are parked in front of the doors that they need access to. Inventory status is now being required by

NEKWMD regarding how many boxes of cardboard received along with other items. Social distancing is difficult to adhere to and stairs are an issue for elderly. Suggested was to get out of the trash business and let the haulers handle it. There are plenty of options for trash, recycle and composting in the area. As the Town may have a shortfall in monies this year due to COVID-19, some savings could come from getting out of the trash business.

Paul Tomasi of NEKWMD (Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District) noted haulers are required to pick up recycling and agreed that the facility is small and parking is tight. He did note that it is worthwhile to look at other options however there is no requirement for the Town to have a facility. Mixed material has a higher contamination rate and the recycle sale is low currently but has been higher in the past.

Discussed was the future of the building, moving recycling to a larger building and the current building not being big enough to handle what it is currently being used for.

Posting of signs discussed to help prevent doors from being blocked.

Complaints discussed regarding other activities in the building. The complaints received made it sound like the Town was not supporting the use of the building however the Town does support all uses of the building. The Town is looking at the bigger picture for the train station.

Ken Linsley disconnected from Zoom at 7:48 pm.

5. **Town Clerk** (Wendy Somers)

- 2020 Tax Rate – decision for setting Tax Rate being held off until the August 17th Tax Bills. Discussion ensued regarding tax bills, payments, the handling of persons not being able to pay taxes, statistic possibilities for payments, budgets, possible error adjustments for taxes, cushion on tax rate and information insert in the tax bill mailing.

Motion by Henry Pearl, 2nd by Kristin Franson to set Tax Rate as presented by Wendy Somers (Residential - Municipal \$0.2075, Highway \$0.3600, Education \$1.6103 (total \$2.1778) Non-Residential – Municipal \$0.2075, Highway \$0.3600, Education \$1.6180 (total \$2.1855)). Vote 4-0-0. Unanimous.

- Grant for digitizing records discussed. Investigation and various proposals on digitizing land records is estimated at \$160 monthly for 5 years. The system would be useable by November 1st of this year.

Consensus is for Wendy Somers to apply for the grant.

- The Listers have requested monthly payments to NEMRC for reappraisals to resume.

Motion by Henry Pearl, 2nd by Kellie Merrell to resume NEMRC monthly payments. Vote 4-0-0. Unanimous.

6. **Highway Foreman** (Keith Gadapee)

- Paving on Bruce Badger is complete. The price came in a little bid under budget.
- Curb cut application for 1892 Walden Hill Road.

Consensus is for Eric Bach to sign the application.

- Last year's paving job on Bruce Badger a landowner was unhappy with how the blending of his driveway was done so the landowner got an estimate of \$1,400 for it to be paved back in the way the landowner likes it. The Highway Foreman does not see an issue with how it was done.

Consensus is to accept the judgement of the Highway Foreman.

- Drainage project on Hill Street – money in budget, Kellie Merrell was looking into tying system into Route 2 system with state, the catch basin at the bottom needs to be fixed and Selectboard guidance is being sought.

Kellie Merrell noted she spoke to the water folks at the State where she works but the Town needs to deal with AOT person not her storm water folks.

Consensus is for key players to get together and discuss, then come to Selectboard.

- Class 4 discussion – A Class 4 Town Highway that is not used at all has a property owner seeking to build a garage within the setbacks. The owner may or may not be able to build a garage where he wants because of this road. Should the road be thrown up? Other questions from the pond area is the width of Class 4 roads.

Henry Pearl noted he would follow up with Toby Balivet regarding the legal options of distinction of Class 4 Roads.

- Highway Foreman is considering to bring to the Selectboard the possibility to pave the full length of Peacham Road. He will have an estimate for Selectboard at a later date.

7. Issues and Information (All)

- (a) **Portable Toilets covered by WDCC (West Danville Community Club) follow up –** Audrey DeProspero – for clarification purposes, the portable toilet request discussed at the previous meeting is for four months: July 1-28, July 29 - August 25, August 26 - September 22 and September 23 - October 20. The total for four months at \$350 which includes two weekly cleanings is \$1,400. The WDCC is most appreciative to the Town for helping them out financially and bringing more awareness to what the WDCC does for the Beach, Rail Trail and West entrance to Danville.

- (b) **Movie Night –** Audrey DeProspero for Chelsea Hewitt – an additional Movie Night on the Green for October 10th (rain date October 17th) is being requested along with use of power from the gazebo

The current August and September dates are still on. There will be fewer people and they will be checked to make sure they are wearing masks. Spots must be reserved ahead of time and will be flagged on the Green with 10 feet in between each. There are 20 slots for up to a 6 person family available so the event is under the outdoor limit of 150 but there is still a little wiggle room in case of walk ups. There is a carry in/out rule for any food and there will be no food or drink sales on site. A restroom is available at the church and there is social distancing markers on the floor. Upcoming movies are: August 15th (rain date 22nd) for Onward, September 19th (rain date 26th) is The Goonies, and October, if approved, will be Halloweentown. All movies are Disney kid's movies.

Motion by Henry Pearl, 2nd by Kristin Franson to approve the additional Movie Night on the Green for October 10th, rain date October 17th, with use of power from the gazebo. Vote 3-0-1 (Eric Bach abstained). Unanimous.

- (c) **School Zoning Application – Audrey DeProspero-** the Zoning office has received an application from the school from Randy Rathburn for the request of rebuilding the current dugouts and adding an additional 10 feet to one to provide space for a potential snack bar and 10 feet to the other for storage. As it is a Town owned building, the fee of \$35 for a Permitted Use application has been waived.

Motion by Kristin Franson, 2nd by Henry Pearl to authorize Eric Bach to sign the Zoning Application. Vote 4-0-0. Unanimous.

- (d) **Cyber awareness services –** Henry Pearl spoke to Cyndy Phillips who can assist in the situation of Cyber Awareness. Item to be put on next agenda for further details.

- (e) **Cemetery** – Eric Bach – there are trees down in both Massey and Ward Cemeteries.

Keith Gadapee noted he has viewed the area and if a contractor has to be called in and paid to clear the trees, then the Highway Department will take care of it.

Consensus is for the Highway Department to handle the removal of the fallen trees.

- (f) **Governance Issue** – postponed until next meeting.
- (g) **Masks** – Glenn Herrin – opportunity for Municipalities to order cloth masks from the State. The cloth face coverings are washable and are being given to Vermonters free of charge. It is up to the Towns to figure out what to do with them. They are free and can also be given to businesses.
- (h) **Department of Public Safety Vermont State Police** – Eric Bach – the State Police are reframing police work and looking for a written response from municipalities to put priorities and concerns together on how they can ensure policing in towns to keep Vermont a safe and welcoming place.
- (i) **Public Utility Commission – Solar – Big Buck Solar, LLC** – Eric Bach – Green Mountain Power has completed a study that indicates that the proposed capacity of 150 kW does not satisfy the state mandated system rules and the project must be amended to reduce its capacity to 100 kW.

8. Financials: Orders to review and sign

Motion by Kellie Merrell, 2nd by Henry Pearl to authorize Vice Chair Eric Bach to review and sign the Financial Orders on behalf of the Selectboard. Vote 4-0-0. Unanimous.

9. **Adjourn** – *Motion by Henry Pearl, 2nd by Kristin Franson to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. All in favor.*

Minutes taken by Audrey DeProspero submitted August 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm.