

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042**

Select Board Minutes
September 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Andrew Smith. Other members present: Claudette Sortino and Paul Keenan. Also present: Cheryl Slayton, Richard Hodgson, Richard Fraser, Regina Hazel, William Hetu, Devin Coleman, Gene Perkins, Marsha Nelson.

Minutes of the August 28th meeting were read and approved as printed. Paul made the motion, Claudette seconded it and it carried.

Public Comment: Richard Hodgson talked about liability for the funding for the South Ryegate Wastewater System. Is it a loan or grant? Andy answered his questions. It is both. Part of it will be debt forgiveness or grant subtracted off the amount owed from the loan. Richard feels it should show up on the balance sheets. Andy will contact Julia Stone at the State.

Treasurer's Report: The Board viewed bills and signed orders. Andy asked the contract be returned to Ray Ostiguy unsigned, noting the State had authorized two inspections per month of the South Ryegate Wastewater System, rather than four a month. A comparison of mowing charges for various town lawns in Ryegate was made, as some have increased this summer without prior notification. Paul had looked into electricity at Ticklenaked Pond as requested. There is electricity there now, but only for the street light. More power with a meter would mean more fees.

Gene Perkins was present. The fire department sold an old fire truck for \$2000 after advertising and would like the proceeds to stay with the fire department in the Truck Replacement Fund. The Board approved. Gene is hoping to have work done on the Ryegate Corner Fire Station to get the grade below the floor of the station. Sand needs to be kept out of that area. Right now the back step is flush with the ground. Gene said there is \$400 left in the building fund and hopes the road budget can help with the expense.

Road Report: Nelson found a cheaper salt contract with Cargill. He would like the Board to approve it. After reading it over the Board had some questions about the quality of the salt and if it was the same as last year. The Board will check into it before deciding to sign. Randy Johnson would like a school bus stop sign as you approach his house headed east on East Road. He's afraid trucks coming down the hill might not be aware of a stopped bus in time. The Board will have Nelson look into the requirements for installing the sign.

There was discussion concerning the Special Follow Up Town Meeting concerning salt in wells in Ryegate Corner. Paul thought the three ideas the Board has researched should be aired. The Board wondered about an Informational Meeting before the actual Town Meeting. The Clerk will check with the Town Attorney about that and the wording of the article to be discussed and voted on. The Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Town House. There will be a Special Select Board Meeting on Friday, September 15, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Town Office to finalize and sign the Warning.

Andy has been concerned about the Cemetery and Library Funds that are administered by the Select Board. He is worried about the run up in the stock market. He would like to sell the funds and put the money into the bank until such time as it seems wise to re-invest it. Richard Hodgson thinks CD's would be more reliable or a conservatively managed stock portfolio. After discussion, Paul moved to authorize the Treasurer to cash out the stock for the Library and Cemetery funds that are administered by the Select Board and convert them into CD's, liquidating our stock possessions. Claudette seconded the motion and it carried.

Andy is willing to esign the various items the State Wastewater Agency wants to receive esigned rather than snail mailed.

Two salt shed proposals have been received. Bill Graves was \$58,090 and Rick Colby and Frank Pages proposal was \$28,229. Claudette moved going with the Page/Colby proposal. Paul seconded the motion and it carried.

Andy has been contacted by Bruce Nelson concerning a large project Bruce is having done with federal funds in front of his bunker silos to control leachate. The engineers want to pave the legal trail in front of the bunk silos. The Board wondered if Bruce would be maintaining it and the answer is yes. *The Select Board gives approval to allow Bruce Nelson to have hard surfacing put down on the portion of the Legal Trail in front of his bunker silos for leachate control understanding the Town has no liability towards the paving now or in the future. *

Public Comment: Richard Fraser reported on replacing swings at the South Ryegate Playground as recommended by Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM on a motion from Paul seconded by Claudette that carried.

-----Marsha Nelson