

GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEETING

April 25, 2011

PRESENT: Richard Clark (Chair), Anne Rider, Katie Buckley (Town Administrator), Troy Revis, Jr., Dan Zumbruski (Road Commissioner)

I. Call to order - 6:35 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes –

- Troy moved to approve the minutes from the 04/11/2011 Selectboard Meeting. Anne seconded. Motion carried.

III. Recognition of Public

- Bill Jewell, Karen Murphy, Frank Rafferty

IV. New Business

- Conservation Commission –
 - Dick referenced an area of property (approximately 4-5 acres) off Sweet Pond Road which he thinks should be classified as protected wetlands. He asked the Commission members to look into this. Karen Murphy offered to take a walk with Dick to learn more about this area.
 - Bill Jewell provided an update to the Board on what the Commission has been working for the last year. They have been taking a series of walks to produce information (map) for the 250th Celebration pamphlet. They also have been working (mainly Dick Clark and Bill Jewell) on the Ancient Roads project. Bill asked if there are any specific projects on which the Board would like the Commission to work/participate. Anne stated that she thought they would be heavily involved in the developments which are taking place at Sweet Pond. Karen asked if the Board was ready to hold public hearings to turn some of the Town's Class 4 roads into trails; there are a number of Commission members who would like to see this happen. Currently there are just a few Town trails on the VTrans official highway map. There was a brief discussion about why the Ancient Roads issue came to light in the state. Karen suggested that one public hearing for all roads which would be down-graded to Town trails could be held or it could be done one road at a time. Anne asked (rhetorically) what right the land owners had in doing this, as the ancient roads are the Town's legal right of ways. Katie asked if the Commission has a clear representation through research in the highway records of what roads still legally exist to be down-graded. Bill said that they have done the research and it is being mapped out by the Windham Regional Commission. Frank Rafferty asked what advantage there is in going from a Class 4 road to a trail. Karen explained that it is the Town's responsibility to maintain Class 4 roads where as they do not have that obligation with trails. Bill reminded the Board that they need to work on the road ordinances. Dick said that he wants to wait until the map comes from the WRC and clear it with the State before a commitment to a public hearing can be made. There was an in depth discussion about the different classes of roads, how they are maintained and how they should be treated in an updated road ordinance. Anne suggested that Bill be involved when the Board digs deeper into revising the ordinance. Bill suggested consulting with Matt Mann and Jeff Nugent, both from WRC.
- Health Issue - Private Property – Letter from Health Officer – A complaint was made about a property on Tater Lane that is a health hazard. Dick and Dolores Hale, Town Health Officer, visited the site to learn more and confirm the report. Apparently there are two individuals living in a shed, below the main house, near the brook living in squalor. Katie will draft a letter on Dolores' behalf for her to send to the property owner, Yancey McAllister, notifying him of what must be addressed to improve the condition of his property. Anne explained that she has spoken to Mr. McAllister directly about the issue on a prior occasion, as she is his neighbor; nothing happened as a result of this exchange. Anne was relieved to

see that someone else has taken issue with this problem. Anne moved to allow Katie to write this letter, circulate it to the Board for review and authorize the Board Chair to sign it when complete. Dick added that May 20th should be the date by which Mr. McAllister has to comply with the requests contained in the letter. Troy seconded. Motion carried. Katie asked the Board if more care should be given to the proper process of the matter (perhaps consult with the State) before making demands on the property owner. Dick explained that letter is more of a "recommendation" before the State gets involved.

- Selectboard Meeting Summer Schedule – There was a discussion about changing the Selectboard's regular meeting schedule for the summer. The idea came about to accommodate more solid progress being made to update ordinances. Anne suggested that Board go to a schedule of one meeting per month during June, July and August. Dick asked how the public might view this. There was a general discussion that followed. Anne moved that for the months of June, July and August that the 2nd Monday of those months be the business meeting for the Selectboard, starting at 6:30 PM and that 4th Monday of the those months be work sessions starting at 5:00 PM. Troy seconded. Motion carried. Frank Rafferty provided his opinion on the posting of the Selectboard's meeting agenda. Katie will post a "draft" version of the agenda on the bulletin board in the Town Office in advance of the meetings from now on.
- Guilford 250th Road Race – May 28, 2011 – There will be a 5K foot race on Saturday, May 28th at 10:00 AM. It starts and ends at the Grange. Dick said that all details for the race have been handled by the 250th Committee.

V. Old Business

- Trash Issue on Private Property – Bullock Road – Vita Pisciotta (letter to Selectboard) - Katie read aloud a (second) letter from Vita Pisciotta which provided an update on the trash issue which exists on private property. Anne provided a brief update on what has taken place: the dumpster is now padlocked and she has emailed the 4 people who have permission (and now keys for the padlock) to use the dumpster. Dick and Troy reminded everyone again that this is not a Town issue.

VI. Highway

- Excess Weight Permit – Bazin Brothers Trucking, Inc. - Troy moved to approve the Excess Weight permit for Bazin Brothers with the usual restrictions applied. Anne seconded. Motion carried.
- General Update
 - Grading roads continues.
 - Dan is taking the leaf vac up to Morrisville to see if he can sell it in two (2) shows that will take place up there.
 - There is no money left in the gravel budget. Dan will use some retreatment money to offset further gravel expenses.
 - Dan will get a price on painting the center lines.
 - The Roaring Brook bridge will be done before June 30th.
 - Stony Hill resident inquired about a culvert that has collapsed and washed out a number of years ago. The snow mobile folks want to put a bridge in there. Dan said that he could recycle the steel beams from the Roaring Brook bridge for them to use. It would be very expensive for the Town to replace the culvert however the Town does not need to do so, given the current ordinance. Dan will follow up with the property owner and the snow travelers group to see how to proceed.
 - Dan would like to see if we can contract with a company to review our currently posted road signs to see if they are legal and what should be changed out.
- The Town Trail discussion (from above) was revisited again. Katie suggested that the Board be very thoughtful in their approach to this matter; many land owners are sensitive about their property rights. The Town should take a very thoughtful and collaborative approach with land owners to ensure the success of this project. Dan agreed and cautioned the Board that when they start changing the classes of

roads it may affect how the State allocates our (funding) aid, in addition voters will be upset when/if their level of service is changed. Dick said that it is indeed a very touchy subject.

- One Ton – Financing options – Katie has been working with Ford Motor Credit to get leasing options for the new F-550 one ton truck purchase. She recommended that the Town opt for a three (3) year lease to be paid off early (with no penalty for such) in October, 2012. Anne moved to enter into a three (3) year lease with Ford’s Municipal Lease program. Troy seconded. Motion carried.
- Dan provided an update on the tandem; he was looking into getting a higher amount on the trade versus doing a private sale as previously discussed. The amount was bumped up from \$20K to \$25K. Dan will try to advertise the old tandem until we have to sign for the new truck and decide what to do then. Katie will take pictures of the old truck and get them out to potential buyers.
- Anne inquired about when the work for the Transportation Enhancement Grant for the Green River Covered Bridge would start. Katie told her that probably not until summer of 2012, given the formalities that must be followed as required through use of federal (grant) money.

VII. Finance

- Warrants:

○ PR	04/17/2011	\$	4,735.78
○ PR	04/24/2011	\$	4,121.89
	TOTAL PAYROLL	\$	8,857.67
○	Warrant #20	\$	34,208.45
○	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	43,066.12

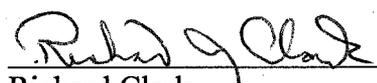
Troy moved to pay the above stated PR Warrants: 04/17/2011 & 04/24/2011 and Warrant #20. Anne seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. Communications

- VTrans – Structures Division - 2010 Bridge Inspection Reports – All of Guilford’s bridges are in relatively good condition or better.
- State of VT – Division for Historic Preservation – National Register Nomination – Broad Brook House – A brief update on the progress of the Guilford Country Store project was shared.
- Windham County Sheriff’s Department – STARS Report – March 2011
- Katie shared an update on the Algiers Water Line Project. The amendment to the Drinking Water Division Planning Loan is in progress. There is an archaeological study which must take in the Hannigan Field (property of Guilford Preservation, Inc.) because it was deemed a highly sensitive area for the potential of Indian artifacts. Preliminary design work by Brud Sanderson, Stevens and Associates, continues and applications for permits is imminent. Almost all of the easement agreements required for the water line route are in place. Katie has been working closely with the Windham Housing Trust to ensure that progress/funding for housing project continues to move ahead since the success of the water line so heavily depends on it.

Anne moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Troy seconded. Motion carried.

The next Selectboard Meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Town Office.


Richard Clark

Troy Revis, Jr.


Anne Rider