

Town of Colrain
Selectboard Meeting
55 Main Road/Town Office Building
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

Present: Mark Thibodeau, Eileen Sauvageau and Duane Scranton.

Others Present: Michael Slowinski, Doug MacLeay – Finance Committee, Jason Ferenc – Board of Health, Paula Harrison – Office Clerk, Kevin Fox – Town Coordinator

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Minutes: Meeting Minutes September 10, 2012
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the minutes from September 10, 2012 as written, Duane Scranton seconded. It was voted unanimously.

Warrants: Vendor Warrants
MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to approve the warrant as presented, seconded by Mark Thibodeau. It was voted unanimously.

Appointment: Mike Slowinski – Building Demolition issues
Mike gave the Selectmen an update on the Colrain Central School window projects, Buckland/Shelburne Roof project and Mohawk School Window project. All projects will be completed by the end of the year. There was discussion on the solar panels at Mohawk high school.

Mike informed the selectmen that after speaking with some of the bidders for the demolition projects they were confused on the location of the asbestos in the Church Street and Tin Shop buildings. There was concern regarding the stability of the buildings and how much hazardous materials may be in the buildings.

Jason Ferenc discussed with the selectmen the reasons why the low bid is a fair bid and that holding off would cause the bid to increase and possibly cause the project to fall apart. There was discussion on rebidding the project or awarding the bid now. Duane asked if there was a breakdown on the demolition bids. Discussion resumed on the possible costs of the bids and if there was a possibility of getting a better price.

There was discussion on the value of cleaning up the center of town. The selectmen support the demolition of these buildings. There was discussion on pros and cons of the buildings being demolished. There was discussion on what would take place after the building were taken down. The town may be able to recover some or all of the money spent on taking down these buildings.

There was discussion regarding the Blue block (Main Road) in town.
No Action Taken

New Business

Award contract for Slope Stabilization South Green River Road (FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant)

Kevin explained the contract for South Green River Road, low bid for \$15,200 is from Excavating Solutions, Inc.

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to award the contract for the sierra wall on South Green River Road to Excavating Solutions, Inc. for \$15,200, Mark Thibodeau seconded.

There was further discussion on where this work will be done and what a sierra wall is. The town will be responsible for 25% of this work when it is all complete less any state assistance.

It was voted unanimously.

FCRHRA – Letter of Understanding from Robin Sherman RE Housing Rehab. Loan Administration

Kevin discussed with the selectmen how the FCRHRA will proceed without a current contract. The Selectmen would like to discuss the possibility of altering the proposed contract to 100% deferred payment and no forgiveness. The Selectmen would like money to come back to the town and not to the RE Housing revolving fund. Kevin will have a conversation with Robin Sherman on whether there is a possibility of reducing their administrative fee to 10 to 15%. Discussion followed on the proposal received from the Town of Greenfield vs. the FCRHRA.

Kevin research whether Blocks grants could be used for demolition. These Grants can be used for such things. The Selectmen would like Kevin to proceed forward on pursuing future block grants.

No Action Taken

Discussion RE FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Possibility

Kevin informs the board that this grant is still in the application phase. But this is the time that you should begin thinking about where a Town Garage would be placed. Kevin reviewed the steps that would need to be taken in order to move this forward if awarded this grant. Discussion followed on where a facility may be placed in town. Kevin will keep the selectmen informed as the grant proceeds.

Memorial Hall Chimney

There was discussion on the safety and stability on the back chimney of Memorial Hall. There was discussion on the cost of having the chimney taken down and where the funds could be taken. Kevin will speak to Scott Sullivan – Highway Superintendent regarding using the highway department budget.

No Action Taken

New Business

Economic Development Committee

Eileen would like to form an Economic Development Committee to look at the future of the town. There was discussion on how many members would be on the board and what their mission statement would be. Selectmen will continue this to their next meeting.

No Action Taken

MOVED: Eileen Sauvageau moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52PM. Seconded by Duane Scranton and it was voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Harrison
Office Clerk

Documents

- Meeting Minutes 9-10-2012
- Bid to repair South Green River road
- Letter from FCRH&RA
- Vendor and Payroll warrants