

VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
February 23, 2016

Present: Trustees - Walter Scott, Guy Breault, Leonard Charron, Ellen St. Marie
Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Caroline Marcy, Garry Atherton, Gary Denton
Guest – Jim Donovan, representing Broadreach Planning & Design

Meeting called to order by Chair, Walter Scott at 6:30 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no modifications or changes to the Agenda.

2. Review/Approval Minutes February 9, 2015

Guy Breault made a motion to approve the February 9, 2016 minutes as written. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

3. Elm Street Sidewalk Alternatives Scoping Study: Jim Donovan, Broadreach Planning & Design

Jim Donovan was invited back to clarify and review alternatives with the Trustees regarding the Elm Street Sidewalk project. During the December 22nd, Public Work Session, the Trustees had favored a bike/shared path concept that would lead bicyclists and pedestrians off the street by traveling behind the commercial businesses on Elm Street to the Athletic Fields. However, a second alternative was not chosen in the event that the favored bike/path concept proved infeasible, i.e. inability to obtain easements from property owners or restrictions that would create safety issues.

Jim initiated the discussion by reviewing the three most viable options:

- 1) The bike/shared path concept
- 2) Sidewalk along Elm Street on the north side extending to Water Tower Road, continuing up the west side of Water Tower Road, and crossing between the Health Center and Community National Bank.
- 3) Sidewalk along Elm Street on the north side extending to Water Tower Road, cross at Water Tower Road, continue on Route 105 to the Athletic Fields.

All present agreed that each alternative had its own challenges and that no single alternative was without a negative concern. It was also the consensus that any project pursued would be a great improvement over the current situation of no sidewalk or safe access to the Fields.

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At this point, Caroline Marcy read a letter submitted by Mary Tryhorne, Enosburg Director of Recreation and RiseVT Health Advocate. Mary states that as the Director of Recreation and a lover of walking, she is in full support of creating sidewalks to and from the Recreation fields and Island View Park. Mary continued to explain how Enosburgh Recreation is continuing to grow and expand with various new programs offered for children and residents of the community. Having safe walking access is a top priority as these programs become operational and attract a greater number of visitors to the Recreation fields.

After much discussion on each alternative, the conversation focused on three main aspects: Safety, feasibility, and likely-hood use of the sidewalk facility. Anecdotal evidence indicates that children and high-school aged students currently tend to cross at the Pleasant St./Elm Street intersection, walk through the 300'+ open access space of the commercial businesses, cross Water Tower Road, and continue down Route 105 by walking on the highway to access the fields by the Emergency Services Building.

Jim Donovan continued to explain that alternative number three, as listed above, has the highest degree of likely-hood of use since this is the current preferred method by pedestrians. It also has the highest degree of success since the sidewalk would fall almost completely within the Village right-of-way. This sidewalk alternative would provide safety to pedestrians by reducing the 300' open space into three clearly defined access points. Once pedestrians cross Water Tower Road and continue down Route 105, they would be protected from traffic by the deep swale, with the sidewalk positioned approximately 12' from the highway. This sidewalk proposal also has the added benefit of improving the appearance of the Village and creating an attractive gateway for visitors and residents alike.

One concern of the Trustees regarding this alternative was the safety issue of crossing at Water Tower Road. Jim explained the various ways this crossing could be installed with safety in mind by using techniques such flashing cross-walk signals or a slightly raised walkway.

Guy Breault made the motion to approve the sidewalk alternative of updating and improving the sidewalk on the north side of Elm Street from West Berkshire Road to the intersection of Pleasant Street, installing a new sidewalk facility that would continue to Water Tower Road, cross at Water Tower Road, continue on Route 105 to the Athletic/Recreation Fields as the preferred alternative. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous. During the course of discussion, it was the general consensus of the Board that the bike/shared path concept would be the second alternative.

Jim Donovan left at 7:40 pm.

4. Enosburg Business Association, Outdoor Activities Permit and General Discussion: Shawna Lovelette, President

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The Trustees briefly reviewed a letter prepared by Shawna Lovelette, representing the Enosburg Business Association. The EBA is applying for their outside activities permit from the Village of Enosburg Falls for their 2016 activities:

- Easter Egg Hunt on Lincoln Park, Saturday, March 26th
- Harvest Fest on Lincoln Park, Saturday, September 17th
- Popcorn sales in Lincoln Park, Tuesday evenings to coincide with the Town Band Concerts June – August
- Christmas in Enosburg Falls, Saturday, December 3rd (tree lighting)

The EBA submitted a check in the amount of \$50.00 for this permit.

Leonard Charron made a motion to accept this application and approve the 2016 outside activities permit for the Enosburg Business Association. Seconded by Ellen St. Marie. Unanimous.

5. Vtrans Class II Highway Paving Grant Agreement, Duffy Hill Road

After a nine-month delay, Jon informed the Board that the Village has received our Class II Highway Paving Grant Agreement for the Duffy Hill Road Paving Project. Jon has reviewed the agreement and it looks acceptable.

Leonard Charron made a motion to authorize Jonathan Elwell to sign the Grant Agreement on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Ellen St. Marie. Unanimous.

6. Vtrans 2016 Class II Paving Grant Application Discussion

Gary Denton is in the process of preparing the Village's 2016 Class II Paving Grant Application. There are three possible options for projects that Gary can submit for paving projects:

- Depot Street
- St. Albans Street
- Orchard St. from Route 105 to the gully at Giddings Brook

Gary briefly described the condition of each road. Based upon the information from Gary, the condition of each road, and the amount of traffic on each road, the consensus of the Board was that Orchard St. should receive top priority.

Garry Atherton mentioned that since the Village just received a Class II grant in 2015, the chances are highly unlikely that we would receive another one in 2016. It may take several years before the Village is eligible for another grant. However, these grants should be prepared and submitted each year for planning purposes.

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Garry Atherton and Gary Denton left the meeting at 7:55 pm.

7. Enosburg Falls Lion Club, VT Dairy Festival Permit Request

Walter Scott and Leonard Charron are members of the Enosburg Falls Lion Club and have recused themselves from this agenda item. Since a remaining quorum is not present, this agenda item has been tabled until three Board members are in attendance that do not have this conflict of interest.

8. Hydro Renovation Project Draft Plans

Late in the afternoon, Jon received by UPS a set of draft plans for the Hydro Renovation Project from the H.L. Turner Group. The Trustees reviewed the plans.

9. Bank Line of Credit Renewal

The Village's \$750,000 Line of Credit with Peoples Trust is up for renewal. After discussions between Peoples Trust and Staff, due to the timing issue between the renewal date and our Village Annual Meeting elections, the renewal date has been extended to the end of March.

10. Manager's Report

- Route 105 Traffic Study Request –Jon informed the Board that he has contacted Jim Cota, Vtrans District 8 Project Manager regarding the Trustees desire to have another traffic study done at the Route 105, Water Tower Road, Jay View Road intersection for the purpose of having the State put in a traffic light. Jim Cota has forwarded this request on to his supervisors in Montpelier. Jon will keep the Trustees informed when he hears back regarding this issue.
- Reminder of Informational Meeting March 3rd/Annual Meeting March 8th –Just a reminder of these two meetings. Both are being held at the EFHS Auditorium, and will begin at 6:30 pm. Jon has also contacted the school about the request from the Trustees to have these two meetings advertised on the electronic sign in front of EFHS. They agreed to do this on behalf of the Village.
- Garry Atherton Retirement- Garry Atherton's last day as Director of Public Works with the Village of Enosburg Falls will be Friday, February 26th. We will have a small, informal celebration of Garry's 17 years as Enosburg Falls' first Director of Public Works at 3:00 pm at the American Legion Post #43.

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11. Other Business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

12. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board of Trustees at this time, Guy Breault made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Marcy

These minutes were approved as written at the March 22, 2016 Trustee meeting.