

Town Land Use Committee

April 3, 2023

Minutes

Present: Tim Fiske, George Willard, Scott Hecker, Lilliane LeBel, Kathy Boot, Gail Cromwell
Guest: Connie Kieley

Absent: Paul Quinn, Allan Pickman, Christine Robidoux

Chairman Tim Fiske called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm

The Minutes of March 13, 2023 were approved.

Town meeting passed the proposed warrant article by 78-49. Everyone complimented Tim on the job he did explaining all the issues: the deficiencies of the present highway garage site, the need for expansion by not only the highway department but in the future most likely by the town offices, the fire department, and the library as well, and the environmental issues of the present site. The proposed new site would give the town much needed space for these other needs.

It was generally felt that people want information as early as possible. The flyers and the forum started a lot of conversation which we were able to pick up on and provide answers. Pickman's map of the existing site was very useful for town meeting to understand the space limitations of the present site.

Lilliane felt that several people at the Highway forum wanted comparison estimates for the existing site as well as for the new proposed site. She asked if it was possible to have the same estimated cost analysis done for the existing site in order to provide town's people with the info they feel they need to adequately compare the two sites to make a decision.

What is next? Tim is in contact with Sandford Engineering to begin work on a Wetlands Permit, required for crossing the stream. Sandford could recommend whether a culvert of a specific size would work, or whether DES might propose a bridge. Our plan would be to work on four areas:

Building the road to the site.

Work with a logging company to clear the site of a minimal number of trees.

Consider site modifications such as leveling and blasting if necessary.

Obtain the Wetlands Permit from DES.

It was considered not too early to begin serious investigation of grants. Gail volunteered to start work on this with anyone else who wanted to help.

Other issues: The easement for the Schoolhouse Meadow was discussed briefly. The Conservation Commission is determining the scheduling and payment for the required survey. It is possible that the Conservancy pays. More on this later.

The Committee needs to be reappointed, with terms staggered. Everyone needs to send an email to the board (Carole) that they wish to be reappointed. A possible list of staggered terms was developed:

3 year terms: Tim Fiske, Allan Pickman, Gail Cromwell (to terms expiring in 2026)

2 year terms: George Willard, Scott Hecker, Kathy Boot (to terms expiring in 2025)

1 year terms: Lilliane LeBel, Paul Quinn. (to terms expiring in 2024)

To even out to 9 members, Nate Sartell might be interested. Gail will contact. Christine sent word that she wished to resign due to her other commitments. Do we know of others who might be interested?

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Cromwell

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