

Windham VT Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2021 Special Meeting

Via Zoom:

Maureen Bell, Selectboard Chair  
Kord Scott, Selectboard  
Richard Paré, Road Foreman  
Kathy Scott, Treasurer  
Gail Wyman, Assistant Treasurer

**Call to Order:**

Maureen announced the meeting and called it to order at 6:04 PM

**Additions to Agenda/Announcements/Reminders**

The Town Meeting House Committee has requested permission to pump the septic system.

**Review roadside excavation quote for ditching and culvert work**

We have received three (3) quotes – from Hill Construction Group, McLean Excavating and P&L Trucking (see attached). Maureen is under the impression that these are instead of hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> crew member for the summer, since we're having trouble finding someone. Richard corrected her that it is not. The 3<sup>rd</sup> person is really to drive the truck enabling Richard to concentrate on other work. (Kurt will be cutting the roadsides for about the next 2 weeks.)

A lot of the work we are looking for assistance with is funded by grants – Road Erosion Inventory, Christmas Day 2020 Storm damage and Better Roads grant. The Town will have to contribute in-kind to these projects as well, in order to meet grant requirements.

Working with P&L on ditching last year worked out well. The current projects are scattered around Town – on White Road, 3-4 days of ditching and hauling material to prep it for stone-lining. P&L could be available later this month, but we're not sure at this point if 1 contractor has availability to do all the work. Culverts need to be replaced on Popple Dungeon. McLean had already been working in the vicinity. Richard thought his work on a nearby project was good and is looking forward to working with him. The project for Hill might be to re-work the blacktop that got washed out last year and just got a "quick fix". It couldn't get compacted at the time, so it needs to be dug out and compacted. Also, VTrans wants the ditch dug out deeper and lined with bigger rock.

Instead of getting quotes on individual, entire jobs, Richard wants to work with them on a time and materials basis. This way, he can do part of the job himself, getting things prepped for the contractors.

Motion: To approve each of the contractors' proposals (P&L, McLean Excavating and Hill Construction) so that Richard can move forward with these various projects – moved by Maureen. Approved by Kord and Maureen.

**Agenda addition to discuss pumping the septic system at The Meeting House**

There's been a problem with one of the kitchen sinks backing up. Imme and Steve Maurath ran a snake in all the drains but didn't find any problems. When the Committee had a meeting yesterday, they were talking about it. Discussions included Pete Newton as well. Everyone thought it would be in the best interest of the building to get the septic system pumped out. No one could remember the last time it had been done. Imme got a quote from Dorr for \$425 to

pump and \$250/hour, with a one hour minimum. The thinking is that since we're going to be using the building again, regularly, it would be good to get this work done. Kord inquired if the quote included a "jetter". He's knows Dorr is reputable, but is concerned that sometimes a company doesn't backflush to the building or power wash the tank, etc. The info Maureen had did not specify this.

Richard expressed concern about the septic system, as he recently worked in the area, but stayed away from the septic system. Wonders if the toilets are backed up. As far as Maureen knows, they are not. She thinks the only problem is with the 1 kitchen sink. In light of this, Kord thinks it's more of a plumbing issue, than septic. Gail says this has been an ongoing issue, dating back a long time. After events held there, Tom Carmichael would always have to unplug the sink(s).

Kord will touch base with Imme and Pete about this. in addition, he and Richard will pop the top off the access tank and have a look inside. We'll hold off on making a decision about pumping the system until Kord and Richard do this.

**Adjournment:**

Motion: To adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 6:30 PM – moved by Kord. Approved by Kord and Maureen.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Bell  
Acting Selectboard Clerk