

Town Of Groton, Vermont

Community & Economic Development Committee Minutes, May 2nd, 2016 (Draft)

The duly warned meeting of the Groton Community & Economic Development Committee May 2nd, 2016 was held at the Groton Community Building, 1476 Scott Highway.

Attendance for the meeting included: Mary Grant, Henry Knott, Brent Smith, H. Paul Berlejung, Carrie Peters, Kitty Diggins, Shaun Stetson and Dan Robinson.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Updates/Adjustments to the Agenda:

None

Approval of April 4th Minutes: Minutes were approved with the addition of a brief discussion of ATV trails in Groton. Shaun moved the minutes be approved, Kitty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Shaun agreed to continue research into ATV trails in town and checking with surrounding town about their policies and where their trails would intersect in Groton. Carrie mentioned that 90% of the survey responses for the Planning commission indicated that residents did not support ATV trails in town. Shaun responded that was possibly because no trail has been identified or policies in place. If there were a trail identified, there may be more support. It could be an economic boost to the town.

Review Kitchen Sprinkler Design: Mary briefed the sprinkler and ADA access design which included removing the small storage closet near the ramp access and modifications to the ramp. She also discussed making the downstairs bathroom ADA accessible. Kitty asked about the downstairs bathroom modifications. Mary said that the design firm is getting all of the required permits and exceptions for that part of the project. Paul made the motion to approve moving forward with the Black River Design firm, Shaun 2nd the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Review Highway Capital Plan: Brent distributed Highways 2015-2025 Paving plan and equipment summary. Brent briefed his equipment priorities and how he used hours and not miles to determine equipment useful life. He also discussed the possibility of replacing the backhoe in front of the grader because of recent repairs to the grader extending its life. Brent also mentioned replacing the backhoe with an excavator because ditching standards have changed and an excavator would be a more practical piece of equipment for that work. Brent also briefed his roads and paving plan and how he uses the Road Condition Decline Curve to help determine priorities for work. Mary Asked about the Highway Departments buildings. Brent said that he didn't have a plan for those. Mary asked him what he saw as priorities. Brent said the overhead doors would be first, with the furnace which was quite old and not efficient. Then the garage roof and salt shed next. Kitty suggested that an efficiency audit would be in order as one has not been done in a number of years. That would provide a starting point for additional items that would need to be addressed. Brent wanted to add how he uses pulled culverts, if they are re-usable, to upgrade culverts on other roads. These replacements may not meet the standard, but they improve the existing structure until money and components are available to bring the culvert up to standard.

GMP Land Transfer: Brent briefed the committee on the piece of land belonging to GMP. GMP has approached the town about transferring the piece to the Town. Because of its proximity to the river and the RR bed, Brent feels that it would be a good resource for the Town. Shaun moved that Brent continue to research this possible transfer, Kitty seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Event Coordinator Position Letters of Interest: The secretary reported that none had been received. Mary asked the Secretary to re-post the position with more information attached hoping to draw more interest.

Open Table Discussion: Mary announced that the Sidewalk RFP's had gone out and that the Library Building negotiations have been turned over to the Town's attorney and the negotiations continue.

Next CEDC meeting is set for June 6th with work on the Fire Department's Capital Plan the priority of work.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted
Dan Robinson, Committee Secretary