Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

December 23, 2019

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell – Chair, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, and Greg Marcucci; District Representative – Kelly Pajala; Little Kidder Brook project bidders – Drew Ameden, Wesley Ameden, Barry Sleath of Daniels Const., Win Clark and Hunter Kaltsas; Engineer – Ron Bell and Clerk – Kent Young.

Al Dupell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Orders were reviewed and signed.

Modifications: No modifications were made.

Little Kidder Brook Project: Four bids were submitted as requested. Ameden Constr. LLC bid \$395,000.00, Daniels Const. bid \$448,175.00, AS Clark & Sons bid \$508,200.00 and Hunter Excavating bid \$465,371.00. The Selectmen agreed to have the Engineer, Ron Bell, review the bids and then a decision will be made to award the bid at the next meeting - January 13, 2020. At this time, the project bidders named above and Engineer, Ron Bell, left the meeting. The Clerk stated that Attorney, Robert Fisher is currently working to acquire the easements needed from the abutting property owners.

Representative Meeting: Kelly Pajala, Stratton's District Representative to the State Legislature was present to hear concerns from the Selectmen before the next Legislative Session begins. The Selectmen reiterated concerns about the potential revisions to Act 250, as previously presented to Ms. Pajala and other officials by a letter from Stratton's Select Board and Planning Commission. The Clerk agreed to work with her to present a similar letter to the Legislative Committee addressing these revisions. Next the Selectmen expressed their disappointment in the lack of high speed internet in this area. Ms. Pajala encouraged Stratton to relay an interest to WRC to work to either join or create a Communications District – VLCT is currently working on a generic article, regarding this issue, for the Town Warning, for voters to consider at the 2020 Town Meeting. The Clerk agreed to contact WRC and VLCT about this issue. Next, the Clerk stated that he hopes Ms. Pajala will work for improvements to the method by which the Homestead Tax Rate is calculated for Tuitioning Towns like Stratton. She so agreed, although there is almost no interest in the legislature to address this issue. Following the discussion, Kelly Pajala left the meeting.

Road Crew Issues: Pick Up Replacement: Chris Liller presented quotes for the F550 – Keene Chrysler Dodge offered a 2020 Ram 5500 Reg. Cab Chassis 4X4 for \$56,724.00. John C. Stewart and Sons Ford offered a Ford F550 2020 F-Series SD for \$48,330.00. Chris Liller stated that he was not able to acquire additional quotes. Following a discussion, Chris Liller moved to accept the quote for the Ford F550. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred. Paving: The Selectmen reviewed and signed the request paperwork for the Class 2 Paving Grant reimbursement for this summer's paving on Pikes Fall Rd. Pike Hollow Rd.: Following the last meeting per Selectmen's instructions, the Clerk had sent a letter to Dave Jepson, owner of the property at the sharp curve on the north end of Pike Hollow Rd., requesting his permission to cut trees there for better line of sight. Mr. Jepson replied with his permission. Chris Liller will schedule work on this project to be performed during the course of the winter. Transfer Station: Scott Marquis relayed that he will be able to return to work on January 31, 2019. Stratton Mountain Access Rd. – the Chair requested that the Road Crew cold patch a damaged section at the intersection of East Birch Rd. before it gets worse. The Road Foreman agreed.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of November 25, 2019. Kevin Robinson seconded. All concurred and the minutes were approved.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci motioned to adjourn at 9:10pm. Larry Bills seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by: David Kent Young