

Town of Stratton
Selectmen's Meeting
March 14, 2011

Members present: Selectmen – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson; Road Foreman – Ralph Staib; Clerk – Kent Young, resident - Michael Koolis, Peter LaMontagne of the VTA and Mark McManus, architect.

Al Dupell called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Selectmen's Orders were reviewed and signed.

Broadband Internet and Cell service: Peter LaMontagne was present to discuss the possible acquisition of a lease of Town property for placement of a telecommunications tower. He represents the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) in an effort to provide broadband and cell service to this area. He checked for sites at the Town Garage and the Recreation Area and believes that the VTA will be interested in proceeding with acquiring a tower site at the Rec. Area. He explained that it will require a long term lease of approx 100 x 100 ft for installation of a 125ft extendable tower which will be used immediately by VTel for broadband and cell service and be open for use by other companies as well. It should provide service within 3.5 miles of the tower, which will close much of the accessibility-gap in this area. It could also be used for local and emergency service communications and may generate some income for the town, from additional providers who may be interesting in using this site. With exception of the town giving a lease of that small area of municipal property, there will be little if no expense to the town – the tower will be owned and managed by the VTA. Mr. LaMontagne said that he would like a verbal approval from the Selectmen, so that he can begin drawing up the paperwork and preparing for the permitting process. The Selectmen agreed. The Town had made a previous attempt to provide this service through a private entity, which failed. Mr. LaMontagne said that it may be possible to have permits in place and the tower in by the fall. He also will contact the Stratton Mountain Fire Co. to determine if another site at the firehouse will be feasible. At this time, Mr. LaMontagne left the meeting.

Town Garage Project: Mark McManus presented the bids collected on Thursday, March 10. Base bids were as follows: Belden Co. - \$841,500.00; Quinn Co. - \$640,000.00; Wright Const. - \$679,883.00; All Seasons Const. - \$781,328.00; Josslyn Bros - \$778,678.00; Naylor and Breen Bldrs - \$683,800.00; Russell Const. - \$695,000.00; Westfield Const. - \$738,283.00; and Osgood Const. - \$789,000.00. The Selectmen went into a deliberative session to discuss the bids. Following deliberations, Greg Marcucci moved to accept the bid submitted by Quinn Co. for \$640,000.00 with the addition of Alternate Bid #1 at \$1,900.00 for an increased snow-load factor. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred and the bid was awarded to Quinn Co.. Mark McManus will expedite obtaining the contract. The Clerk agreed to forward a copy to the Town Attorney and will schedule to sign the contract at the March 28 Selectmen's meeting. Mark McManus left the meeting at this time.

Town Highway Business: Grants: Ralph Staib presented Grant Applications for 1) Paving 2) wing wall repair / replacement on Bridge 7 on the Strat.-Arl. Rd., near Willis Cemetery Rd.. Al Dupell signed the applications. **Loader:** The Selectmen discussed the option of purchasing a new loader. The Selectmen agreed to postpone the purchase at this time.

Fleet Permits: The Selectmen reviewed Excess Weight Permits for Town Highways (FLEET permits) for the following companies: Newport Sand and Gravel Co. / Carroll Concrete, Inc., David Chavez Excavating, Inc, and Barrett Trucking Co.. Larry Bills moved to approve. Greg Marcucci seconded. All concurred. Chair, Al Dupell signed the permit approvals.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the minutes of February 28, 2011 and the Organizational Meeting of March 1, 2011, with the correction of including Larry Bills in the March 1, 2011 attendance list. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci motioned to adjourn. Kevin Robinson seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young