

Town of Dallas Plantation
Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 4, 2020

Assessors Present: Linda Jones, Patricia Ellis, Mark Bridges

Staff Present: David Schinas

Public Present: TA Morgan

Call to order: Linda Jones called the meeting to order at 6:02

Public to Speak: None

Acceptance of Minutes: Minutes from the October 9, 2020 and October 20, 2020

Motion to accept Oct 9th as written: Mark Bridges **Second** Patricia Ellis **Decision** 3-0

Motion to accept Oct 20^t as written: Linda Jones **Second** Mark Bridges **Decision** 2-0

Tax Collector Report: None

Treasurer: Bills were reviewed and the warrant signed.

Ongoing Business:

Town House: David Schinas reported that 212 people voted and thanked all the Ballot Clerks and counters who made that day successful. Linda commended David for a very well run and organized election.

Summer Roads: Mark Bridges had spoken with Steve Morrill about removing the rock in Gull Pond Road. Linda had contacted Peter Coughlan, Maine Local Roads Commissioner regarding the Dallas Hill/Saddleback Access road intersection and received recommendations to improve safety. Per the recommendations, it was concluded that a stop sign on either side of the road as well as a stop ahead sign would be put in place. The recommendation of larger and more reflective signs was agreed upon to increase visibility. Lower Dallas Hill Road was discussed, it was agreed to replace the Pavement Ends sign with a yellow warning directional sign. David Schinas will order the signs and contact Peter to put the posts up in the good weather window

with the help of David Duchesne. The signs will be put up when received. Mark will ask David Duchesne to trim back the branches that overhang the roads and fill the pot holes with gravel.

Road Projects: Linda spoke with Darryl Sterling and reported that the DOT has verbally agreed to a matching grant of one million dollars. Linda will work with Darryl on an Economic Development Grant application next month and NBRC grant in the coming year. The DOT grant is not totally dependent on grant awards and could be matched by an agreement of Arctaris, and the Plantations. Darryl indicated that Arctaris may be willing to fund some of the upfront engineering costs to help move the grant application process along.

New Business:

Building Permit BP-165333- New Dwelling- Covese Lane- LUPC approved. Assessors had no comment

Building Permit BP-16534- New Dwelling- Spruce Circle- LUPC approved. Assessors had no comment.

T.A. Morgan: Has agreed to lease out his Loader for the winter season to the Plantation. It was noted that the Assessors had met with David Duchesne previously in Executive Session to review the upcoming season, including the use of the front loader that is to remain on premises.

Contract for Assessing: To be reviewed at the next Assessors meeting November 17, 2020.

Webmaster: The Assessors discussed the current website that could be used as a better tool for communication. The current Go Daddy site is limited and difficult to update. It was agreed that we need to upgrade our Website. Linda Jones will look into hiring a web site designer.

Property Tax Letter: Linda had spoken with Pam regarding notification of removal of structures after the April 1 valuation date in light of current property tax bill. The current tax bill states that it is requested changes be reported but it could be placed more prominently on the first line of the "information" box. Similarly, the annual Dear Taxpayer letter could highlight the requirements more boldly. The website also has the necessary information and forms for structural changes that could be highlighted. Linda asked that the Assessors review both documents and make suggestions that could be addressed now as a template for next year.

LUPC: Linda has emailed Todd Rich requesting an update of the LUPC advisory opinion on the tower application with no response yet. In light of recent applications and featured projects in

our area it was suggested that for LUPC updates could be put on the Plantations website. Several inquiries has been made that confused activity in Rangeley Plantation with both the town of Rangeley and Dallas Plantation.

Consolidated Communication: Linda had sent the broadband proposal to be discussed at a December 7th Zoom meeting to Scott Hatfield for review. He provided a good detailed analysis that has been forwarded to the Plantation. Two others options had come to light including Starlink that should be available in the coming months to rural communities above the 44th parallel', both Linda and Mark signed up as interested in the service but have yet to be contacted. The other option is self funded broadband operation to the north of Burlington VT in the Stowe area similar to our area. Further information on the local committee and the Consolidated proposal is required.

Flag Pole Installer: Peter Chistensen, David Duchesne, Reggie Hammond finished installing the flag pole.

Meeting: Next Assessor meeting is Tuesday November 17, 2020

Motion: Linda Jones to adjourn

Second: Mark Bridges

Decision: 3-0

Action: Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM

Minutes: Taken by David Schinas