

Sandgate VT Select Board Meeting - August 9, 2021

**THE VOTER LIST PURGE THAT WAS TO BE HELD PRIOR TO THE MEETING WAS
POSTPONED TO THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, AT 6:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Karen Dzialo, Mike Hill, Joe Nolan, Tom Santelli, Karen Tendrup
Also attending: Donald Piersen, Melissa Mattison, William Mattison, Sheila Kearns, Nancy Tschorn, Julie Robertson, Myron Lutzke, Anca Nicolau

CITIZEN CONCERNS: (other than related to the flooding): none

ROAD REPORT:

Mike Hill reported that the emergency response to the flooding was to give access to residents by clearing debris and dumping gravel. This was done as quickly as possible throughout the town. Once the initial work was completed, they are revisiting sites to determine what else would need to be done. Mike is working with FEMA, BCRC, and others to find out what grant money would be available to fix and prevent any future issues. All roads were made passable, more work to be done. The crew will be working at the Notch on Tuesday and then the bottom of Southeast Corners.

Mike asked residents to call the garage at 375-8358 to report if any culverts are blocked. You may also call Tom Santelli at 375-9297.

ROAD PAVING GRANT:

Mike reported that he has received \$175,000 Paving Grant. The Town must match 20%. He reported two estimates, one from Peacham at \$165,000 and one from Fuller Sand and Gravel at \$199,000. This grant will allow paving from the Town line to where the Sandgate Road turns to dirt.

IMPACT OF FLOOD DAMAGE IN SANDGATE:

Regarding damage to private property such as Sophie's Way (a private road), Property owners were advised to dial **211** which will connect them with the EWP Emergency Watershed Protection Program (implements emergency measures to relieve imminent hazards to life and property created by natural disasters).

Jim Henderson from BCRC visited the site on Saturday. He then sent out information regarding the Natural Resource Conservation Service program that provides residences with disaster relief for river erosion issues. Jim Henderson visited other sites and told any residents that if they need help they should contact the Town Clerk, who is compiling a list of folks in town that would like the Town to sponsor them in their applications.

Another possible source of help for property owners on Sophie's Way may be through the organization Trout Unlimited. Josh Carvajal, VT River Management Engineer, stated that Trout Unlimited was interested in all tributaries of the Battenkill and grants were available. However, grants for private roads would be difficult to obtain.

Rep. Kathleen James was contacted regarding the situation the residents of Sophie's Way were facing.

Residents on Chunks Brook Road, Melissa and William Mattison, reported to the Board that 3 cars were stacked up against a bridge near their home. The cars were from the property owned by Grogan, a resident who has been cited with many violations of cars and debris, and trash on his property. He has been served summons and the Town took legal action against him, and have a lien against his property. It was suggested that the Mattisons contact the State Police Officer Todd Williams. The cars must be removed from the stream immediately. Josh Carvajal, VT River Management Engineer visited the site. There was also much debris such as plastic bags and trash from Grogans property that is polluting the stream.

Pantaleon Road residents Myren Lutzke and Anka Nicolau, reported on flood damage. Tom Santelli explained that class four Pantaleon Road, was passable. Mike will check the portion from LaPanta's driveway to gate.

Citizen Tom Kenny dropped off pictures at Town Hall of damage near his home by the Notch.

A nice compliment was given to the Road Department by Nancy Tschorn, who told the Board that the bridge that was recently installed held up nicely and that her road was as good as could be expected after such a storm.

DRY HYDRANT GRANT: Mike received an update for the dry hydrant with a few changes.

BENNINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE: Karen Dzialo attended the BCSWA public hearing.

CONTRACTS SIGNED: Household Hazardous Waste Agreement voted on/signed by the Select Board. The ISWAP contract between Casella and the Town of Sandgate voted on/signed by the Select Board. Copies will be mailed to Michael Batchner at BCRC.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH REPORT: Karen Dzialo reported that she has contacted surrounding towns to see if another Zoning Administrator would like to take on the Town of Sandgate. There was no interest. Sunderland is also searching for a Zoning Administrator.

SANDGATE PLANNING COMMISSION: Sheila Kearns, Chair, presented a Funding Request for Town Plan and Bylaw Update.

The Planning Commission requests funding totaling \$1,482 as partial funding for an update of the Town Plan and the Zoning Bylaws. The Town Plan was last updated in 2015 and the Zoning Bylaws were last amended and adopted in 2013. The specifics of the updates to be undertaken are available in draft minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held on July 21, 2021.

TOWN PLAN UPDATE: Total cost of 6,156.00 funded by BCRC, Energy Implementation Funds from the State of VT requirement to develop an Act 174-compliant energy section with maps, and a \$1,000 contribution from the Town of Sandgate.

BYLAW REVISIONS: Total cost of \$4,817.08 funded by Municipal Planning Grant Program FY 2022, EMPG Funds, Bylaw Modernization Funds and a \$482.00 match from the Town of Sandgate.

A motion to agree to pay \$1,482.00 as requested was made by Joe Nolan, seconded by Karen Tendrup. All in favor.

REVIEW JULY 19, 2021 MINUTES – A motion to accept the minutes as reviewed was made by Mike Hill and seconded by Tom Santelli. All in favor.

ORDERS WERE SIGNED

VOTER LIST PURGE is scheduled for September 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall

A motion to Adjourn was made by Karen Tendrup, seconded by Joe Nolan, All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 23, 2021 AT THE TOWN HALL AT 6:00

Respectfully submitted by Karen Dzialo