



Village of Manchester, Vermont

PO Box 482
Manchester, Vermont 05254-0482
(802) 362-1515
villageofmanchester.com

Regular Meeting

Village of Manchester Board of Trustees

Monday, June 7, 2021 at 4:30 pm

Village of Manchester Offices, Manchester Village

In Attendance: President Orland Campbell, Trustees: Jim Lewis, Bill Mariano, Brian Maggiotto and Nina Mooney; Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector Donald Brodie and BOT Assistant, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Missy Johnson

Public: Anne Corso, SVAC

President Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

Trustee Lewis moved to approve the minutes from the May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Mooney seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Ms. Johnson provided a brief staff update.

It was noted that those interested in pursuing the potential for a sidewalk on Ways Lane were not present at the meeting. It was agreed that this agenda item would be taken up later in the meeting in the hope that the parties would arrive.

Letters from a Village resident regarding trees were discussed. All trustees confirmed they had read the recent correspondences. It was agreed that trees to the south of this property did not impinge drivers' site to the point that the trees warranted pruning. The ROW in this area has been identified in the past and can be confirmed by the Road Foreman at any time. The width is listed at 66' from the center line on the ROW record. Planting of trees outside the ROW is permissible in the Village.

Trustee Mooney moved to approve the Articles for the Annual Report and Warning of the Annual 2021 Meeting. Trustee Mariano seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Discussion continued to the possible sale of Dillingham Extension. The location of this street was identified for those who were not aware of its location. It was mentioned that the Village has not maintained the road for close to 30 years. The owners of the home on the street accessed by this road would like to take control the road in order to pave it. If the road is paved and owned by the Village it would change the status of the road with the state. Trustee Mooney noted possible runoff concerns that will need to be addressed, and salt and sand runoff into the stream will be an issue. Trustee Mariano stated that other than the possible environmental ramifications, he did not have a problem with this request. Consultation with the Vermont Agency of Natural

Resources was mentioned. Trustee Lewis would like to see the Development Review Board approve this transfer. Trustee Mariano moved that Dillingham Road will end at the corner of Dillingham and Franklin if the Development Review Board approves; environmental concerns are addressed; and, the Road Foreman has approved this change. Trustee Mooney seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

The Trustees again brought up the discussion on the possibility of a Ways Lane sidewalk. It was noted that no residents supporting this plan were in attendance. It was stated that a rough estimate had been given for such a project and it would be approximately one million dollars. Discussion on logistics for the project ensued. All agreed that the possibility of such a project was interesting, but it would involve a better determination of the cost and whether the project would be justified. President Campbell brought up the fact that part of the sidewalk would be on Town of Manchester land. Ms. Corso was asked some questions regarding the Art Center's role in this proposal and how the driveway to the SVAC was being used by walkers when the center is closed. Alternatives to a sidewalk to make the road more pedestrian friendly were discussed.

The Trustees then took up the final review of the 2021/22 Budget. Discussion turned toward the possibility of hiring a Village police officer or contracting with the Sheriff's Office to have a Sheriff on duty midweek in the mornings and afternoons when there is a higher volume of traffic around BBA. All agreed that they would like to know more about the cost before making a decision. The possibility of having BBA assist in the cost was discussed. Trustee Mooney moved to approve the budget as proposed with the addition of an additional \$50,000 for traffic safety matters. Trustee Maggiotto seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

President Campbell mentioned that he had not had time to work on the Village Energy Plan and therefore did not have an update.

President Campbell briefed the trustees on a conversation he had with the Chief of the Manchester Police Department. The procedure for obtaining a percentage of traffic ticket revenue was confirmed. It appears the Town police have not been writing many tickets in the Village for the last year or so.

There was continued discussion regarding the Village Firehouse and the proposal of the purchase of a shed.

Trustee Lewis mentioned he would like to see the School Zone/25 mph speed limit expanded to areas on, near and just outside of the BBA campus.

Trustee Lewis also stated that he would like to see continued discussion on adding an ordinance regarding parking on Village Roads. In the last several years there has been an increase in professional home care services and delivery trucks parking on private land, in the ROW and/or blocking main streets including Route 7A. He mentioned that this is a dangerous practice with no cones or other safety measures being taken. It was suggested that the Trustees should meet with Town police to discuss possible solutions. President Campbell mentioned that the police cannot currently enforce Village ordinances.

Trustee Lewis mentioned a property on Ways Lane that has been used for dumping of fill for several years. It does not appear that development is moving forward in this area and he would like to see something done.

There was an update on personnel matters and the hiring of a new administrative officer. It was generally agreed that more enforcement of the ordinances and bylaws is necessary. The possibility of obtaining a ticket book was discussed. It was agreed that if Village rules are broken there should be ramifications.

Mr. Brodie spoke briefly of his challenges with the Schwab accounts. He also described a new program – ARPA which provides funds for municipalities through the state for COVID recovery and discussed the requirements and parameters for the program.

Trustee Lewis expressed frustration that water was not available to care for grass and plants in the traffic islands.

Trustee Maggiotto commended the Equinox for the completion of the tear down of the Opera House.

As there was no further business, Trustee Maggiotto moved to adjourn. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The meeting ended at 5:45 pm.

Based on prior precedent the next Regular Meeting of the Village of Manchester Board of Trustee will be held on July 12, 2021 immediately prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Johnson, Assistant to the BOT**