

Town of Montville
Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2020
5:30 p.m. – Montville Town Hall – Room 102

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors Bunnell, Caron, and Pollard)
Present were Councilors Leonard Bunnell (5:31 p.m.), Billy Caron, and Kathy Pollard.
Also present was Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, Jr.
4. Alterations to the Agenda
The following item was added to the Agenda:
8(a) Discussion of Tree Removal and Cost
5. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2020
Motion made by Councilor Bunnell, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: None.
Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.
6. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda – *none*
7. Old Business
 - a. Public Works Facility update
Public Works Director Bourdeau reported that the fuel tanks project has been completed. The environmental work on the stormwater drainage will be completed by December 2020. Both projects are funded by a STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) Grant.
 - b. Raymond Hill Church
Chairman Caron reported that he has spoken with both the Town Councilors and the Town Historian regarding the Church. The Town Historian has agreed to attend a future Town Council meeting to discuss the history of the Church and its future.

Public Works Director Bourdeau reported that he is in the process of obtaining estimates to reconnect the power to the building so as to provide ventilation to the building in an effort to control the mold. The Church has a furnace that has been disconnected. There is no plumbing. It is unknown if there is an oil tank on the premises.
 - c. Animal Removal Policy – *in process*

d. Discussion of roads to be re-paved

Public Works Director Bourdeau distributed the list of roads slated to be repaved utilizing the bond funds. Fitch Hill and Jerome Roads have been completed. They are hoping to complete Liberty and Black Ash Roads this year, followed by Raymond Hill, Sharp Hill, and Gay Hill Roads.

e. Discussion of clean-up of garbage on roads

Public Works Director Bourdeau reported that the Mayor has spoken with the Prison Warden, who stated that, due to the early release program, the number of available prisoners to do such work has decreased. Three (3) additional summer part-time employees and one (1) additional Public Works employee to his proposed budget for FY2020/2.

The Department is also working on creating the signage and promoting the Town's Adopt-A-Road Program.

8. New Business

a. Discussion of Tree Removal and Cost

Public Works Director Bourdeau reported that he contacted and requested estimates for the removal of trees from local tree services. The estimates he received range from \$11,800.00 to \$25,000.00, over the \$10,000.00 threshold for a bid requirement. He would like to request that the Town Council waive the sealed bid requirement and hire Dunn's Tree Service who provided the lowest estimate and has been hired for the same work in the past. While the Public Works Department does cut down a number of trees, these particular trees are out of their scope due to their size, vicinity to the power lines, and the like.

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Bunnell, to request that the Town Council waive the sealed bid requirement, per the Town Charter, for the tree removal. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

Chairman Caron requested that the Committee be kept apprised as to the vendor, if any; location; status, and; budget of the tree cutting.

9. Remarks from the Public

Former Town Councilor Wills Pike expressed his concern with the town's previous investment of funds and non-use of the Old Town Hall and requested that the item be added to the Public Works Agenda for discussion. He also commended the Public Works Director regarding the cutting of trees, but inquired as to the possible removal of the stumps. Because they are currently working on the roads, he suggested the Town be proactive in removing the stumps, avoiding any possible future issues. Public Works Director Bourdeau stated that, due to their proximity to the road, they cannot be removed

from the earth. In addition, the stumps are left for safety reasons; should the stumps be cut low to the ground, the potential for vehicles to be damaged increases. He will investigate the possibility of hiring a tree service to remove the stumps and/or add the purchase of a stump grinder to his proposed budget request for FY2020/21.

10. Remarks from the Councilors

Though it is located on a

State road, Councilor Bunnell requested the possibility of the Public Works Department cleaning up the leaves located in front of the old Dot's Café on Route 32. Chairman Caron stated that he would attempt to contact the realtor of the building.

Public Works Director Bourdeau stated that the Mayor has requested that the Department work with the Norwich Public Works Department on repairing/replacing the New London Turnpike Bridge and investigate the possibility of receiving LOCiP (Local Capital Improvement Program) Funds for the project.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Bunnell, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville