

TOWN OF CASTLETON
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
Fire Station Community Room
273 Route 30N
Monday April 3, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/YBY5O1DMEcAx7VltBuHtnohVL3kiQrTsY8RBj46alzpUDfTZKmZtCOvONQQtJmls.lCvQ3Yg3tpYMBAT2>

PRESENT: James Leamy, Chair, Richard Combs, Mary Lee Harris, Michael Jones, Town Manager, Charlie Brown, Eric Splatt, Matt Brown, Bob Woodard, Brent Clark, Dave Fabricious

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: John D. Burke, Bo Elliott Ramos, Martha Clifford, Mary Droege, Melanie Combs, John Gillen, Jim Thomas

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair, Jim Leamy at 7:14 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

J .Leamy lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

R. Spaulding made a motion to approve the agenda. ML Harris seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

Citizen's Comments and Concerns (ARPA Related)

M. Brown requested the Town consider using some funds for the expansion of the sewer line down Depot Terrace. They are one of the largest employers in the Town, and are currently operating on a septic system, which if it fails would be a huge problem. He recently took over the Brown's Auto Salvage company and plans to continue to operate for another 30 years. They are very close to the end of the line on Depot Terrace and would be willing to contribute funds to the project.

E. Splatt stated Woodard Marine has 38-40 employees, and the current sewer line only goes to Duda's Rentals, and it would be very beneficial for it to go up to Woodard Marine. The line going up Creek Road could also benefit the Conservation Camp, as they have a large number of children up there in the summer. The Marina would also be willing to share the costs, depending on what the final numbers are.

B. Woodard stated the number of porta potties they have makes it difficult to maintain as well as they are less desirable for customers to use.

C. Brown stated he feels it is very important to use ARPA funds for both of these local businesses. He believes that in 1998 Woodard Marine gave money to the Town for the sewer line up Creek Road, they found the cost was exorbitant and the Town gave the money back. C. Brown stated he isn't in favor of the

ARPA funds, but if the Town is going to get it, it should be used to the benefit of these businesses, or the buying the Hubbardton share of the Castleton Village School and decide to do something with the school or give it back to the public voters.

J. Burke of Crystal Heights stated any sewer extension on Crystal Heights and Cliff Dwellers has been neglected. There was a grant for innovative technology and because of the downhill runs and gravity line did not qualify. For 40 years Crystal Heights has tried to get plans for this sewer line. Town sold as building lots and are now not developable because of no sewer availability. There is a time element, 40 years of waiting for the expansion up Route 30 that far. R. Spaulding stated Preston Lane also needs to be addressed. J. Burke agreed, entire line needs to be addressed, it is a mess down there.

D. Fabricious has made a few calls regarding the asset management program that was proposed to the Board last week. They all had good things to say and encouraged participation and he feels they need to budget for the school if they are keeping it and this program will allow for the maintenance and upkeep to be up to date. There is a \$31,000 startup costs, \$10,000 a year after that that would be in his budget. M. Jones will be spread out over six departments (WWTF, Highway, Transfer Station buildings, Town Office, the beach, CVS) that will use it, not just DPW. R. Combs expressed concern with the system not being used after it has been implemented. C. Brown stated the Sewer Department is separate from the rest of the town funds, and one-third of all DPW director expenses should be paid by the users, not all taxpayers.

M. Droege asked about CVS and it being on the original ARPA list, and if it is still being considered and asked for an update. M. Jones stated the CVS roof is on the list for \$175,000. J. Mark stated they have an item for operating expenses of \$40,000 for CVS on the list as well. J. Mark stated the 'wish list' totals 2.5 million dollars and what has been granted to the Town is 1 million dollars to allocate.

M. Jones stated one thing on the list that he and B. Clark have talked about is the George Mattison property next to the Transfer Station. It has been offered to the Town of Castleton and they have checked on amount of gravel available after they did some measurements. There's a berm between they can use, and they figure there is probably 20,000 yards of material. Mattison's are asking \$125,000 for the property, at current costs, that amount of material will be \$300,000. M. Jones felt they could subdivide the property and sell off the remainder not used for gravel. Discussion held on gravel and how much could be crushed from the Mattison property and how much it would save the Town for gravel in the future. C. Brown suggested someone check into the current Town pit being grandfathered, the lot next door may not be a part of that. R. Combs questioned the infrastructure of the residence on the Mattison property.

J. Mark stated he feel they are still missing some important numbers and questioned how soon they will have firm estimates of individual projects. M. Jones they are doing a field survey Wednesday for the sewer, then within a week from Aldrich and Elliott. J. Mark has asked about the cost sharing for sewer expansion, and it sounds like it is something that is necessary to do, since initially financed the sewers in Town. He is concerned with funds from ARPA and the users being obtained or allotted and if the projects are not already in the works, the time frame they are dealing with from ARPA they will not be ready to expend the funds by the deadline for the ARPA. J. Leamy stated in the past the sewer lines were partially paid for by the users, not the entire own.

R. Spaulding asked about the salt and sand shed and why talking so much for it. M. Jones stated the Federal funds require certain things be included. They have \$253,000 set aside for the project, and what they have to do would not be covered. Part of the project is the storm water mitigation as well, and that is an additional piece that needs to be included in the project because of the grant requirements.

ML Harris asked how far the sewer would have to go to get to Woodard Marine on Creek Road. D. Fabricious stated it goes up as far as Joe Kent's/Duda's Rentals. R. Combs asked if they are getting a fairly good estimate from Aldrich and Elliott for Preston Lane and Depot Terrace. M. Jones confirmed yes. R. Combs asked when would get an estimate on Creek Road. R. Combs asked for an estimate on the field survey for the Creek Road sewer line, when they would be getting one. M. Jones will get that from Aldrich and Elliott and J. Mark asked if anyone would be in contact with Fish and Wildlife for any potential interest on connecting the Conservation Camp to the sewer line.

ADJOURN

J. Mark made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm. R. Spaulding seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Allison Harvey
Recording Secretary