

TOWN OF ANDOVER
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2024

Select Board Members Present: Chris Plumb, Richard Griswold, Robin Trask, Susan Leader & Melissa Gates-Perry

Select Board Members Absent: None

Public present: Scott Kendall, Peter Van Gorder of *Okemo Valley TV*, & Jeanette Haight, clerk.

1. Call Select Board meeting to order: Chris Plumb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Act on Agenda: Richard moved to accept the agenda as amended to include discussion of a new dump truck and to reopen the discussion about the reclassification of Israel Road. Melissa seconded. So moved.

3. Act on Minutes: Robin moved to accept the minutes as written. Melissa seconded. So moved.

4. Public Comment: Scott Kendall asked about the possibility of using town-owned land to extract gravel and other road material since costs continue to rise and the distance to travel to get needed materials is increasing. Robin wondered what that would entail. Susan asked about Act 250. Scott said if it is being done on less than ten acres, no Act 250 permit is needed. Richard also pointed out there are “less hoops to jump through” if the material isn’t being sold to other companies. It was determined a soil test would be needed. Scott offered to get blasting & drilling prices should the Board decide to proceed.

5. New Business: None

6. Highways / Garage:

A. New Truck – Charlie has done extensive research with various truck companies. ATG Westminster provided an estimate for a 2025 10-wheel dump truck for \$156,934.00 plus “upfitting” by Viking for \$105,900.00. They also offered \$75,000.00 as a trade-in for the current 2016 10-wheeler. Richard noted this is a very good offer for that truck. After discussion about warranty questions, & confirming the trade-in would serve as the first year’s payment, Melissa moved to invite Charlie to the next meeting to provide more information so a decision can be made. Robin seconded. So moved.

B. Road Commissioner's report – no other updates.

7. Old Business:

A. School meetings – Richard said he attended the recent “restructuring” meeting – the GMUSD board has been looking at ways to address the small enrollment at Cavendish Town Elementary School as well as overcrowding at Chester Andover Elementary School. He said there are three options the Board is looking at and it seems by the non-binding vote that was taken, the majority would favor all K-3 students from both schools going to Cavendish and all 4-6 students would attend Chester Andover. Richard said he believes not many parents know this is even being considered, much less that it is a real possibility. Scott reiterated busing would only be offered if there are enough drivers, there is **no guarantee** of busing. Scott also shared he is now a member of the TRSU Board, which has not had an Andover representative for over a year. He noted the TRSU meeting on the 28th will be all about the budget and verified each member had received his email with new budget information.

B. FEMA/financial update – Jeanette reported the financial situation has not changed much, but the GMUSD will receive their full April 1st payment on time. There was discussion about needing to look into borrowing money. Richard to reach out to contacts in other towns to see where they are borrowing money.

C. Road reclassification – Susan said she recalled the Board was going to revisit the classification of Israel Road in the spring. Melissa said it made sense to wait until after mud season. Robin said she thought they had already voted to declassify it to Class 4 but were giving the landowner the winter to make plowing arrangements. Jeanette read the minutes from the November 27th meeting clarifying it was decided to “table the discussion until spring”, with no vote on reclassification. The Board asked for this topic to be put on the April 22nd agenda and to invite Charlie and the property owner to be present.

8. Financial Orders: Were signed.

9. Correspondence – a letter from Jill Pond on the topic of short-term rentals was read.

10. Adjourn: Richard moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Melissa seconded. So moved.

<p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <hr/> <p>Jeanette Haight, Clerk of the Board</p> <p>SBM 032524.min</p>		<p>Approved by:</p> <p>Chris Plumb, Chair</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Andover Select Board</p>
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