

# SHERWOOD GREENS ROAD IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

## PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**October 5, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM.

Present were Prudential Committee members John Kammerman, Margaret Rodriguez, Betsy Epstein, Ken Einhorn and Terry Hayden. Also present were: Kathy Borden, Treasurer; Mary White, Clerk; Jaime Garanzuay, District Superintendent, Richard Pryor, Ernie Lampron, Stan Stambler, Stan Locke, Gary & Jody Morgeneegg, Elizabeth Saunier, Carl Neilson and Mark Kennelly.

The minutes for September were reviewed and accepted

The Treasurer's report for September was accepted with amendment.

The Warrant was reviewed and signed.

### **DISTRICT SUPERINTENDANT REPORT:**

The payment to Beaver solutions of \$910.00 is due now, with \$910.00 due at the end of 2013. If the contract is renewed for next year, payments will be \$910.00 due on 3/1/14, and 7/1/14.

Mike Callahan from Beaver Solutions cleaned out screens at culverts. This would have cost \$1380.00 were it not covered by a grant from ASPCA.

Trees damaged by the beavers were taken down on the beach and also on Lawrence's property. Betsy read an article about possible damage that can be caused by beavers. Margaret commented that the beaver problem will no doubt escalate. Mike Callahan has said that as you eradicate or relocate beaver, new ones will move in and take their place. Ernie was asked about leaf removal along roadsides. He said that he does this numerous times throughout the year.

Margaret has compared the cost of projects last year to this year, and wanted to know if Ernie can give us an estimate of cost of projects so that we can start them as needed. Ernie said he can, but something always comes up to interfere with the priority list. He also said that the sooner some of these projects can be done the less expensive it will be in the long run.

Margaret suggested the possibility of separating out normal reoccurring jobs from special projects.

John said maybe General Maintenance can be separated into two line items for next year, but that can be discussed at a later date.

Richard Pryor suggested that maybe the contractor should be given a set amount, and the Prudential Committee give him a list of what they want done.

The road Report was accepted

### **LAKES REPORT:**

Ken reported that the lakes treatment appears to have been effective, and all four lakes have been sprayed for phragmites. There will be no more herbicide treatments for next two years. The Cons. Comm. has approved hand pulling of weeds. It is most effective if weeds are pulled from the roots. It would also be helpful if seed pods could be removed before they spread.

Elaine Stern and Caroline Whitbeck attended a meeting on lakes, and reported that there is a man who has had good results with his method. Ken said that Aquatic control already does something like this, so perhaps the cost wouldn't be warranted for a new man.

Richard said that the sooner the divers get in the water in the spring the better the results.

John asked Ken if he could write something up re pulling so that we can send it out to residents. Richard thought it might not be a good idea to change a plan in place with the Cons.Comm. It might be good in the future though.

The lakes report was accepted.

#### **HOUSE ON LONG BOW LANE WEST:**

Terry asked if there was any response to Ken's letter. Not yet.

#### **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:**

Terry reported that the Town Administrator and our attorneys have been working on the land purchase.

A question on mosquito control came up. There was a petition presented to the town that we go back on the mosquito control program. This was not addressed. It was suggested that since this would cost the town in excess of \$20,000.00, it is probably not high on the list of their priorities. It was reported that apparently the Becket Board of Health has requested that the town go back on the program because there have been six cases of West Nile Fever reported in Berkshire County.

Stan Locke wanted to know if dead bushes would be removed. Jaime said it will be done.

It has been ascertained that the stone wall at the entry way has no footings. It was discussed that it could possibly be pulled back to plumb with brackets. There was no solution at this time.

It was discussed whether or not we have the resources to have culverts inspected and leaves blown at this time. It was moved and seconded to do these jobs not to exceed \$750.00. The motion passed unanimously.

There was some discussion about the large number of homes now for sale in Sherwood Greens, and the impact this could have on our tax revenue if the owners of these properties chose to not pay their taxes until these homes were sold.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

The next meeting will be held on November 2, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. White  
District Clerk