

SHERWOOD GREENS ROAD IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT

Phone- 413- 770- 1660

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:19 AM.

Present were Prudential Committee members: John Kammerman, Terry Hayden, Michael Lavery, Ken Einhorn, Robert Gerstle Margaret Rodriguez and David Edgecomb. Also present were: Kathy Borden, Treasurer; Mary White, District Clerk; Jaime Garanzuay, Ernie Lampron, Terry and Jody Morganegg Ken Hunter, Chris Horton, Tom Rock, Gabrielle Murphy, Mark Chevette, Cindy Turner, Joe Gaze, Dean Lagrotteria, Ira Korner, Jeanne Pryor and Richard Pryor.

Mosquito Control:

Terry invited Chris Horton, who works for mosquito control, to attend this meeting to address questions raised at the last meeting. Chris noted that this is our first full year of mosquito control. Spray was applied a couple of times in June and July. More spraying was unnecessary because of the small number of mosquitoes. Numbers are determined by taking samples of water in several areas, and counting larvae. Several questions were asked, the answers to some of which were as follows:

West Nile Virus is spread when a mosquito that has bitten an infected bird, then draws blood from a person.

Someone called DEP about misapplication of adult spray, and were told that yes, Duet, the spray used is highly toxic in large amounts, however the amount approved by the EPA. is minute. Mosquito Control uses only EPA labeled products.

The product is in the environment for only a short time. Exposure to the sun, and emersion in water causes it to break down.

Contract for initial spraying is for one year. After this we can drop out at any time.

Trail Circle has not been sprayed because of no spray signs. The remaining areas are too small for spraying to be effective. It is mandated that no spraying can be done within a 300' area of posted property. Anyone within this area cannot be treated even if the owner wants it.

There are natural methods of mosquito control which have been investigated. However, bats and fish are unable to consume large enough numbers to be effective for control.

Studies have been done to assess the water quality in sprayed areas. Yes, it is possible, but highly unlikely, that calibration of the instruments used could be off by the end of the season.

Beaver dams can contribute to growth of larvae, therefore Mosquito Control personnel have permission to clean these areas.

The Prudential Committee was asked if, as a road district, they have the authority to approve mosquito spraying. Terry answered that this was researched by our attorney, and we do have authority to do this. Jeanne Pryor said that she hadn't seen the letter of approval from the attorney. Terry said it will be posted on the web site along with the minutes.

The Treasurers report was accepted.

The Warrant was signed.

Jaime Guranzuay was not reappointed as District Supervisor, due to his absence from the past two meetings. There is now another applicant for that position .Thomas Rock a longtime resident of Middlefield, and now a resident of Becket. Mr. Rock was Chair of the Middlefield Selectmen for 15 years. He has worked in construction, in Great Barrington and Stockbridge among other towns. He installed drainage for the Oak and Spruce Resort, so he is conversant with drainage problems. He said he thinks our roads are in good shape, maybe some small problems. Mr. Rock will be sent a package containing an application form and duties of the District Supervisor. Discussion of appointment of a supervisor will take place at the next meeting.

Richard Pryor gave the board the '08 job description for Superintendent. He also said that the sides of the roads need attention. There was some discussion as to how many hours the position requires, John Kammerman said the position is salaried, therefore, what needs to be done must be done. Tom said he understands what the job requires.

Road Report:

Since we have no Superintendent at this time, Ernie Lampron, the contractor for our roads reported on what he has done in the past couple of months.

He did grade rake and roll on Long Bow East, added material on Deer Trail, did some trimming, weed whacking and mowing. He also added patch to cracks in asphalt on Long Bow East. Someone said that only half of that stretch of road had been done. Ernie said he will check on that, as his men told him it was done, and he has not as yet looked at it.

Mr. Mednick wrote to him thanking him for the work done on the road near his house.

Ernie was asked if the chipper could be removed from where it is stored, as it is an eyesore. Ernie said he will take his equipment home with him from now on.

Lakes report:

Mr. Morganegg asked why one diver is paid more than other two. Ken answered that only one diver is certified, and the others work under him. We have \$300.00 left for pulling this year. By the year end we will have about 360 hours of pulling done.

Solitude will treat for phragmites in September, and then do a post season inspection. Always Growing will come in and do cutting this winter.

Thanks to Ken Hunter for the removal of piles of weeds left in lake banks by divers.

It is mandated by the Commonwealth of Mass. That the beach area be tested for coliform levels. If the levels reach 235 parts /million the beach will be shut down. This year the levels have been well within accepted levels.

Beaver Solutions were here in May, and will be in again in September to inspect and clean out beaver deceivers if necessary.

Since the culverts installed near Margaret Rodriguez home are impacted by our lakes, the District will be responsible for the cost.

There has been a buildup of materials in the opening between Long Bow Lake and the Eastern canal area, and water no longer flows through the opening. Jaime said that is a Cons. Comm. Issue.

The Lakes Report was accepted.

Plowing Contract:

The new contract for snow plowing is more detailed than in the past. Ernie questioned the required list of equipment for plowing. Robert said this is just to guarantee that the necessary equipment is available to fulfill the contract.

The new bulletin board has been installed in the mail shed. Mary and John have the keys for it. There is still need for some landscaping around building. Should be fairely tall and low maintenance. Several species were suggested, but there was no decision.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

The next meeting will be held on September 9, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary S. White

District Clerk

