

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
SELECTBOARD MEETING
AUGUST 4, 2010**

Selectboard Present: Brenda Ferland (Chair), Steven Neill, Doug Ring

Tree Committee: Aare Ilves (Chair); Pat Royce, Judy Murray

Staff Present: David Edkins – Administrative Assistant
Keith Weed – Highway Superintendent
David Duquette – Water & Wastewater Superintendent
Regina Borden – Recording Secretary

TREE COMMITTEE PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING:

Mr. Ilves, Tree Committee Chair, called the Public Information meeting that is sponsored by the Charlestown Tree Committee to order at 6:40 PM at the Community Bulletin Board. He noted that the other Tree Committee members were unable to attend this meeting but they participated in the planning. They are: Eric Lutz, Jim Fowler, and Judy Kasprzak. This meeting is to present two proposals for the Main Street Landscaping Plans to improve the area in front of Dan's Max Saver Store between the sidewalk and the road.

Judy Murray explained the plan for Proposal No. 1. This plan provides walkways to Dan's Store. They would use pavers, flagstone or a similar material. There would be wrought iron posts about 3-feet high that would be cemented into the ground with chains connecting them; about 1-1/2 feet from the curb.. Low shrubs would be planted and there would be a tree on each end. The ground would be covered with low, hardy ground-cover plants.

Aare Ilves presented the plan for Proposal No. 2. There would be large areas of paving blocks that will be flush to the ground. By the crosswalk they would build large planter boxes on each side for small shrubs and flowers. There would be a tree on each end of the bulletin board. The areas would be easy to maintain for mowing and plowing.

Mrs. Ferland felt that both plans have good and bad points. The tree bothers her because of visibility issues. Site distance is an issue.

Mrs. Lambert felt more trees for shade would be nice. When you remove vegetation you increase the drainage. But Mr. Ilves noted that this is Dan Pelkey's property rather than Town property. Mr. Pelkey said they do not have enough space for many trees. He needs to have visibility for his tenants and the store; therefore prefers patio pavers. Some containers, that could be removed for the winter months would be workable. He likes No. 2 except for the trees.

Relative to costs: Mr. Ilves felt that Proposal No. 1 would cost approximately \$1,500 for the materials; Proposal No. 2 would be more costly at about \$3,400 for materials because of the paving blocks. Since funding needs to be raised they do not expect to do the project this year. A copy of the newspaper article that appeared in the Vermont Journal with pictures of a park in Ludlow, VT was passed around.

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There was discussion about the grade between the sidewalk and the curb. Mr. Ilves noted that they have no intent to change the slope. Pavers would be set in sand. Mr. Weed advised that there are ADA standards for the walkways. The handicapped parking spaces need to be taken into consideration. Mr. Edkins said the chain fencing would be attractive but it could be a nuisance and susceptible to vandalism and damage. Mr. Neill noted that this area of Main Street has too much run-off now so he is against pavers.

Mr. Ilves concluded the meeting by stating that the Tree Committee will take these comments under consideration during their next meeting on August 9th at 1:30 PM in the Library and come up with a proposal to present to the Selectboard next month. Additional comments can be submitted to any of the committee members.

Approximately 22 people attended.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Borden, Recording Secretary