

Town of Whitingham

Highway Garage Committee

Minutes of July 24, 2020

The Whitingham Highway Garage Committee held a meeting Friday July 24, 2020 at 9:00am at the property located at 1177 Town Hill Road, Whingham, VT.

Highway Committee members present: Marshall Dix, Richard Tefft, Donnie Boyd, Scott Reed, Allen Twitchell, Richard Lemiare.

Others Present: Mary Lemaire took minutes for Gig Zboray.

Call to Order, Additions or Changes to Agenda : NONE

Marshall Dix called the meeting to order at 9:00am . Committee met with one of the three landowners who related details of the property. Behind the house is a drilled well that produces 100 gallons/min. The sewer system is located on a different piece of property. The property lines are a stone wall and property is 12 acres + -. There are 2 springs 12 ft deep and the 2 that are in the bottom field use to feed into two other properties which may still have the water rights which would need to be investigated. Behind the house on the knob there is ledge and where the fields and house are there is none. There is one existing building that committee agreed could be fixed for cold storage needs. Existing house is falling in on itself. The main part of the house is post and beam with no nails. Scott Reed said he knows of a company that looks at old houses for salvagable material. The company takes down the building at no charge and removes the salvage. Scott thought that the house may have some material that could work for them. To the owners knowledge the property has not been surveyed but he wasn't sure. The financial details would be worked out in the event that the committee decides that the property should be looked at by the engineer. Other details discussed: access by the owner to the sugar lot , where the old barn that burned may be a potential site for sand and salt piles, and an agreement to keep fields currently used by area farmers in the negotiations. Owner did ask Rodney Bemis about 3 phase power availability to the upper field behind the house. This would be a possible spot for Solar to go green as much as they can which the committee would look into. The property is not in land use or part of an act 250. Richard Tefft will be contacting one of the other owners for their input.

The committee then moved to another property located at 73 Sprague Brook Road, Whitingham ,VT. Scott said the owner was willing to subdivide property . The property has one brook on one side and another brook on the other side of property. Access to property may have to be moved so as not to go by the existing neighbors house that abutts property. The town/selectboard is looking to throw up the access road but no action taken yet. Scott did say that during Irene that the main road for some time was blocked at both ends which could leave the site in the middle not accessible. The existing house does go with property and other out buildings. The land behind the house is very steep. The committee was not sure there was enough space to be adequate for the needs now or in the future.

The committee reconvened at the Municipal Center and thought the morning was very

productive. Richard Lemaire while at the previous property brought up the idea for putting an advertisement in the paper so other local people would have the opportunity to make an offer if they had property they would like the Committee to consider. The conversation was continued and Richard Tefft thought that if they did it should have a time phrame. Scott and Marshal thought that Gig would be able to look into the legalities and be able to write up an advertisement that would be legal. The amount of acreage would be a minimum of 5 acres and Richard Tefft felt it should be within two weeks. Marshall said that Gig would probably have information that would be helpful with a reasonable time phrame and would be back next week to help us. Marshall entertained a Motion to adjourn by Richard Tefft, second by Scott Reed, adjourned at 10:29am. Next meeting to be determined.