

# Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

## Meeting Minutes

Saturday January 9th, 2016

Committee Members Present: Elise Fitzsimmons; Chair, Howard Lerner; Vice Chairman, Vee Cowell, Stan Taylor, Sandy Cortez- Greig, Joe Gagnon, Denielle Morin; Clerk-Treasurer

Committee members absent: Patty Clemons

Public present- Stu Eldred, Steve Rosenthal, Erin Twining, Ben Lamontagne, Charles Andrews

The meeting is opened at: 9:00 am, General Laws Chapter 30A Section 20.

Ms. Morin makes an announcement that she has received a notice of commitment from the Town of Becket in the amount of \$228,086.89 for tax revenue for 2016. There is a discrepancy between the amount of the commitment notice and the amount of the total budget approved at the annual meeting. Ms. Morin informs the board she will speak with the board of assessors and report back at next month's meeting.

Road Superintendent Report- Mr. Andrews tells the board a culvert was put in on King Richard Drive and a culvert was put in on Lancelot Lane. During the installation process, ledge was encountered so gravel was delivered to build up the road and cover the culvert installed. Mr. Andrews also informs the board that he had a guardrail ordered to replace the broken guardrail for Sherwood Drive at the corner of Will Scarlett. Additionally, Mr. Andrews states that they added gravel towards the fire hydrant on Alan-A-Dale and widened the road so the fire truck can turn around in that area.

Mrs. Fitzsimmons inquires if Mr. Andrews would find an unpaid intern beneficial. Mr. Andrews expresses concern about the board's ability to do so according to the bylaws and the liability that comes with an unpaid intern that is not covered by workers compensation. The issue is tabled until the next meeting pending further research.

Maid Marion Update- Mr. Andrews will put the job out to bid come the spring.

Meeting Minutes- Ms. Morin makes mention that she has heard requests to include the incident from last month's meeting in the minutes. It is determined that a statement should be made and added to the minutes. Mr. Cortez-Greig provides a statement he drafted. The decision as to the exact language is tabled for the next meeting pending further discussion and review of the statement provided. Mr. Taylor makes a motion to accept the minutes with the noted revisions with the consideration they will be amended at a later date. Mr. Lerner seconds the motion. The vote is unanimous.

Clerk/Treasurers Report- Ms. Morin draws everyone's attention to the spreadsheet showing year to date spending and states that for December the Road District brought in \$1,384.23 in tax revenue. Ms. Morin states that she spoke with Jim Podolak from the MA DOR who informed her that free cash was not certified for fiscal year 2013/2014 so she needs to determine what should have been submitted for fiscal year 2013/2014 before submitting fiscal year 2014/2015. Ms. Morin tells the board Mr. Podolak sent her the fiscal year 2012/2013 submission to work from so she will be working on certifying the free cash but it will take a while to get it all together. Additionally, Ms. Morin tells the board that she received two returned letters as undeliverable from the

Wells Rd mailing which will be given to Mrs. Cowell for follow up. Also, Ms. Morin has received a driveway cutting request from Mr. Andrews for a home on King Richard Drive. Mr. Andrews has reviewed and approved the request. A check was received the permit application and the owner has the boards permission to proceed. Ms. Morin will send a letter to the home owner informing them of the board's approval of their request.

Warrant- Mr. Lerner makes a motion. Mrs. Cowell seconds the motion. The warrant is unanimously approved.

Expansion of Voting Rights- Mr. Taylor makes a motion to approve the expansion of voting rights language with noted revisions. Mrs. Cowell seconds the motion. The vote is unanimous. Mr. Cortez-Greig informs the board that the next step is to take the pdf version of the language for the expansion of voting rights to the selectman of the town of Becket, the accessor, the clerk as well as the senator and representative in Boston. Mr. Cortez-Greig informs the board that it should come from the Town of Becket as a home rule petition, therefore, it will be requested that the matter to be put on the warrant for the town's annual meeting. Mr. Cortez-Greig informs the board that Elizabeth Goodman has volunteered to make a presentation to the select board.

Storage Unit- Mrs. Fitzsimmons states that the size of the storage unit currently utilized by the district is unnecessarily large for the amount of paperwork stored there. Mr. Lerner states the Lake District is not interested in sharing the storage unit with the Road District. Due to the storage unit being in a poor area, it is suggested that the board relocate the storage unit to another facility with a smaller unit to reduce the monthly costs. The current rate is \$55 dollars a month and the storage unit needs to be fire resistant. It is determined further research will be done in the coming month and the board will make a decision at the February meeting.

Wells Rd Letter- Ms. Morin states that to date she has received two undeliverable letters and ten petitions filled out. Mrs. Fitzsimmons suggests that a letter be drafted to inform people who return the petition of the board's decision regarding their request. Mr. Cortez-Greig volunteers to draft the letter. It is determined the letter will be reviewed at the next meeting and no decisions will be made regarding the responses received until the letter is approved. Mrs. Fitzsimmons also would like the letter to clearly state that opting out means that they also lose the right to vote.

Phone Update- Mr. Lerner needs an additional form from the state to proceed with the phone. Ms. Morin will get the form to Mr. Lerner as soon as possible. Mr. Lerner also inquires as to who the two additional contacts on the phone account should be. The board determines Mr. Andrews and Mrs. Fitzsimmons should be the contacts on file.

Public Input- Mr. Rosenthal requests that Mr. Andrews speak to White Wolf about sanding the sides of the roads. Mr. Rosenthal states that the center of the roads are being sanded twice but the outsides of the road are still slick. Additionally, Mr. Rosenthal inquires as to why his road district taxes have decreased 42%. Mr. Rosenthal is informed that there must be an error and he should contact the accessor's office. Ms. Morin will also contact the accessors office regarding the notice of commitment to see if that is contributing to possible incorrect taxation. Lastly, Mr. Rosenthal asks if there is a way to put something on the website to redirect people to the town website for minutes until we hire a new webmaster. Mrs. Fitzsimmons mentions she will try to speak to Mr. McEnerney about putting up such a statement. Mr. Gagnon requests that Mr. Andrews speak to White Wolf about the plow trucks driving at a reasonable speed through the forest while plowing. Mr. Andrews said he will speak to them.

Adjournment- Mr. Cortez-Greig makes a motion for adjournment. Mr. Lerner seconds the motion. The vote is unanimous.

Scheduled next meeting is for February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 9:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denielle Morin

Clerk-Treasurer