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November 22, 2011

Town of Huntington
Selectboard Budget Meeting
November 14, 2011
Meeting Room, Basement Floor Municipal Building

MINUTES

Selectboard Members Present: Jim Christiansen, Chair; Dori Barton, Vice-Chair; Dan Rissacher, Ed Booth, Roman Livak
Staff Present: Hank Lambert, Interim Town Administrator
Others Present: Heidi Racht, Town Clerk; Dan Stoddard, Town Treasurer.; Yogi Alger, Road Foreman.

Call to Order: Jim Christiansen called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Public Comment: Heidi Racht announced the informational meeting of the Water Wastewater Assessment: Tuesday, November 15 at 7 p.m. at the Library.

Warrants: The Selectboard signed one warrant.

Letter: The Selectboard signed a letter of thanks to Kathlyn DiPietro for her volunteer service taking Selectboard minutes during this difficult transition period.

Appointment: The Selectboard signed a letter appointing E. W. Hanson as Zoning Administrator to fill the remainder of a term expiring September 14, 2015. This action confirms the Board's action of September 19, 2011 of signing a contract with Ed.

Large Rock: The Board reviewed with Alger the following outline showing three options for acquiring large rock needed to complete a road bank slide as a result of the spring storms (partially covered by FHWA funds). The Town could complete the project, cheaper in the short run, by using alternative #1. But it would be cheaper in the long run to use Alternative #3 since the Town would have access to large rock for other projects.

Motion by Livak, seconded by Barton that Alger talk with contractor G. W. Tatro to proceed with the project using alternative #3 for a cost not to exceed \$51,000. Approved unanimously.

Sources of Large Rock: Summary of Costs

About 1,000 cy of large rock is needed to complete the repair of a road slide on Main Road (Hanksville). This estimated \$140,000 project from Tropical Storm Irene will be reimbursed 90% by federal and state funds (Town share = \$14,000).

Alternative #1 (Shelburne Limestone Co., Inc.)

Blasting: \$12.60 / cy X 1,000 cy = \$12,600
Trucking: 71 loads @ \$126 / trip = 8,950
\$21,550 For 1,000 cy

Alternative #2 (Shelburne Limestone Co., Inc.)

Blasting: \$12.60 / cy X 4,000 cy = \$50,400
Trucking: 284 loads @ \$126 / trip = 35,785
\$86,185 For 4,000 cy

Alternative #3 (Rowe Quarry)

Contractor: G.W. Tatro

Mobilization = \$ 3,000
Strip topsoil = 10,000 maximum*
Blasting 4,000 cy @ \$6.50 / cy = 26,000
Trucking is included in Tatro's bid price 000
\$39,000 For 1,000 cy
Town access to remaining 3,000cy @ \$3 = 9,000
\$48,000 For 4,000 cy maximum*

Considerations

1. Having a low-cost resource of large rock available for future projects is good insurance.
2. This blast at Rowe Quarry is the final one Rowe will do. Obtaining large rock for future projects will be very expensive. (See SLC above).
3. FHWA has been assigning \$14.20 / cy for large rock: (1,000 cy X \$14.20 = \$14,200). (We could apply for blasting costs to see if FHWA would reimburse.)
4. Alternative #1 is the least expensive in the short term (\$39,000 – \$21,550 = \$17,450) and would complete the project.
5. Alternative #3 is cheaper in the long term by having a source of large rock available when we need it for other projects. (\$86,185 - \$48,000 saves \$38,185)
6. Recommendation to the Selectboard: Alternative #3, blasting 4,000 cy

Stripping cost could be reduced by as much as \$3,000

Budget Review: The Selectboard completed preliminary discussion of the entire budget. They considered past and present expenditures of each line item and placed budget estimates in the 2012-2013 columns. Notes were placed next to many items for further discussion as the budgeting process occurs over the next number of weeks. The Selectboard is seeking detailed information on many items, and made no firm budget decisions.

AP / Payroll Clerk: The selection committee (Racht, Stoddard, Lambert, Livak and Barton) reported they are down to four candidates. It was agreed that the selection committee would compile a list of interview questions, interview the four, and recommend to the Selectboard its first and second choice.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:59 p.m., Livak moved and Barton seconded to adjourn. Approved unanimously.