

Bakersfield Regular Select Board Meeting  
May 25, 2020

Meeting called to order by Lance at 7:02pm.

Members present: Lance Lawyer (chair), Joss Goss, Sam Cribb, David Houston

Members absent: Gary Denton

Residents/Guests: Marc Doremus, Mac Newitt, John Leddy (NWSWD), Richard Backer (NESWD), Tami Brennan

Sam made a motion to accept the May 11, 2020, minutes without amendment, seconded by Josh and accepted with a vote of 3-0, Lance abstaining since he was unable to attend the May 11 meeting.

Warrants signed:

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|---|-----------|
| Road Commissioner's Order #20-2020                        | 7,409.58  |
| GMP, Clarence Brown, BCBS, Linc.Nat.Life, EJP,<br>Mileage |           |
| Road Commissioner's Order #1-2020                         | 3,532.15  |
| Tow service and repair on Dan's truck                     |           |
| Road Commissioner's Order #13-2020                        | 25,997.33 |
| Loan payment  |           |
| Selectman's Order #13-2020                                | 3,979.62  |

Richard Backer and John Leddy from the NWSWD attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of realigning the present Waste Management site as an alternative to moving the site down by the Town Garage. The realignment would include repositioning and building new decks for containers to streamline access for drop off, along with a NWSWD employee setting up cones and directing traffic flow through the site for a number of weeks. They would like to see the realignment be completed before the end of June. They presented a purposed site drawing to illustrate their plan as well as a cost comparison sheet of purposed expense to realign or to transfer to the new site. The new proposal to realign the present site rests on the assumption that the town/NWSWD, can request, based on the plea of minimizing disruption to the town, that the Contractor that is awarded the job by the State will set up and establish their working base, on an alternative site, leaving the present site unusable by the NWSWD only for the few weeks that it will take to do the actual construction for that specific area of the project. They were hoping that the Board of the Fire Dept. would allow the Construction base to be located by the current Fire Station. If this proves not to be the case, since the Contractor is allowed to choose their working base site themselves, and the Contract is still yet to be awarded by the State, this could cause a major problem, leaving no site to transfer to. One of the tricky parts is that the NWSWD can only set up a waste management system on a site that has been Certified by the State, which can take up to 6 months. The State Project is projected to begin in October with digging most likely to begin in one year. The proposed new site by the Town Garage would also need to be certified before use and that site would need more prep by the town in the manner of dirt and gravel work to establish

a solid base for site access and the waste management containers, etc. The proposed cost due from the NWSWD to realign the present site was \$9,350.00 and to transfer to the site by the town garage was \$15,900.00, which included a \$7,000.00 allotment for Design/Engineering. The costs for each of the sites due from the Town is still to be determined since it will be In-Kind. Still, the time it would take to prepare and establish the new site would likely require beginning the prep work before the Town receives the certification from the State. Although it's unlikely that the State would deny certification, there is still that risk. The other concern is that the Cemetery Commission has only given permission to use that space for the period of 5 years and a State certification is good for 10 years.

Concerns with keeping the Waste Management at the present site, included the complaints of the unsightliness and odor of the waste, on the Main Street in the middle of the Town, close to local businesses and residents. The NWSWD said that they thought their new design could improve the appearance and that they would check into the possibility of removing the trash from the site on Saturdays or as soon as they could. The Selectmen were insistent that in order for them to consider the site remaining where it is, the trash would have to be removed immediately every Saturday. The NWSWD also said they would revise their proposal for the realignment of present site again and appear at the June 22, 2020 Select board meeting for further discussion. Sam said that he would invite the representatives from the Board of the Fire Dept to attend the next scheduled Select board meeting on June 8, as well as Clem Paquette, the nearest neighbor to the present site, to show them the plan and discuss concerns and possibilities. In the event, that the realignment plan is chosen, John Gilmette believes that the work could be completed within 5 days. The feasibility of taking a survey to collect the information of who uses the present site, the average number of bags for each use, the frequency of use and the town of residency of those who are using the site, was discussed as well.

Josh reported that Mark Luno, on Kings Hill Rd, will have a biologist come to the site discussed at a previous Select Board meeting, to investigate the beaver problem and he has requested that a Select Board member and someone from the Road Dept. attend.

Complaints have been reportedly received about dusty roads. Mac is waiting to put a tank of chloride on the roads but cannot do so until it rains. Also, reports of complaints regarding too much grading by the town was removing too many pot holes from the roads, which helps keep the speed of traffic down, and other complaints came in that there are too many pot holes in the roads.

The Select Board discussed the procedure of filling a Select Board vacancy in the middle of a term. According to VLCT, in the event of a death, resignation, change of residence to a location outside the Town, or incapacity of any Selectboard member, the remaining members may appoint a person eligible to fill that position until the next annual or special Town meeting. If the

selectboard is unable to agree upon an interim replacement until the next annual Town meeting, a special election shall be held forthwith to fill the position.

Brenda Westcom sent a letter to the Selectboard requesting that the Town include the library in the town mowing sites. Sam refrained from the discussion since his wife is on the library board and felt it constituted a conflict of interest. Mac said that he already mows the back and the side lawn up to the ramp.

The front of the library is on such a slope that it cannot be mowed with the town's rider mower and the town doesn't own a push mower. Lance is to respond to Brenda regarding the request.

The topic of Green Up Day this coming Saturday was addressed. The first hundred tires are taken free by the NWSWD, the remainder of tires collected will cost the town 6.00/tire. Tire drop off is to be limited to Saturday and then the tires will be picked up Saturday night. Tires to be accepted must only up to a 19-inch rim size.

The next step in operating the Town Clerk's office was discussed. The difficulty of keeping the safety of social distancing in a small space was considered. Opening the Town Hall area to those with appointments for title searches, etc., to give more area for social distancing was discussed. Also, only allowing one person, wearing a mask, in the front lobby at a time, with the remainder waiting outside as they do at the post office was discussed as a next step. Lance is to discuss options with Kathy.

Sam made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Josh seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by a vote of 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

The next Regular Select Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 8, 2020, at 7:00pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Tami Brennan.