

Bakersfield Town Regular Select Board Meeting  
Monday, December 9, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 by Lance Lawyer.

Members in attendance: Lance Lawyer (chair), Sam Cribb, David Houston, Josh Goss, Gary Denton

Members absent: none

Public residents/guests present: Rodney Allen, Tyrone Shaw, Kathy Westcom, Tami Brennan

Motion made by Josh to accept Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Sam and approved by vote 5-0.

Warrants signed: Selectmen's order #31-2019	110,415.66
Road Commissioner's order #29&30-2019	21,358.81

Rodney Allen and Tyrone Shaw spoke to the Select board about the petition they had sent regarding the closed bridge on Lost Nation Road. They shared concern for the safety of the road.

Lance informed them that the town is still waiting for FEMA, who has yet to make a decision as to whether Bakersfield will qualify for any financial help to restore the bridge. They hope to hear of a decision by the end of 2019. If FEMA refuses any aid, the Town does not have the money to restore the bridge to State standards and it was the State who condemned the bridge, since the bridge is clearly unsafe. With no money from FEMA, the bridge will have to be taken out.

Lance said that they have placed barriers on both sides of the bridge and Ross spoke about concern about foot traffic as well. The northern footings of the bridge are severely undermined, and that the hole under the bridge is about 40 feet deep and all ledge making it very dangerous.

Rodney also asked about the railings that are still hanging from the ledge that were supposed to be taken out 20 years ago. He pointed out that they are a danger to swimmers and tourists that seek out the area. He also thinks that if we get any heavy rain in the spring, the bridge will go down.

Josh mentioned they considered asking the state for a temporary bridge but that would not solve the problem.

Rodney told the board that it was a problem for him to access his 25 acres woodlot.

Lance said that they have approached Tennyson Doane about the possibility of having the town purchase a piece of his land to bypass the bridge if needed.

While the board waits for FEMA to respond, they plan to put more jersey barriers in place on Allen's end, with more signage on Jordon Rd. and two or three more Jersey barriers on top of the bridge with reflectors or florescent paint, of the road being closed. They discussed seeking options to borrow barriers from the State or possibly another town.

Rodney also informed the board of places where the drainage for the road has been blocked by trees and the work of the beavers.

They also spoke of an alternative place for the school bus to turn around.

The town will replace an unpermitted access culvert, for Taylor Flannagan, with a used 15-inch culvert at the town's cost and install the culvert at the original place where the town removed the damaged culvert that was plugged and causing damage to the road.

The topic of researching the possibility of having Green Mountain Power install an Electric Car Charging station was discussed briefly.

Lance and Mac continue to work on the Hazard Mitigation Plan which is a prerequisite for FEMA grants. Sam will forward all the FEMA transcripts of the classes that he has taken so the town will have the record.

Jordan Stone's permit application to bury a power line beneath a road was signed with the condition that the burial depth of a power line beneath a road requires it to be buried 4 feet deep.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary at 8:55pm, and seconded by Sam, approved by vote 5-0.

The next Regular Select board meeting scheduled for Monday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00pm.