

SOUTH ALBURGH FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Present: Prudential Committee Members John Fitzgerald, Alton Brusco, Tony Speranza via phone
Admin. Assistant Danielle James Choiniere
Treasurer Richard Ernst

Guests: Tom Jacobsen via phone, Charles Kelly, Brian Bessette

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Chair John Fitzgerald.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

Charles Kelly letter sent to board (see attached).

MINUTES

John Fitzgerald motioned to approve December's minutes and January's informational meeting. Alton Brusco seconded, all in favor. So approved.

VISITOR INPUT

Brian Bessette and Charles Kelly attended to say how Phase II was supposed to be on Route 129. They are not satisfied in the decision of bringing municipal water to Route 2 and beyond instead of 129, and didn't want Route 129 to be forgotten. John Fitzgerald corrected that all three current phases have changed: current Phase I was originally III. Back in history, water was supposed to be supplied by North Hero, which Route 129 is nearer to. When the Alburgh/North Hero agreement fell through, a new one was struck with Alburgh Village, which already serviced a part of West Shore Road. These changes of circumstances, in addition to other factors like a wetlands crossing, large hill, reduced survey responses, ledge, etc. made 129 less favorable at a greater expense. The district had about a year's worth of meetings where this topic featured frequently. They asked if going down Middle Road was a done deal, and it was expressed it was. Route 129, the board reiterated, could be a Phase III if they have volunteers and funds.

Brian was looking for older minutes prior to 2015 on the website, but there were none. Charles asked when the route plans had changed and why the public wasn't notified. The board clarified they had monthly duly warned meetings with minutes posted with five days on what happens month by month. Information is posted in newspapers when required by law.

Brian was wondering why his suggestions made in 2019, 2020 and 2021 about funding were ignored in meeting minutes. The board said they were given the message about funding, but help is always needed as volunteers are in short supply.

TREASURER'S WARRANT & REPORT

Alton Brusco motioned to approve Treasurer's Report and bills. John Fitzgerald seconded, all in favor. So approved.

\$360.66 Admin Assistant's paycheck

\$25 to Endyne for water testing

\$150 to Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer for easement draft

\$3,359 to Alburgh Village for Q1 water

\$10,469.55 DuBois and King for design work et al

PHASE II UPDATES

Tony Speranza asked to put engineers' Zoom FAQ on the district website. Regarding what happens to interest on Phase II connection fees, the board wasn't going to split hairs with a decision since interest rates are so low and amount to a few dollars a year. That could change, however.

Engineers will be doing another Zoom meeting on 2/14. The board is still working on finalizing easement language with attorney input.

WATER OR OPERATIONS ISSUES/ CORRESPONDANCE/ MISC

John Fitzgerald signed the approval for a Phase One connection for WS321.

ADJOURN

Alton Brusio motioned to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Richard Ernst seconded, all in favor. So adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle James Choiniere

These minutes are draft only, not slated for approval until the next board meeting in January.