

SOUTH ALBURGH FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM

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

Guests: Judy Higgins, Tom Jacobsen via phone, Elliot Knight, Russell Duchaine, Kathy Rochedieu

Meeting was called to order at 6:29 PM by Chair John FitzGerald.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

None.

MINUTES

Tony Speranza had a question on motion clarity. Alton Brusco always wanted to be clear in those minutes he didn't oppose his required easement, only that he debated its necessity. Tony Speranza would have hoped that reluctance would have been conveyed a year ago when the easement work began. John FitzGerald motioned to approve minutes as amended. Tony Speranza seconded, all in favor. So approved.

VISITOR INPUT

None.

TREASURER'S WARRANT & REPORT

Richard Ernst updated the board on some of the bank account balances. John FitzGerald motioned to approve the bank statement report as provided. Tony Speranza seconded, all in favor. So approved.

Invoices were presented from the operating account: Admin. Assistant pay of \$360.66 (tacked on later), \$1,095 to VLCT, \$4,776.89 to Alburgh Village. And project account: \$1,361.14 to ACS Aviation, \$2,170 to Monaghan Safar Ducham, \$585 to Town of Alburgh for recording of easements. Alton Brusco motioned to pay the above bills. John FitzGerald seconded, all in favor, so voted.

Judy Higgins presented a proposed budget she had carefully drafted and it was geared toward Phase I revenues and expenditures. Kathy Rochedieu questioned outstanding special benefit assessment balances and if some of the empty line items like accounting services or education/training could be used to help collect that missing revenue. Talk occurred regarding using NEMRC or QuickBooks for accounting software, pros/cons to both. Rates for water and other bills did not anticipate being changed for 2023-24. John FitzGerald motioned to approve the proposed budget as presented, and annual report. Tony Speranza seconded, all in favor. So voted.

Tom Jacobsen asked if anyone looked into costs and other numbers for Phase II, and if it's three times what the current budget would be? John FitzGerald said "three times" was only a figure he used but the budget should scale and it's closer to double.

PHASE II UPDATES

Tony had a handout regarding a walk down Middle Road in 2021 with DuBois & King engineers and Road Commissioner Duchaine. He pointed out that a road, if not surveyed, defaults to a Class 3. He requested an official letter from the town that no public survey was located. He has also met with the Village trustee chair and superintendent Beaulac on technical procedures of connecting to the water system.

Regarding easements, there are about three remaining. Discussion occurred on alternatives, boring under the road, moving utility poles and other means of bypassing. Russell Duchaine asked if altering the proposed line by Summit

Road/Route 2 would effect future potential users on Summit Road and Tony considered that a good question. Kathy Rochedieu asked if boring under the road was fairly common, why not use that by default? The board said the cost is much more and if easements are the cheaper way to go for the project, they will try that first.

Tony Speranza also mentioned that breaking the project contract up into smaller sections may help attract more bidders, especially local ones, to increase the number of bidders and hopefully get more competitive bids.

WATER OR OPERATIONS ISSUES/ PHASE III/ CORRESPONDANCE/ MISC

WS387- Water allocation request for Phase One. John FitzGerald motioned to approve his request for one ERU. Alton Brusco seconded, all in favor. So approved.

ADJOURN

John FitzGerald motioned to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Alton Brusco 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 August.

MINUTES FROM 07/28/2021 ALBURGH SELECTBOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Vice-Chair, Russell Duchaine, Chuck Pease, Nick Palmer, Shawn Creller, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

- Dubois and King – R.O.W permission needed for SAFD#2 project
 - Russell Duchaine summarized the project for those that were not aware of it.
 - Charles Goodling explained that the second phase of the S.A.F.D#2 water line has been engineered to go over Middle Road, down Route 2 South and down Poor Farm Rd.
 - He went on to describe the route in detail and that the line new line will be installed within the Town right of way away from the shoulder, except for five areas.
 - He also explained that those five areas are archeologically sensitive and that they will have to cut into the shoulder in four of them and the road in one of them.
 - The four areas on Middle Road will require cutting into the shoulder but will not disturb the drive surface. The one area on Poor Farm Road will require that approximately 300 feet of the roadway be disturbed, but there will continue to be one lane of traffic while the work is being completed.
 - Charles explained that what they were asking for is the towns permission to enter the shoulder and/or roadway in those five areas.
 - *Nick Palmer made a motion to allow the South Alburgh Fire District #2 and the contractors chosen to do the work be allowed to access the road in the five areas that were discussed so that phase 2 of the project can move ahead – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried.*

Schedule (4/17):	Benchmark
April	Submit all applications: Construction permit, Wetlands, Archeology, Shoreline, VTran & Act250 (dependencies)
June	All approvals, complete (very tight) Looking like September for final approval
August	RFQ – request for bids go out
September	Bids in & evaluated, contractor selected
October	Contract signed
November	Construction started
2024	Construction completed & system qualified

07/17/23 Phase 2 Status:

SAFD2 Update:

Phase 2 was approved by Town of Alburgh Select Board – Thank you!
Business side help w/Judy Higgins “on-board”, assisting Treasurer (Dick) & advising improvements (Systems etc)
Tony reviewed operational procedures w/Jason (Super) & Cheryl Dunn: Net - Town supportive, agreement on goals & direction
Tony has been working aggressively w/ Attorney, D&K, Danielle, Cheryl & others to define options to HOLD SCHEDULE

Easements: Significant progress, now just 3 “holdouts” + 2 “temps” (PF007 subdivided, OK) & WS275.

NOTE: All 3 “hold-outs” may be impacted by SAFD2 Special Fees (Ordinances: \$5K or 75% of delta @ hook-up)

Details on next page...

Summary of 7/17 meetings w/Jon & Randy from D&K



Tony Speranza <asperanz@yahoo.com>

To: Jon Project Manager Ashley, Randall Otis, Tony Speranza



Mon, Jul 17 at 11:48 AM

Guys, thanks for your help. See my highlights below & let me know if we need to adjust.

8:30am w/Jon D&K:

1. unclear if "3 rod rule" works - deferred to Randy
2. easement data pulled from GIS (tax maps) & not perfect, no boundary surveys were used (more accurate)
3. discussed urgency & need to avoid any further slips in schedule, goal is to start construction this year
4. three hold-outs remain: Snedecker, Hansen & Brusco
5. Tony iterated need to move forward as planned by: moving pipe (Snedecker) or placing in road ROW (Brusco, maybe Hansen?) or using HDD (Hansen if req'ed)
6. Jon - break Phase 2 contract up into smaller pieces. Lowers bond requirements, smaller contractors may help lower bids & re-bids? Tony supported idea
7. Jon to move forward, per the plan, next week by modifying:
 - A. request to VTTran allow Hansen (RS474) to be built in road ROW, moving it into the shoulder
 - B. change design to show HDD in road ROW for Snedecker (SU148)
 - C. Update drawings to remove easements from Brusco w/ note for construction to remain within 14.5' of road edge (does this add costs?), Tony to measure road

9:00am w/Randy @ D&K:

1. lead surveyor & very familiar with "3 rod rule" & has worked w/VTTran on projects
2. "3 rod rule" will work for properties on Town road (no survey), should not need easements for Brusco, WS275, PF07-002 & 3 (Temps only)
3. some State Roads are actually "4 rods wide", need to see if survey exits for RT2. Tony to check w/Town, VTTran Digital Print Room or Lloyd McCormick (State)
4. errors in GIS data may be driving "off-set ROWs" on Middle Road as well as RT2 (below)? Tony to measure roads, look for surveys and/or boundary markers

Note: a rod is 16.5' feet so: 3 rod = 49.5' (24.75' from CL) & a 4 rod = 66' (33' from CL)

60

WS293-



