

Minutes of South Alburgh Fire District #2 Special Meeting December 11, 2024
Attending: John Fitzgerald, Alton Brusco, Tony Speranza, John Chesarek, Cheryl
Dunn Public:

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

Cheryl Dunn presented information on the new website- SAFD2.org. The old website was not working well. The new website is a Wordpress format. Any items for the site should be sent to Cheryl. Minutes and agendas will be posted there along with other pertinent information. Meeting announcements in Front Porch Forum or Facebook will have a link to the site for easy reference. Meeting announcements will be planned to go out a week in advance and then again two days before the meeting. Tony asked about using an email list to send out notices as well. The current list needs updating and will be worked on by John, Cheryl, and Tony.

Tony reported on the current status of the Phase 2 project. See attachment for charts and data. The current costs are too high and the project is in danger of being canceled if lower bids or more grants can not be found. It is proposed that the project be restructured to solicit bid on three sanctions instead of the entire eight miles. One section would include Middle and Wagner roads. A second would be Route 2 from Middle Road to the start of Poor Farm Road. The third section would include Poor Farm and Point of Tongue. The hope is that this would reduce the costs by at least one million. Some were skeptical of the savings possible from such a rebid. Much discussion followed suggesting the need for more grant funds from the state, Federal government, and other sources. There is some confusion about how much the state was will to increase their loan funding. Lori Bishop will contact Chuck at DuBois and King regarding the best sources to contact to clarify this information. Suggestions were also made to contact our Congress person and Senators. Charlie Shelly was tasked with preparing a letter to Congresswoman Ballint. This letter could be used by SAFD2 residents to encourage Ballint to get funds appropriated for our cause. Bill Sheets referenced several recent grants for similar local projects, including on for North Hero. He cautioned however that we should have specific dollar figures for our request. Tony proposed adding a vote on the rebid to the agenda for the 12-18-24 meeting. His proposal was accepted.

Meeting adjourned &:49 pm

Respectfully submitted,
John Chesarek, Clerk