

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – May 30, 2014

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French and Road Agent Gary Russell. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Also attending the meeting were James Bouchard, Senior Quantum Construction Project Manager for the Bible Hill Road culvert replacement project and Scott Burnside, owner of Landsite Corporation who was the low bidder for the FEMA project.

The meeting was convened to address an apparent \$64,000 shortfall in available funds as a result of accepting the lowest bid from Landsite Corporation in the amount of \$248,353.50 and taking into consideration expenses paid to date. Prior to the meeting Deputy Administrator Kristie LaPlante compiled a spread-sheet that illustrated quantities and tasks included in the approved FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Application as well as stated quantities and tasks that were included on the Bid Sheet put forth by Quantum Construction and submitted by Landsite Corporation. Project Engineer James Bouchard presented a spread-sheet as well which was reviewed by the group. He stated that his poor project handling resulted in errors/adjustments between the estimates provided for the Grant Application and what was provided on the Bid Sheet document, resulting in approximate \$47,879 of unnecessary project overages.

Scott Burnside indicated his willingness to review the overall situation and determine if there are areas where Landsite Corporation might be able to trim costs in an effort to keep the project on track for July 2014 construction.

With the Selectmen's approval, Road Agent Gary Russell offered Highway Department employees and equipment to work with Landsite Corporation in a team effort to accomplish the project without cost over-runs.

The Administrator will determine if the Town can proceed with Bid negotiations under FEMA guidelines or if the Town will be required to put the project out to Bid again.

James Bouchard committed to revise the Bid Sheet to reflect the numerous corrections identified and submit the revisions to Landsite Corporation no later than June 2nd. It was agreed that Scott Burnside and Gary Russell will then jointly review the project and identify specific areas where the Highway Department could accomplish specific tasks.

Upon receipt of all updated information the group will reconvene to finalize acceptance of the Bid from Landsite Corporation.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French

Administrator