

JOHNSON SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES  
INTERSECTION OF T.H. 5 AND T.H. 18 AND JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

**Present:**

Trustees: Mike Dunham, Doug Molde, Kyle Nuse, Eric Osgood

Others: Brian Story, Bobbi Rooney, Scott Meyer (site visit only), James Wood (site visit only)

**Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.**

***1. Hearing and Site Visit on Classification of a Town Highway***

The site visit began at 3:00 at the intersection of Mine Road and Ben Ober Road.

The selectboard walked the section of Mine Road proposed for reclassification. At the end of the Class 2 section the board paused and accepted testimony from approximately 3:20-3:30. The board returned to the intersection at 3:45 and then returned to the municipal building to conduct the remainder of the meeting inside.

The meeting reconvened at the municipal building at 4:00. Eric stated for the record that the board had walked the section of road proposed for reclassification and taken testimony from James Wood, the son of the caretaker for the mining company.

Eric said Mine Road is currently a Class 2 road going to the mining operation, which is no longer in use. The town may find that as it is no longer used for its original purpose it no longer needs to be a Class 2 road.

**Mike moved to reclassify the section of Mine Road from the intersection with Ben Ober Road to the mine shaft from Class 2 to Class 4, seconded by Doug.**

Doug said usage of the road has clearly changed. The public would probably benefit financially from no longer having it classified as Class 2. Class 4 would be a more appropriate classification.

Bobbi Rooney said she is representing VAST. Mine Road has been a snowmobile trail for over 20 years. The snowmobile club has applied for grant money through VAST to maintain it. They have installed culverts. She would like the town to encourage an amicable agreement between the snowmobile club and other people interested in using the road.

Eric said he believes that snowmobile clubs can use Class 4 roads by state statute. Bobbi said the town can't deny plowing of the entire road. Eric said the town can deny it. Bobbi said she encourages a reasonable solution that will allow the snowmobile club and VAST to maintain a viable route to Eden. That is the main route to Eden. That opportunity won't be there if the road is plowed. Eric said any activity such as plowing would require town authorization. When it was a Class 2 road, town permission was necessary for snowmobiles to be ridden on the road. When it is a Class 4 road by state statute snowmobile use will already be allowed. Doug said if it were a Class 2 road the town would normally be required to plow it. Bobbie said she thinks the best solution is for everyone to work together.

**The motion was passed.**

**2. *Meeting on Industrial Park Development***

Brian said he and John Mandeville will be meeting with White and Burke about development at the industrial park. We hope they will be an interested partner in developing and selling lots.

Any selectboard member can come along to the meeting. Selectboard members said they did not feel they needed to attend.

**3. *Joint Meeting Planning***

Brian said December 4 won't work for the joint meeting with the trustees. Possible alternatives are December 5 and December 11. December 11 is very close to the date employees have to make a decision on healthcare plans (December 15.) The board agreed December 5 would be the best date.

Brian said he will try to make arrangements for a moderator. Eric said he would suggest going ahead even if a moderator is not available, as the boards need to decide on the healthcare contribution.

Eric said discussion of joint employee job assignments probably should wait until a future joint meeting. Brian agreed, especially if we don't have a moderator. There will be some discussion about what will be on the agenda. The only definite items are discussion of healthcare contribution levels and discussion of all compensation.

**4. *Adjourn***

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:15.**

*Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths*