

This meeting was called to order by Chairman, Tom Bodett at 7:30PM at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chairman, Tom Bodett; Vice-Chair, Cindy Jerome; Clerk, Andrew MacFarland; Paul Normandeau and Lewis White

Also Present: Roni Byrne, Lee Chamberlin, Amy Dews, Dawn Hubbard, Patricia Stello and Laurie Frechette

On a motion from Andrew and second by Cindy, the Board approved the minutes from December 19, 2007.

On a motion from Lewis and second by Andrew, the Board approved the payment of Warrants 14 and 14P.

The Board invited School Board Chair, Amy Dews to join in a discussion of the upcoming budgets. Tom explained to the audience the concept of having the municipal budget take over any possible expenses from the school budget in order to lessen the tax burden due to the "over the cap" penalties. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Selectboard will not sponsor an article at Town Meeting to transfer a specific dollar amount from the town to the school. The town will help out in any way possible to absorb some of the expenses, utilizing municipal resources.

The Board approved the concept of the Miller Fund contributing to the school's nutrition program to offset the difference between the cost of serving free and reduced fee lunches and the reimbursement currently received. The members of the Board who will be remaining into next year pledged to support this concept.

Road Foreman, Lee Chamberlin presented his report to the Board. The road crew has again been very busy with several storms during the past two weeks. Cindy and Paul questioned Lee about the possibility of his employees either coming in late or leaving early to avoid depleting the winter maintenance budget. Lee advised that he does give them the option of leaving early or coming in late but leaves the decision up to the individual.

The Board and Amy Dews reviewed and discussed a proposal from VT Coalition of Municipalities for an article to be included in the Town Meeting warning. Paul moved to sign the resolution; the motion died for lack of a second.

Lewis made a motion for the Board to write a letter stating "Resolved: The Administration, Legislature and Vermonters should identify and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of breaking from Act 60/68." Andrew seconded the motion and it passed. Laurie was asked to draft the resolution; Tom will write the cover letter.

On a motion from Cindy and second by Andrew, the Board recessed its regular meeting at 8:28PM to enter an Executive Session for a personnel evaluation. After a friendly amendment from Andrew, the guests present were invited to stay.

With no decisions being made, the Executive Session was adjourned and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:55PM.

The Board reviewed a notice of a Public Hearing to be held on January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Newfane Courthouse regarding the proposed VELCO Southern Loop. Laurie was asked to notify the Energy Committee, Planning Commission and Conservation Commission.

Lewis advised the Board that interviews for the Emergency Management Director's position are to be scheduled for next week. Four applications have been received to date.

The Board and Lee reviewed and discussed possible revisions to the proposed Capital Budget Plan for FY 2009.

The Board reviewed and discussed additional information received from MaryAnn Runge regarding a request for funding from the Miller Fund for the School's Winter Activities program. On a motion by Andrew and second from Paul, the Board authorized the expenditure of \$500 which includes the \$114 previously authorized.

Paul asked Laurie to provide the Board with a financial report on the Miller Fund at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed and discussed the final drafts of the FY 2009 Capital Fund and Operating Budgets. On a motion from Paul and second by Lewis, the Board moved to raise \$100,000 for the Capital Fund.

On a motion from Andrew and second by Paul, the Board moved to approve an Operating Budget of \$887,800 for the upcoming fiscal year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40PM.

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January 16, 2008  
Approved

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Tom Bodett, Chairman

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Andrew MacFarland, Clerk

Minutes: Laurie Frechette, Administrative Assistant