

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

June 18, 2008

Members Present: Chair, Lewis White, Cindy Jerome, Andrew MacFarland, Wayne Emery

Also Present: Pam McFadden, Town Clerk, Rich Cogliano, Harold Newell, Lee Chamberlin, Paul Normandeau, Fred Cheney and Brian Siano of Lane Construction, Casey Murrow and Julie Peterson of Southeast VT Learning Collaborative, Jack Manix, Ruth Barton

Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Andrew moved and Cindy seconded to amend the June 4 minutes to state, " The names of Board members abstaining from votes will be entered into the minutes. Members aye or nay votes for any vote will be recorded in the minutes upon a request for a roll call vote by any member." The motion passed 4-0. On a motion by Cindy and second from Andrew, the Board approved the amended minutes from the June 4 and minutes from the June 13 meetings, on a 4-0 vote.

Pam clarified Staples line item in warrant. The item is a repayment of previous Staples bills for which payments were authorized and checks sent but not received.

Cindy suggested we ask Dawn Hubbard to let us know beforehand of large expenditures such as the EOC improvements. All agreed we had approved doing the improvements and the area looks great. Cindy will contact her.

Cindy moved and Wayne seconded to pay Warrants 26 and 26P. The motion passed 4-0.

Cindy moved and Wayne seconded to appoint Jack Manix to fill the vacant position on the Dummerston Selectboard until the 2009 Dummerston Town meeting. The motion passed 4-0. Pam McFadden administered the Oath of Office and Jack joined the Board.

Casey Murrow and Julie Peterson reviewed Southeast VT Learning Collaborative activities over the last few years and expressed the Collaborative's wish to extend the terms of the current lease. The Board agreed that the Town should continue to lease the space and sublet to the Collaborative. All agreed that the Town is not interested in assuming ownership of the building at this time. Andrew will contact Allen Palmer of VT Department of Buildings and General Services and invite him to a meeting with the Selectboard and Collaborative.

Lee Chamberlin began his report with an opening of the bids for paving services. Bids received were:

- Lane Construction – \$71.24
- Warner Bros. - \$87.50
- Springfield Paving - \$71.75
- Whitcomb – \$79.79
- Bazin – \$76.88

Wayne moved and Cindy seconded to award the contract to Lane Construction. The motion passed 5-0.

Lee reported that the Stickney Brook Road relocation project is going well and the gravel should be delivered to the road by the end of next week. The Town received notice of the EMSHA fine in the amount of \$108. In response to a question from Ruth Barton, Lee reported that the roadside mowing is scheduled for July.

Cindy discussed the Letter of Intent to resubmit the Transportation Enhancement grant application for the Rock River/Williamsville Station parking area improvements. She noted previous concerns expressed by emergency services personnel from Newfane and Dummerston. Lewis agreed to contact the Newfane Selectboard to find out their thoughts on the project before we take additional steps.

Cindy moved, Andrew seconded a motion to approve the Youth Services request for Miller Fund monies to use to provide services to Dummerston youth. The motion passed 5-0.

Andrew moved, Wayne seconded to approve Mary Ann Runge's request for Miller Fund monies for summer programs and activities for a number of Dummerston children. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board reviewed the 2009 Park & Ride information. Cindy noted that there is no Park & Ride site on Rte. 5. Andrew agreed to ask the Southeast VT Learning Collaborative if the use of the parking area at the old Regional Library building is feasible.

The Board reviewed the projected 2008 FY deficit and Pam presented a current expense note. Cindy moved and Wayne seconded a motion to authorize borrowing an amount not to exceed \$173,000 on a line of credit. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board reviewed the estimate for a phone system for the Town Offices at a cost of \$2840, with an additional monthly cost of app. \$45 for an additional line. All agreed the existing phone lines, with no voicemail or rollover of calls when one line is busy, are inadequate. The volume of calls and frequent difficulty getting through are a problem. Cindy moved and Jack seconded to approve the expenditure for the phone system. After an extended discussion of the 2009 budget and possible areas out of which the money might be taken, the motion failed 4-1.

Wayne moved and Cindy seconded to authorize an expenditure of \$1607 to Southern VT Telephone as a down payment on a phone system in the current budget year, with the remainder to be authorized before November 1, 2008 if adequate funds can be allocated. The motion passed 5-0.

Wayne reported on the Barrows hearing. Mr. Barrows was not notified of the hearing and it has been rescheduled for June 30.

Andrew reviewed the Pre-filed Testimony to the State of VT Public Service Board offered on behalf of Dummerston on June 9 by Carey Gaunt. Included is testimony by Kurt Yeager, an energy planning expert, raising concerns and questions about the efficacy of the proposed transmission line and suggesting that investment in smart grid enhancements will be a better solution to regional power needs. Additional testimony was filed by Alex Wilson regarding the presence of an endangered species of orchid on or near the proposed transmission lines. After discussion Andrew agreed to ask the Energy Committee and the Southern Loop Committee to come to a Board meeting to discuss plans for future PSB communications and to contact Windham Regional Planning Commission to coordinate efforts and discuss possible sharing of legal resources.

Lewis asked for clarification on Board decisions about Lee Chamberlin's July 1 raise. After reviewing discussions during the 2009 budget preparations all agreed he will receive a 2% raise effective July 1. Lewis also brought up the idea of a 4 day workweek for the Dummerston road crew as a possible way to save fuel, reduce town expenses and reduce road crew members expenses traveling to and from work. Wayne noted that a number of local towns have implemented a 4 day workweek for road crew employees in the summer. Lewis will talk with other towns in the area, which have implemented it and ask Lee to discuss the issue with the road crew.

Andrew moved to enter Executive Session at 9:30 PM to discuss evaluation of an employee. Cindy seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:40 PM.

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

Submitted by Andrew MacFarland

Approved

Lewis White, Chair

Andrew MacFarland, Vice-Chair