

This meeting was called to order at 7:30pm at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chair Cindy Jerome, Vice-Chair Paul Normandeau, Clerk Kevin Ryan, Tom Bodett and Lewis White

Also Present: Bob Glennon, Hannah & Angie Reynolds, Matthew & Ed Dews, Bryce Bandish, Michael & Vincent Cioffi, PJ & Jeff Clark, Sam Grubinger, Tracey Devlin, Michelle Cherrier, Larry Lynch, Lester Dunklee, Wayne Emery and Laurie Frechette

Kevin moved and Paul seconded to approve the minutes from December 6th & 13th, as well as Warrants 13, 13A and 13P.

The Board recognized Bob Glennon, the science teacher at Dummerston School, who introduced his students Bryce Bandish, Michael Cioffi, PJ Clark, Matthew Dews and Hannah Reynolds. Mr. Glennon discussed a program that his class has been studying, entitled the *Search Group*. This program encourages students to pursue projects which will benefit their community. The students are hoping to erect signs on Routes 5 and 30 that say "Welcome to Dummerston". They presented examples of several designs and requested permission from the Board to display them at Town Meeting and ask the townspeople to vote for their preference. The Board thanked them for their hard work and gave them permission to proceed with the project.

Road Foreman Wayne Emery reported that the new truck will be ready by the end of the week. Cindy questioned Wayne if the extended warranty for the new truck should be included in the FY2008 budget. Wayne said yes and will provide the information before next week's budget work session.

Wayne advised the Board that he will be retiring in June of 2007.

The Board reviewed the Certified Equalized Education Property Value report from the VT Dept. of Taxes. Paul expressed his concern about the Town's Coefficient of Dispersion of 12.44% and the fact that another reappraisal will most likely be required in the near future. Tom will write an article for the upcoming *Views* issue, describing the probable effect on the educational tax rate.

The Board reviewed a memo from Linda Matteson at the District 2 Environmental Commission regarding Administrative Land Use Permit Amendment #2W1068-A for the VT-NH Veterinary Clinic to replace a failed septic system. Laurie was again instructed to contact Linda and convey the Board's request to have any areas of washout restored to their former state as well as being covered with a minimum of 4" of topsoil, seeded and covered with erosion control mats.

The Board recognized Interim Town Treasurer, Michelle Cherrier, who presented several concerns to the Board regarding her job performance, the hours of operation and lack of budgeted funds for this position. Much discussion followed regarding these concerns. On a motion from Lewis and second by Tom, the Board unanimously decided to hire a bookkeeper or bookkeeping service to perform the bookkeeping duties of the Treasurer's position. In-house personnel will be utilized to perform these duties. Michelle agreed to accept a reduction in her hourly pay to \$12.00 per hour and will reduce the amount of her working hours. Paul went on record to thank Michelle for her professionalism.

The Board recognized Lester Dunklee, who presented his report from the Windham Solid Waste Management District. WSWMD's total budget for FY2008 is \$1,222,150. Dummerston's projected assessment is between \$14,721 and 17,984.

The Board recognized Larry Lynch and Lester Dunklee from Emergency Management. The Board requested the total proposed RERP budget from Larry; he will have it in to Cindy by Friday.

Cindy reported to the Board that the Richards Group has been encouraged to present a quote for comprehensive insurance coverage in October of 2007.

Cindy and Paul spoke to the Board about a Workers Comp. claim that has been processed by VLCT for a former librarian at the Lydia Taft Pratt Library.

Paul reported to the Board on his recent conversation with Town Attorney, Bob Fisher regarding Hopkins Road. Atty. Fisher recommends that the entire road be surveyed before any action is taken.

On a motion from Paul and second by Kevin, the Board moved to authorize payment of \$25,000 on the loan for the gravel pit.

The Board reviewed a request from Hannah Parker at the Dummerston School for \$350 from the Miller Fund for a Dummerston student to participate in movement therapy. Kevin will contact Hannah for more information and report back to the Board at a future meeting.

The Board reviewed a Miller Fund request from Charlotte Neer Annis for funding of Winter Activities scholarships for the Dummerston School. On a motion from Kevin and second by Tom, the Board moved to grant \$220 for this request.

Paul advised the Board that the Agency of Transportation is scheduled to advertise for bids on renovations to the Green Iron Bridge in June of 2007.

Cindy spoke to the Board on a recent conversation she had with John Angil from VT Emergency Management. She will meet with the person responsible for writing the RERP on December 28th.

The Board was advised that neither Elizabeth Catlin nor Bob Wainwright will be seeking reappointment to the Windham Regional Commission in March. Dan Normandeau, Regina Rockefeller and Alex Wilson's names have been submitted for consideration.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Approved

Cindy Jerome, Chair

Kevin Ryan, Clerk

Minutes: Laurie Frechette, Administrative Assistant