

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

May 21, 2008

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

Members Present: Chair Lewis White, Vice-Chair Andrew MacFarland, Clerk Patricia Stello, Wayne Emery and Cindy Jerome

Also Present: Frank Farnsworth, Mark Kracum, Lee Chamberlin and Laurie Frechette

On a motion by Andrew and second from Pat, the Board approved, 5-0, the minutes from May 7th and payment of Warrants 24, 24P, 24CC and 24CF.

The Board recognized Frank Farnsworth, the manager of Hidden Acres Campground. Mr. Farnsworth offered his apology to the Town for having opened the campground earlier than allowed by their Act 250 permit. It was a misunderstanding on their part and they will be submitting a request to revise their permit, asking to open on April 15th and close one month earlier than currently allowed. The Board thanked him for coming in.

The Board opened and briefly reviewed bids from Gateway Motors, Auto Mall and Ford of Brattleboro for a new one-ton truck cab and chassis. Bids were received from Howard Fairfield and Tenco for the equipment package. Lee will thoroughly review the bids and present his recommendation to the Board at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the approved 2008 Certificate of Highway Mileage from the State of Vermont.

On a motion from Cindy and second by Wayne, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize Lewis to sign the NOI permit application for the Carpenter Gravel Pit.

Lee advised the Board that he has someone willing to purchase the roll of wire that ran from the Town Garage to the Town Office. On a motion from Andrew and second by Pat, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize the sale of the wire for \$350.

Wayne asked Lee if Tim Severance would be able to borrow a 50' culvert to drain a pond at the Scott Farm; Lee advised him that it should not be a problem.

Pat questioned Lee about the lights at the Town Garage and if the Energy Committee has been in contact with him about their replacement with more energy efficient lighting. Lee will contact Alex Wilson to check on the status of this project.

Town Treasurer, Laurie Frechette advised the Board that the Putnam Fund (one of the accounts encompassing the Town's Cemetery Fund) has lost \$1785.83 in the 1st quarter of 2008. She requested their permission to transfer the \$24,319.09 remaining in the Putnam Fund to the Cemetery Fund's Certificate of Deposit at TD Banknorth. Following a brief discussion, the Board directed the Treasurer to leave the funds as they are currently invested. They also asked Laurie to look for a local resident who works with investments to take a look at the Town's current investment portfolio and make recommendations to improve our rate of return.

On a motion from Cindy and second by Andrew, the Board reappointed Mary Lafayette as the Town Health Officer for a 3-year term. Cindy will contact Mary.

The Board reviewed Mark Stello's letter of resignation from the Energy Committee. On a motion by Cindy and second from Andrew, the Board reluctantly accepted his resignation. The vote was 4-0, with one abstention.

The Board reviewed and discussed the FY 2009 contract with the Windham County Sheriff's Department. On a motion by Andrew and second from Wayne, the Board voted 5-0 to sign the contract.

The Board recognized Mark Kracum who requested permission to replace one of the antennas for the Emergency Operations Center and a radio installation in the EOC. On a motion by Pat and second from Wayne, the Board approved his request on a 5-0 vote with the stipulation that he contact Emergency Management Director, Dawn Hubbard to obtain access to the building.

Andrew reported to the Board on his conversations with Allen Palmer and Casey Murrow regarding the former Regional Library on RT 5. Casey will submit receipts for all operation and maintenance costs to Andrew in the very near future. Receipts have been received from the State of VT for the same type of expenses. Laurie will do a spreadsheet of these expenditures and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

Andrew spoke to the Board about the possibility of obtaining voice mail for the Town Office due to the difficulty of getting through when the phone is busy. The Board asked Laurie to contact Marty Grimes from Southern VT Telephone to obtain an estimate for an updated phone system. Andrew also asked Laurie to contact Fairpoint to see if they can do a study on how many busy signals are received on the town office's telephone line.

Lewis gave a brief report on the recent countywide animal ordinance meeting.

Lewis updated the Board on the street lights on West Street. The original lights have been put back in place. However, when they expire they will need to be replaced with a new option as the mercury vapor lights are no longer being offered. Bob Taylor is going to be organizing a meeting with CVPS and West Street residents in the near future.

At 8:45PM, Cindy moved to recess the Selectboard meeting and convene the Liquor Commission. Andrew seconded the motion and it passed by a 5-0 vote.

The Liquor Commission reviewed a request from A & G Entertainment, dba the Weathervane Music Hall to cater a wedding reception at the Scott Farm on June 21st from 5PM to 10PM. On a motion from Cindy and second by Wayne, the Commission voted 5-0 to grant the request.

The Liquor Commission was adjourned at 8:47PM and the Selectboard meeting immediately reconvened.

Pat Stello read her letter of resignation, effective immediately. She has been offered a position in Lexington, Kentucky which she has decided to accept. Wayne moved to reluctantly accept her resignation. Cindy seconded the motion and it passed.

Laurie was asked to post the vacancy in two spaces in town. All persons interested in being appointed to fill this vacancy until the 2009 Town Meeting are asked to submit a letter of interest to the Selectboard c/o the Town Office.

Andrew reported on his correspondence with the State of VT regarding the civil fines being remitted to the Town of Dummerston. Laurie was asked to find out how much money we have received to date and to ask the Sheriff's Department for a printout of activity for the past eighteen months.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56PM.

Approved

Lewis White, Chairman

Andrew MacFarland, Vice-Chair

Submitted by Laurie Frechette, Administrative Assistant