

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

August 12, 2009

This meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chair Andrew MacFarland, Greg Brown, Wayne Emery and Zeke Goodband

Member Not Present: Tom Bodett

Also Present: Art Benedict, Margaret & Bob Evans, Pam McFadden, Gladys Miller, Harold & Jean Newell, Jody & Paul Normandeau, Gail Sorenson, Chris Garofolo from the *Brattleboro Reformer*, and Laurie Frechette

On a motion by Wayne and second from Zeke, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from July 29, along with the payment of Warrants 4, 4P & CF-2.

The Board recognized the members present of the Dummerston Community Chest (DCC). Andrew gave a brief overview of the Town's current processing of funding requests received from social service agencies each year. He explained their thought that the DCC might be interested in taking over the responsibility of screening the funding requests. Greg clarified that the Town will not transfer the financial obligation to the DCC; they would have a separate line item in the budget. The DCC's newly elected President, Gladys Miller explained that the DCC does not wish to participate in the Town's selection process.

The DCC is beginning the process of applying for 501c3 status as a non-profit organization. In doing so, they need to write bylaws for the group. Andrew asked that when the new bylaws are drafted, the DCC Board rethink the makeup of the Board. Specifically, he expressed concern that currently, all of the members of the Selectboard are considered members of the DCC Board. Greg pointed that if all attended a DCC Board meeting it would need to be warned because there would be a quorum of the Selectboard.

Road Foreman Lee Chamberlin was not present at the meeting. Laurie reported that a \$1000 down-payment has been received from Karey Tyler, the owner of Tyler Excavating, on the purchase of the crusher.

The Board reviewed a letter sent from Atty. Jodi French to the VT Agency of Transportation regarding the Tucker Reed Road bridge project; stating that all of the work to be done is within the Town's right-of-way.

Jody and Paul expressed their desire to have the Town stay on top of this project; ensuring that it doesn't get placed on the back burner. Andrew assured them that the Town is indeed doing so but the project is not at the top of the state's priority list.

Wayne reported that the Town will be receiving \$86,400 from the AOT's Structures Grant for the work on the covered bridge decking. Renaud Bros. have not yet set a date to begin work on the bridge.

An email from Tom Bodett was reviewed and discussed regarding the upcoming Town Plan hearing on August 26th. The hearing will begin at 7PM at the Community Center in West Dummerston Village.

The Board reviewed a contract between the Town and the Windham County Humane Society for animal holding at the Society. Wayne moved to set the Town's fees to agree with those of WCHS. Greg seconded the motion; it passed 4-0. On a motion by Wayne, seconded by Zeke, the Board voted 4-0 to sign the contract.

A notice was received from VLCT regarding the substantial increase in replacement cost values for town-owned properties.

Greg and Andrew will attend the August 18th DRB hearing for review of the Conditional Use Permit for the Carpenter Gravel Pit.

The Board briefly reviewed and discussed information received on medical insurance offerings from VLCT and Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Andrew will look into more information on HSA offerings.

On a motion by Zeke and second from Wayne, the Board voted 4-0 to adopt the Miller Fund guidelines as presented.

The Board discussed a request from Mary Ellen Britt for the Town to request a traffic assessment and possible speed limit change on RT 5. Andrew will contact the Sheriff's Department to request more enforcement in that area; he will also send a note to Nelson Blanchard at the AOT.

On a motion by Zeke and second from Greg, the Board voted 4-0 to sign the Certificate of Change in the 2009 Grand List.

Harold Newell questioned the status of the failed septic system at 270 West Street. Andrew explained that the Health Officer and the attorneys are working through the process and are keeping the Board updated.

On a motion by Greg and second from Wayne, the Board voted 4-0 to enter Executive Session at 8:40pm to discuss pending legal action.

The Board ended Executive Session at 8:43pm with no action taken.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.

Approved

Andrew MacFarland, Chairman

Wayne Emery, Clerk

Submitted by: Laurie Frechette, Selectboard Assistant