

UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

December 2, 2009

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

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

Also Present: Dawn Hubbard, Lee Chamberlin, Maria & Steve Glabach, Jean & Harold Newell, Chris Garafolo from the Brattleboro Reformer, Joe Vaughn, Terry Chapman, Tim Fogg, Frances Herbert, Ruth & Merrill Barton, Beverly Knapp, Laurie Frechette

On a motion from Wayne and second by Zeke, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the meeting minutes from November 18th and the payment of Warrants 12 & 12P.

Andrew updated the Board on 270 West Street. The Town's Attorney may have already filed in Superior Court; he has been waiting for the Town Health Officer's signature on the filing documents.

The Board recognized Emergency Management Director, Dawn Hubbard who advised that the new emergency sirens are up and running. Any activation of the sirens will go through Keene Mutual Aid at this time.

Andrew requested that when Dawn will be out of town that she notifies the Town Office as well as the assistant EMD.

The Board recognized Tim Fogg from Pieciak & Co. who presented the two types of audits that his company could provide for the Town. He will provide the Board with price quotes in the near future.

Frances Herbert spoke to the Board about a Neighborhood Watch program in the Stickney Brook Road/Hill Road area. She is requesting to have four signs erected. After some discussion, it was agreed that it may be more feasible for the neighbors to purchase the signs and the Town to install them. Ruth Barton suggested that the Sheriff's Department be contacted to see if they still offer this program and if so, invite them to a town-wide meeting. Frances will call them and report back to the Board.

Energy Committee Chair, Alex Wilson spoke to the Board about the grant application for federal stimulus funding for energy efficiency projects. The Energy Committee is working on two separate proposals; one for the school and one for the town offices/highway garage. As the deadline for filing is December 8th, Wayne moved to authorize Zeke to sign the proposal. Greg seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

The Board recognized newly-elected Fire Chief, Rick Looman who introduced himself to the Board members and advised that he wishes to keep the lines of communication open between the Fire Department and the Selectboard.

Road Foreman, Lee Chamberlin presented his report. He is planning to meet with Tony Clark, whose property abuts the proposed culvert project on Stickney Brook Road. Work is progressing on the Covered Bridge decking project. Hopefully the bridge will reopen on or before December 14th. An email was received from Smokey Howe regarding the pending lighting retrofit for the bridge. It appears that the work will be done in January or February 2010; he would like to have the bridge closed for 5-6 hours to through traffic for safety reasons. On a motion from Wayne and second by Tom, the Board approved his request 5-0.

The Board reviewed the new uniform contract from New England Uniforms. On a motion from Tom and second by Wayne, the Board voted 5-0 to sign the contract.

On a motion from Wayne and second by Zeke, the Board voted 5-0 to sign a Curb-Cut Permit for Randy Hickin on Black Mountain Road.

The Board and Lee briefly reviewed and discussed information received from VTrans on the RT 5 paving project scheduled for the summer of 2010. Minor changes will be made to the intersections of Middle Road/RT 5 and Dummerston Station Road/RT 5.

Jean Newell updated the Board on the work of the Social Services Advisory Committee. The Committee requested that the funding request from Youth Services be included under their auspices and not paid out of the Miller Fund. On a motion by Greg and second by Wayne, the Board voted 5-0 to grant the Committee's request.

Greg will attend the Windham County Budget Meeting on December 10th in Newfane.

Zeke, Tom and Wayne will attend a meeting with VLCT on December 10th to discuss health insurance options. The meeting will be held at the Town Office.

The Board reviewed and discussed a letter from Landmark Trust requesting a letter of support for their Certificate of Public Good application. On a motion by Tom and second from Greg, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize Tom to write the letter of support.

The Board reviewed a request from the Planning Commission (PC) to appoint Matthew Hoffman to the Planning Commission. Tom moved to do so; Greg seconded the motion. Zeke expressed his reservations about having a member of the Conservation Commission (CC) who was appointed as a liaison from the CC to the PC also serving as a voting member of the Planning Commission. Much discussion ensued. Tom amended his motion to include a directive to the Conservation Commission to appoint another liaison to the Planning Commission. More discussion took place, including a request from Steve Glabach to have the PC vacancy posted and any interested residents encouraged to apply. It was agreed to do so and the motion was defeated 4-1. Andrew will contact both the Planning Commission and Matthew to explain the Board's decision.

Tom updated the Board on the Planning Commission's upcoming meeting schedule regarding the Town Plan revisions. A deliberative session for the Planning Commission and Selectboard will be held on January 5th at 5pm at the Church. Public meetings are scheduled for: January 19th; February 2nd & 16th; March 9th (if necessary).

The next budget work session will be held on Tuesday, December 8th at 7pm at the Town Office.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46pm.

Approved

Andrew MacFarland, Chair

Wayne Emery, Clerk

Submitted by: Laurie Frechette, Selectboard Assistant