

Town of Moretown
Office of the Select Board

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 1/23/12 selectboard meeting

Selectboard members: Stephanie Venema, Tom Martin, Clark Amadon, Reed Korrow, John Hoogenboom

Guest included: Rob Roberts, Steve Sharp, David Siegel, Cheryl Brown

Stephanie called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Budget and Article work –

River gravel - Tom estimated that we have about 8,000 cubic yards of river gravel. Originally there was \$32,500 put in the 2012 budget for gravel. Tom thinks we should use the river gravel rather than buy gravel, so the only expense would be to crush the gravel to the size needed. Adjustments were made to move a portion of the gravel budget to TH#5 to help pay for the bank slide repair.

TH #5 clay bank slide – Reed thinks we should have a contractor look at the bank slide in the spring, rather than have someone estimate it now. Stuart estimated the project cost to be about \$35,000.

Zoning Administrator budget – Stephanie wanted the record to show, that the increase to the Zoning Administrator pay is because Deborah has been given additional duties because of the Flood Interim Zoning adopted by the selectboard that would ordinarily be done by the Moretown Development Review Board. The increased budget will be revisited during next year’s budget preparations.

Budget for property loss assessments due to flooding – After discussion about what amount should be budgeted; and about the possibility of the State reimbursing the town for the education share of the budget, nothing was budgeted.

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Fire department request for a Town Meeting article to buy updated radios

– The board received a petition signed by about 100 Moretown residents, asking that an article for \$13,500 be on the Town Meeting warning to buy new updated radios that will meet the new FCC requirements for Narrowband frequencies. After discussion that there were at least two grant opportunities, the board decided to have a Town Meeting article for the radios with the condition that the fire department apply for a grant in 2012, and if the voters approve the article, before the radios can be ordered the selectboard must give their approval.

Steve Sharp re: Moretown’s new website – Steve sent a job description for the website administrator for the board to look at a few weeks ago. He thinks the administrator position should be a paid position with a job description. The board agreed. Steve thinks it will take 3 – 5 hours per week to keep the website updated. The board will advertise the position on Front Porch Forum. Steve will provide technical assistance if needed. Steve suggested having an administrator before the website is officially launched.

Tom moved; seconded by John to adopt Steve Sharps draft of the Website Administrator job description, and to post the position on Front Porch Forum as soon as possible. All were in favor.

Steve said Deb Feldman was very helpful in making the website come together. Steve can be reached at stevesharp1111@gmail.com

Other business:

Equipment trailer purchase – Stuart provided a written quote for a new highway equipment trailer from Lucky’s Trailer Sales.

John moved; seconded by Stephanie to purchase a new equipment trailer to be used by the highway department, from the Capital Reserve Fund, for \$16,900. All were in favor.

Accident – Report that one of the town trucks slipped off the Longley Road into the ditch, damaging the body. The same truck was later backed into the town garage, damaging one of the overhead doors. The town’s insurance provider was contacted and provided quotes to make the repairs for a claim.

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Outline of lister duties –

A letter was received from the listers stating that it is their decision to do only what is required by Vermont State Law, that they feel they have done well for years and that it is not in the best interest of the taxpayers to hire an outside appraiser.

There was discussion that the lister's have several duties to do by Statute, and the selectboard would like the lister's to work with Ed Clodfelter/APAS to get those duties done. VLCT defines the duties as:

- Conduct real and personal property appraisals
- Appraise personal property; distribute and inspect completion of all inventory forms. 32 V.S.A. section 4001
- Prepare, certify, lodge and amend the grand list 32 V.S.A. section 4111
- Make corrections to the grand list 32 V.S.A. section 4151,4261
- Send out tax appraisal notices 32 V.S.A. section 4087,4111
- Schedule, conduct hearings and make determinations on property tax grievances. 32 V.S.A. section 4221

The selectboard would like the listers to work with Ed Clodfelter/APAS to get their duties done. John will contact Jeff Ladue to respond to the listers letter and let them know that APAS was hired to help the listers get their work done. APAS will be asked to come into a selectboard meeting to talk about helping the listers between now and July 2012 when their contract begins.

Adoption of town budget – Stephanie moved; seconded by Clark that the 2012 town budget be \$1,082,921.

Discussion: \$50,000 was budgeted for flood expenses. All were in favor.

Stephanie moved; seconded by Tom to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. All were in favor.