

**Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECT BOARD**

DRAFT - Unapproved minutes of the 1/7/13 selectboard meeting

Board members present were: Tom Martin, Clark Amadon, Reed Korrow, Michelle Beard, John Hoogenboom

Guests included: Scott Baughman, Lisa Ransom, Martha & Tom Douglass, Dean Moulton, Steve Sharp, Rita LaRocca, Rachel Goff, Cheryl Brown as board assistant

Tom called the meeting to order and gave a brief overview of tonight's agenda.

Public Comment: There was none at this time.

Approval of Minutes:

12/10/12 – John moved and Michelle seconded to approve the minutes of 12/10/12 as written. All were in favor.

12/17/12 – Clark moved and Reed seconded to approve the minutes of 12/17/12 as written. John noted that the health insurance quotes from Craig Eilers were also from the “community pool”. All were in favor.

Reports, Communication and Announcements:

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Letters of Intent to apply for a Hazard Mitigation Grant are due by January 18th and grant applications are due by February 1st. Later tonight the board will sign a Letter of Intent to apply for the grant.

Central Vermont Humane Society - For \$300 per year Moretown can use the holdings at Central Vermont Humane Society for stray/lost animals. Any other costs incurred for the boarding would be charged to the animal owner.

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Reed moved and John seconded to enter into a contract with Central Vermont Humane Society for 2013 for \$300. John read the contract to be sure the shelter is a “no kill” shelter. All were in favor.

Law Office of James A. Dumont – A copy of Support of Motion to Alter and Vacate Administrative Amendment sent to the State of Vermont on behalf of Scott Baughman and Lisa Ransom, relating to a Land Use Permit issued to Moretown Landfill to install a temporary geosynthetic capping material to control odor from Cell 3 issued 12/17/12.

Maxine Grad/Deb Markowitz email – Maxine Grad forwarded an email from Deb Markowitz that was sent to her and Adam Greshin, which talks about working together to create a “softer landing” financially for Moretown should the landfill close. The email requested information about the financial picture for the town.

Discussion followed: The board agreed they should meet as soon as possible to talk about this. Michelle will work on a financial impact analysis for Maxine and Deb; Moretown is not the only town impacted if the landfill closes, the entire district will find financial impacts; Tom will contact Jonathan Siegel and John will contact John Malter for their input; and there was general discussion about composting.

Moretown Landfill odors – John reported talking with Governor Shumlin. The Governor said he is sorry for Moretown and thinks MLI wasn’t up front with the town. The Governor also said it is clear the State has done what they can to keep the landfill open, but MLI hasn’t been cooperating.

OLD BUSINESS:

Investment Policy – Based on the uncertainty of the Moretown Landfill, the board will hold off on going forward with adoption of an Investment Policy, but they will investigate options for a better return on the Savings Reserve Fund. Therefore, most likely there will be no public forum on January 31st.

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Sidewalk repair / grant - In order to apply for a Transportation Enhancement Grant this round to repair/replacement the village sidewalks, there needs to be a public hearing by January 18th. Cheryl will check with Dara Torre to see if she would be ready for a public hearing by January 17th, if so the board will host a public hearing.

Steve Sharp re: moretownvt.org website – Steve provided a Website Administrator Manual which includes user logins. Maintenance is a big part of the work. Tax maps, deeds, records, are all possible to put onto the website. It is possible for any public document or record to be found on the website. Steve said it could be made possible by implementing a system so that online payments could be made for marriage licenses, dog licenses etc., but the cost of the implementation would need to be studied. Steve will talk with Cherilyn and put together a prioritized list of recommendations for website changes for the board to consider. General discussion followed about marketing Moretown.

Rita LaRocca for the Auditors re: mailing of the town reports – Rita said by law you have to publish a bound copy of the town reports, but mailing a report to every voter is very costly, especially for postage. The auditors wonder with the new website that the town report can be posted on and having copies of the report available for people to pick up, if the board would consider asking the voters via a town meeting article, to approve the process for which town reports are distributed. She mentioned a few other towns that make the report available but don't mail them.

Tom moved and John seconded to have a town meeting article asking voters to approve not mailing out the town reports beginning in 2014. All were in favor. Rita will provide the article wording.

Tom and Martha Douglass – asked to be on tonight's agenda to talk with the board about the Host Town Agreement up for renewal in August of 2013. Recommendations were provided to the selectboard which include:

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- An enforceable agreement to benefit all citizens and compensate those most negatively impacted if MLI either closes; continues operations for a limited period of time; or manages to obtain their expansion permit.
- An agreement should have very specific performance standards.
- Proper management of the landfill operations, that includes a full-time person hired by the town and reimbursed by the landfill.
- Substantial daily fines for not controlling odors etc.
- The town should not rely on the state agencies to react to non-compliance issues and enact procedures to resolve.
- Language eliminated in HTA stating support for expansion or operation.
- A property tax agreement maintaining tax levels.
- Any reporting by the landfill to ANR needs to be copied to the town.
- Any correspondence from ANR to MLI needs to be copied to the town.
- Limit types of waste accepted, and pre-treat bio-solids identified as having the potential of being particularly odorous prior to delivery to the landfill. Limit bio-solids from outside of Vermont, reserving the right to restrict all if not treated properly.
- Any litigation costs for enforcement of the HTA are covered by the landfill.

There has been no communication from Advanced Disposal/Moretown Landfill to the neighbors explaining about odors related to uncovering the cell.

The board thanked the Douglass's for the information and for coming in tonight.

2013 budget work –

Reed moved and Michelle seconded at 7:40 p.m. to enter into executive session to discuss salaries. All were in favor.

Clark moved and John seconded at 8:10 p.m. to exit from executive session. All were in favor.

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Reed moved and Michelle seconded that Cheryl be paid \$19.50 per hour. All were in favor.

Reed moved and Clark seconded that Cheryl be given a \$1.00 per hour raise. All were in favor.

John moved and Michelle seconded that all employees of the town will pass in time sheets in the future. All were in favor.

More old business –

Duxbury Mutual Aid Agreement - Moretown will enter into a mutual aid agreement with Duxbury whereby in case of a disaster the town's highway department will aid one another to get the roads open.

Hurdle Road – John said he left a message with the individual from VTrans responsible for inspecting the STOP sign for visibility and hasn't heard back from him yet. John will call him again.

Blodgett trail location dispute - New information including minutes from past selectboard meetings was forwarded to Paul Gillies.

Town Office Committee news – Clark reported conference calls with the State and FEMA, to discuss the towns options to get the best FEMA funding. On January 10th there will be a public forum to talk about what has been done so far; site options and associated costs; and funding.

New Business: No new business tonight.

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Review invoices and approve selectboard orders –

Warrant #'s 1, 2, 3 and 81 were approved.

Documents signed were:

Letter of Intent to apply for a hazard mitigation grant for the town office.

Certificate of Highway Mileage

VTrans TA-65 reimbursement form for \$37,334.70, for a structures grant to pay for the shortfall in FEMA funding for installing two box culverts on Ward Brook Road that were destroyed during Irene.

Overload permits for – Earl Shatney Trucking and Scott Fisk Trucking
Central Vermont Humane Society contract for 2013.

Sullivan, Powers agreement to perform a single audit of the 2012 financials.

Clark moved and John seconded adjourning at 9:00. All were in favor.