

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

DRAFT – Unapproved minutes of the 5/6/13 selectboard meeting

Board members present were: Rae Washburn, Tom Martin, Reed Korrow, John Hoogenboom

Guests included: Martha & Tom Douglass, Dean Moulton, Lisa Ransom & Scott Baughman, Gary Butler, Susan Werntgen, Jonathan Siegel, Deb Feldman, Martin Cameron, Becky Ciampi, and Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

Tom Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment period:

Martha Douglass – asked how the board came to the decision that you needed an emergency meeting (held on 5/2/13)?

Tom M. explained that on Tuesday, Mike DiMaggio asked him if he would provide a declaration for submittal on 5/3/13 with their appeal. Tom agreed. On Wednesday a letter was prepared for the board to review. Tom originally thought that would suffice for board approval, but on Thursday afternoon he decided the submittal required a motion of the selectboard and public awareness that he was submitting the declaration on behalf of the selectboard. Because of the deadline for submitting the declaration and because Tom felt it was necessary for the selectboard as a public body to approve the declaration before submitting it which meant meeting immediately in order to meet the court deadline, an emergency meeting was called Thursday afternoon for that evening. A meeting warning was posted with the Town Clerk, sent to all selectboard members, and to the website administrator for posting. Tom further explained that Cheryl emailed Martha as CLEAR representative (Martha confirmed receipt of the email) and Grow Compost was also made aware that an emergency meeting would be held that evening.

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Martha wondered if MLI wanted the document how that constituted an emergency.

Tom M. said the submittal deadline was Friday, as a public body it needed attention before the document could be forwarded to MLI.

Martha told of her intent to file with the Attorney General that the public was not allowed time for comment at the 5/2/13 meeting. She said there should have been a reasonable amount of time allowed for public comment.

Other public comments included:

- Tom M. spoke of calls from Lisa Ransom and the Douglass's stating all they wanted was the landfill odors to go away, not the business. Lisa denied saying that to Tom and indicated that she was here to observe and that she felt attacked.
- Dean Moulton felt although there have been three meetings with the landfill there hasn't been sufficient time for public discussion. Rae indicated that people were allowed to talk with Mike DiMaggio and Dave Lavender when they were here at the last meeting representing the landfill.
- It is time for the selectboard to begin working on the host town agreement that expires in August of 2013.

Gary Butler and Susan Werntgen – came in to talk about the new speed signage being installed in the village as part of the Safe Routes to School grant program. Last week posts for signage were placed on both of their lawns. When they asked the contractor what they were for, they found that speed indicator signage would be placed on the posts, meaning that the area between the signs was very limited.

Plans originally presented to the selectboard showed the speed indicator signs would be placed near the firestation and near Hurdle Road, a much larger area than what is planned now. As it turns out the original plans were revised without the selectboard's knowledge. The selectboard would like the signs placed at the original location and a third sign placed near the town garage area, increasing the scope considerably. Signage work has been stopped until more information can be gotten or until the plan is revised.

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Other discussion included: There appears to be a speed limit sign missing between Pony Farm Road and the village. Cheryl will call Vtrans; and speeding in the village is still a problem, all hours of the day.

Approval of Minutes:

4/11/13 – Rae moved; John seconded, to approve the minutes of 4/11/13 as written. All were in favor.

4/15/13 - John moved; Rae seconded, to approve the minutes of 4/15/13 as written. All were in favor.

4/22/13 – Rae moved; John seconded, to approve the minutes of 4/22/13 as written. All were in favor.

Reports & Communication, Announcements

Camera's on MLI property – Tom reported a call from Lisa Ransom about MLI having placed camera's on their property that were pointed toward her house. She said Scott put material in front of the camera, and the camera was moved to another location. The cameras are active; she has nothing to hide, she is mostly concerned about the minor workers they have and having her children on camera.

The selectboard will write MLI a letter, asking them to respond to having cameras on their property, with particular regard to placing them facing a home.

Money for fire contract – Tom said Sean asked if the \$3,000 the town gets from the Town of Duxbury fire contract can be put into the fire department's capital fund.

Several years ago the town was asked by the fire department to add them onto the town's insurance policy because the town's coverage was better. Since then the \$3,000 (it was \$2,500) has been deposited into the general fund to offset the expenditure. Reed said Duxbury pays Waterbury about \$150,000 per year for fire coverage.

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Zoning Administrator resignation – Deb Feldman gave her letter of resignation as Zoning Administrator, effective 6/1/13. Deb said she will be available to train and assist the new ZA, and she will continue her position as a Moretown Lister, but it is time to move on. Deb has served as ZA for six years, and thanked the Selectboard, Planning Commission and town’s people for their support over the past years. Deb provided a brief job description for the help wanted ad, and would be happy to meet with applicants as the Planning Commission interviews interested candidates. From her experience, she feels the job needs to be a 20 hr. per week position with a salary according to experience.

The Planning Commission will run an ad, applications received will be forwarded to Jonathan Siegel for the PC to look over and narrow the selection down to three candidates for the selectboard to choose from for the appointment.

Tom moved; Rae seconded to accept the resignation of Deb Feldman as Zoning Administrator. All were in favor.

The board thanked Deb for the great job she has done as ZA and for working with the people especially during the difficult time after Irene.

Martin Cameron – Highway business:

Moretown Mountain Road Vtrans grant – Bids for the work are due May 9th. Martin is working on a scope of work to do more than what was originally applied for, so the grant request may increase. He will work with Tom Anderson from Vtrans to increase the grant if need be after a new scope of work has been done, and possibly extend the grant deadline further into the fall.

Bids will be publically opened on 5/9/13 by Reed and Martin, at 3:30 in the afternoon at the town offices. The road may be closed for a period of time each day for about one week while new culverts are installed. The board will talk more about that.

Foster turn box culvert grant – A grant under the VTrans Structure Program was applied for to replace the culvert on the back side of the Moretown Common Road on the turn between the Kazlow and the Foster residences.

John said regardless of whether or not the culvert is replaced, guardrails are needed in that area.

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Landfill rock – Last year there were operations going on at the landfill so the contractor loaded the donated rock into town trucks. This year there is no contractor, so Martin is making arrangements for a loader to load town trucks.

Resurfacing on South Hill Road – Martin plans to resurface another portion of South Hill this summer, using rock fill from the landfill and surface material. This work should take about one month.

Ditching & culvert – work in numerous locations.

Road sand – Martin will get bids for hauling the road sand again this year.

Class IV road work – Martin plans to do maintenance work on class IV roads that have an A classification in the Class IV Road & Trail Policy adopted last year, using landfill rock for fill where needed.

Shrubs on Hurdle Road – Tom reported that a portion of the shrubs on Frank Piazza's property that need to be trimmed are in the State rights of way and part is in the Town rights of way. Tom Anderson of Vtrans will take care of the State part; the town will take care of the part near the STOP sign. Tom said he will talk with Frank this week and set a date/time for town and state reps to meet with him and explain the plan.

Dust complaints – Martin said the roads have gone from mud to dust. He said the ideal thing is to chloride the roads after grading, otherwise he is sympathetic to dusty conditions but chloride is .92 cents per gallon and it takes about 700 gallons every time they chloride. With the rain coming, he doesn't think he will do anything now.

Rae feels if we have a long drought period, we will need to chloride all roads.

Village hill repair – Rae asked Martin if there are any plans to repair the village hill? Martin said he spoke with Tom Anderson about that. Tom thinks an engineering design will be needed. Martin said we will need a grant to help pay for the work.

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Gravel stored in Ciampi's pit – Rae said Mario Ciampi thinks his mother should get some money for storing the town gravel in her gravel pit. \$100 was mentioned. Rae said David VanDeusen would be willing to pay the \$100 if some of the gravel could be used on Lynch Hill Road; actually David and Rae would split the \$100 because Rae also has property on Lynch Hill that he uses.

Martin said he planned to use the gravel on Lynch Hill. He contacted E.A. Grandfield because they piled the gravel there, and they have no claim to it. Lynch Hill is listed as a class B road in the Class IV Road and Trails Policy.

Ladue's road to his property off Ward Brook Road – Rae reported that the road to Ladue's property (which is actually Kelley Brook trail) needs a culvert in order for Ladue to get to his property because someone raised the road. Whoever raised the road (the suspicion is Mr. Coon) should pay for the culvert.

Butternut Hill – John told Martin that Butternut Hill needs some repair work as a result of winter's plowing.

VLCT Safety grant – the highway department applied for a grant that would pay 50% of the cost for new safety equipment for the department.

Becky Ciampi – Town Hall business:

Rental contract – Becky said apparently there are two rental contracts. One she has been using and one that was approved by a motion of the selectboard in June of 2011 that she didn't know about. Becky suggested making some adjustments to the rental prices on the June 2011 contract that would reduce the rental price for Moretown residents.

Discussion continued about what other towns charge for rental of town buildings; how much time it takes Becky to clean up after an event; and what the usage of the building consisted of for rentals.

Becky provided a calendar listing rentals that are scheduled.

Rae moved; seconded by Reed to revise the contract for residential rentals to rates Becky presented tonight. All were in favor.

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Elevator repair – Tom reported that Bob Weber of Accessibility Systems has ordered the elevator parts and is trying to get them installed before the celebration planned for later this month.

Rae said he spoke with Don Pierce of Middlesex Electric about turning on the elevator electricity, and he spoke the Joe Gabaree about making a temporary ramp that could be used for the celebration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Justin Johnson letter dated 4/9/13 – At the last meeting, Martha Douglass presented the selectboard with a copy of a letter from Justin Johnson dated 4/9/13. The selectboard emailed Justin as to why the letter was written.

Rae asked if the State took any engineering data during the re-certification process?

Martha explained that no evidence was considered after the public comment period ended.

250th birthday of Moretown celebration update – Other towns have celebration banners. Rae will bring it up to the committee. Tom is working on a fireworks display for Saturday night 5/25. He is asking big businesses (not MLI) in town for donations. The fire department would be involved. Tom wants to raise \$5,000 which would provide about a ½ hour show. Tom will let the board know how he makes out.

Appointments to town offices – There are still vacancies in the offices of Lister (2) and of Auditor (1). Anyone interested serving as a lister or an until the 2014 Town Meeting, should sent a letter of interest to the selectboard at mselectboard@moretownvt.net

Host Town Agreement (HTA) – The Host Town Agreement is a contract between Moretown Landfill and the Town of Moretown with provisions set forth to operate the landfill. The current HTA expires in August of 2013.

The board was encouraged to begin work on a new HTA and suggestions were made about what it should include.

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Tom Douglass wanted to know if the fire departments that would be responding, are trained for a landfill disaster, such as a fire or a spill. The board will ask Sean to get with municipal aid fire departments and reply back to the board.

On the 5/20/13 the board will begin work to process a plan to gather the pieces for a new HTA.

New Business: None tonight.

Invoices were reviewed and warrant # 24, 25 & 26 were approved as provided.

Curb cuts from H & H Real Estate, LLC for lot #15 & #16 were approved. The lots are in the Gallagher Acres development.

Overload permits were signed.

Rae moved; Tom seconded to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. All were in favor.