

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

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 4/20/15 Selectboard meeting

Board: Tom Martin, Jason Aronowitz, John Hoogenboom, Rae Washburn,
Michelle Beard

Guests included: Travis Blodgett, Tom Douglass

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

Approval of Minutes:

Rae moved to approve the minutes of 4/6/15 and 4/9/15. John seconded.

Discussion: there was an error in the previous minutes. No correction to 4/6 or 4/9 minutes. Vote: Tom, John, Rae and Michelle were in favor. Jason abstained as he wasn't present for the meetings.

Reports & Communications, Announcements –

Ward Brook Road mud season issues – Tom M. reported of calls from Charlie Abare and Bill Jenkerson, angry about the condition of the road by one of the new box culverts. Tom spoke with Martin. Martin can't do anything now because he can't get the trucks to the area without damaging the roads. He did get permission from the Town of Berlin road commission to travel their roads with trucks.

River Road manure truck travel – Rae reported that manure trucks traveling on River Road are doing damage. Tom doesn't recall signing an overweight permit. He will check with Martin to see if he gave them permission.

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Culverts - Jason noted that some of the smaller culverts have sunk. Rae thinks generally that a lot of our culverts don't have a headwall to stabilize them, or something similar to a headwall. Rae added that plastic culverts aren't working out as well as hoped.

Friends of the Moretown Memorial Library – would like to hold a book and bake sale at the town hall on May 2nd. Since it is a library function to raise money, they would like the Selectboard to waive the rental fee.

Tom moved; John seconded to waive the rental fee for the May 2nd library event. All were in favor.

Runoff – Jason spoke about the State efforts to reduce run-off. Friends of the Mad River and the Winooski partnership are looking for grants to assess the impacts. Jason thinks it would be a good idea to have a list on hand if State money becomes available.

Moretown Historical Society – would like to thank the town for supporting the lasagna dinner and dance last Saturday night. \$800 was raised. The dinner was delicious and the band was fun. Everyone seems to enjoy themselves.

Joyce Manchester, Moretown's representative on the CVRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) – Joyce came in to update the board on the meetings she has been attending since November. She talked about a variety of subjects; aviation, trains, roads, bike path, and:

Waterbury Construction in Waterbury.

- People can visit the website VTrans.vermont.gov/projects/wap for information.
- The 3/18/15 public hearing in Waterbury was well attended.
- Rte. 100/Rte. 2 – Temporary light.
- Laura Gans emailed the State and the Town, about speeding problems on Rt. 2 in the Gallagher Acres area. State spotters are watching the intersection, but the board feels that due to the residential area, curves etc., 50 mph is too fast, and will request a traffic study be done.

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The town appreciates the time Joyce takes to attend the TAC meeting on behalf of the town, and for bringing information back.

more communication –

Sidewalk project – Tom M. reported a call from Frank Piazza, concerned about the sidewalk placement. Tom explained that the new sidewalk parameters will be staked out before the next public hearing.

Blodgett litigation – New information was received last week from Paul Gillies, Esq. and Superior Court regarding the Blodgett litigation. The board decided review and deliberation of the documents and of the litigation should be done in executive session.

Tom moved to enter into executive session at 6:40 to discuss civil actions whereby premature public knowledge would clearly place the town at a disadvantage. John seconded. All were in favor.

Tom moved out of executive session at 6:50. John seconded. All were in favor. No action was taken as a result of the ES.

Leslie Russell re: forming a Neighborhood Watch – Leslie reported that a lot of people between the Moretown Mountain Road and the Common Road have been broken into in the past year. Neighbors are interest in forming a Neighborhood Watch. Leslie spoke to Lt. Nally at the Middlesex Barracks of the State Police who said there was a presentation that they could do. Leslie thinks it would be helpful for people to know that other people are watching and supporting each other.

Two signs would be put on the roads participating. Jeff Campbell is on the Central Vermont State Police Advisory Board for the Town of Warren has signage and literature.

Rae suggested that the Selectboard host a presentation so that all Moretown residents can participate in the discussion. Moretown is very spread out, with some areas difficult to have the benefit of unlimited police protection. A presentation will be coordinated as soon as possible.

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Public Hearing to hear comments on the newly revised Moretown Town Plan

7:00 pm. guests included: Deborah Feldman, Karen Horn, Jonathan Siegel, Carl Wimble, Tom Douglass, Travis Blodgett and Dan Zucker

The Selectboard thanked the Planning Commission for their hard work on this very well thought out and well written document, and opened the hearing to discussion.

Travis Blodgett didn't think the 15 day warning requirement for this hearing was met. Travis also stated clerical errors regarding pg. 70, saying the 14 miles of class IV roads and trails are not maintained by the town and not differentiated on the map.

Tom Douglass asked, at what point does the town decide that we need to hire a full-time town planner? The Selectboard is already involved in other town business. Tom's idea would be to hire an outsider for a three year term to make sure there is a benefit. There are a lot of things that slip by that would benefit the town.

Tom M. said there needs to be justification to the town, adding that it is tough to justify even having a Town Administrator. Ask other towns that do have a town planner/manager to see if they feel it has been beneficial.

Tom D. Steve Lotspeich would be a good person to talk to.

Karen Horn said VLCT has looked at whether or not they need a circuit planner, and are looking into it for one or two days a week.

The board will ask VLCT for more information about their findings.

Jonathan Siegel would like the solid waste chapter run by Patrick Burnell, Esq.

Dan Zucker moved to Moretown from Danville Vt., said the Town Plan is an admirable document. He asked what we do about things in the Town Plan that don't agree with the Zoning Regulations, saying a permit can't be denied based on the Town Plan. Act 250 could deny an application if it doesn't conform to the Town Plan, as could the Public Service Board.

Jonathan S. said the next step is to update the Zoning Regulations to ensure that ordinances are in compliance with the Town Plan.

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The draft was not adopted tonight so that the language on page 76 (solid waste) can be run by the attorney as was suggested by Jonathan.

7:23 Public Hearing adjourned.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointments to fill vacancies in town offices - Jason Gerrish sent an email that he is no longer interested in being appointed 2nd Constable.

Ray Munn also put in a letter of interest to fill the 2nd Constable office.

Rae moved to appoint Raymond Munn as 2nd Constable. Tom seconded. All were in favor.

New town office update – Clark Amadon and Bill Gallup were in attendance.

- Getting started later than was anticipated due to a delay in obtaining permits.
- The Grant Agreement has been fully executed and approved and is in effect thru December of 2016. Clark will find out if that date can be extended if need be.
- Clerk of the Works bids – The drawings were 80% complete one month ago and will be available by May 8th. Bids for a clerk of the works could be advertised at that time.
- Discussion followed about the timeframe for going out to bid for a general contractor. Bill talked about the Waitsfield project, which took 26 days to complete the bid process. Seven contractors picked up bid documents and only three bids were received. Bill spoke with one of the general contractors who bid, and with one who didn't bid, who both said they are busy. Bill recommended giving some flexibility to the start date. It might attract more competitive bids. Bill added that the best time to bid is Jan/Feb. Clark spoke to Henry Erickson, who felt that flexibility in the start date would encourage more bidding interest. Ray Daigle also had concerns about a late start because the weather could become a factor. Ray thinks we could give contractors the option to start next construction season.

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- The Town is disappointed that we are at this point. Drawings were 80% complete in February. Tom thinks we should prepare the documents and go out to bid. If we aren't satisfied and have to go out to bid again, Maclay Architects should have to pick up some of those costs. Rae also thinks the project should go out to bid. Maybe have a set completion date. Rae suggested having a solid estimate as he thinks general contractors would feel comfortable enough to bid.
- The construction time to complete the building is 8-10 months.
- The school is in the process of dismantling the playground. It is unknown when the new one will be built.

Rae moved that we put the project out to bid to general contractors as soon as possible, but no later than 5/11/15, advertising a flexible start date and a completion date. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Capital Budget – Tom will go over the capital budget with Jason as it is his area of expertise.

Bridge Road landscaping – Mark Austin is concerned that the landscaping that was done when the new bridge was built, may increase flooding impacts for him.

Martin, Rae and Tom will meet Mark at his house to discuss his concerns sometime next week.

Town hall railing repair – Tom said he spoke with Joe Gabaree. Joe will put together a bid. Joe also mentioned that the new cement steps need to be treated. Joe will also give a bid to do the treatment.

Solid Waste – Can host agreements be done for other business? Should we / can we ask for a host agreement with a compost facility? The growth of composting facilities is being driven by the State. Should language as such be added to the new Town Plan? Tom will ask Patrick Bernal Esq. about these questions and to take a look at the TP language for solid waste. There was discussion about composting and recycling.

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New Business: None

Sidewalks – Carl thinks the new sidewalks should be staked out.

Invoices on the following warrants were approved:

15018 – a/p ck #16825-16826

15019 - a/p ck# 16827-16828

e-ck# 1898-1905

15020 - a/p ck #16829-16858

Tom moved to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.