

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

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 7/6/15 Selectboard meeting

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

Guests: Cheryl Brown as board assistant

6/29/15 – Special meeting – Board members John, Tom, Rae and Jason were present. Minutes will follow, but Colby from Fountain Forestry was to contact Irene Sherman (the only Bat Hennessey resident on the road that wasn't able to be notified of the 6/29/15 meeting), to ask if she had objections to the Selectboard issuing Brian Ward a road maintenance permit to do work on the town road that will allow ingress and egress of logging trucks. Colby must reply Irene's comments to the Selectboard before the permit will be approved.

Public Comment period – No one was present for public comment.

Reports & Communication, Announcements

Moretown Mountain Road closure/project – Rae reported meeting with GW Tatro and Martin about an area of the road where water is coming out of the gravel. Engineering Ventures is coming up with a solution to address the water and GW will come up with a price to repair the condition. This water problem developed after area #1 was completed and paved.

The board approved an overlay of the current pavement on the Common Road for a price of \$4,500.

Harwood Union High School Life Skills group – sent letters of thanks for the use of the town hall and kitchen for their meetings.

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High Meadows Fund meeting – John reported having a great meeting. He and Dara learned more about the program, which addresses run-off resiliency studies pertaining to town roads, and widening of roads and intersections. Great questions were asked. The grant application to help pay for the study is still pending.

Host Town Agreement – Tom reported talking with Lisa Ransom regarding the recent discussion about the town supporting having host agreements for compost facilities.

Common Road erosion – Jason provided photos of a significant erosion problem on the lower portion of the Moretown Common Road. Jason agreed to watch for grants that would help fund the repair.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

6/15/15 – John moved; Michelle seconded the approval of the 6/15/15 minutes. All were in favor.

6/29/15 – approval was tabled.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sidewalk project update – Doug Henson sent another round of conceptual plans which Pat Travers reviewed and has commented on.

Discussion followed about having final design plans soon, and ask Pat and Doug to attend the 7/20/15 selectboard meeting. The board wants to push the project forward so that it starts next spring, with bidding to begin this coming winter.

Red Cross emergency services – No reporting tonight.

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Capital Budget – Jason reported meeting with Don LaRocca about the capital budget and capital improvement plan that we have currently. Jason said what we have is a projected cash flow over the next few years and projected requests. No prioritization or justification for the requests was done. We need this information. Therefore Jason will meet with department leads and talk with them about their requests. The next step will be to find out what fits into our town budget so we know what needs to be done to pay for the equipment. Jason will meet with Martin Cameron and Steve Smith.

Blodgett site visit of newly proposed trail - There was a site visit and public hearing scheduled for July, but the date needed to be extended to allow for posting and publication of the public hearing so it was rescheduled. The date for the site visit for relocation of trail #49 is now Monday, August 17th at 5:00 pm. with a public hearing to follow thereafter at the Moretown town hall.

New Business:

Solid Waste Universal Recycling Law update – Michelle reported having called waste facilities about adapting to the new recycling law. They have no plan yet.

VLCT does have recommendations. Michelle will get them for the next meeting.

ICS-402 training – For towns to be eligible for emergency FEMA funding at least one Selectboard member must have an introductory course to the Incident Command System (ICS). There is training scheduled at the Moretown town hall on Wednesday, August 19th from 6-9 pm. Selectboard members are registered to attend the training.

Tax Rate preparation – A worksheet to calculate the 2015 tax rate was prepared and given to the board to review and adjust as needed. Tom will work on the draft over the next couple of weeks.

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Budget standings – During the tax rate preparations, a budget standing report was reviewed and found that some departments were already over budget on some of their line items.

A letter to all town departments will be sent, asking them to be mindful of their budgets and any expenditures whether it be a line item or total budget, that are in excess of the budget must be approved by the Selectboard prior to the purchase.

Meet with the Schoolboard – The Selectboard will ask for time on the September Schoolboard meeting agenda to sit down with them and talk about various town/school related business.

Review invoices and sign other documents –

Warrant # 15033 – Check #'s 17012-17025, was approved as submitted.

RUGGCO Contract – Ruggco was the low bid and the general contractor chosen for the town office building project. The contract for \$742,904 was approved and signed. The original bid price was \$766,015 but \$23,111 in deductions was negotiated.

Purchase Policy – The signed original Purchase Policy adopted in 2009 was lost in Tropical Storm Irene and therefore found to be ineffective by State grant standards. The document was signed as adopted again tonight.

Tom moved to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Michelle 2nd. All were in favor.