

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

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 9/21/15 Selectboard meeting

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

Guests included: Martha Douglass, Dan Harris, Dennis Fekert, Martin Cameron, Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

5:45 – Board members, Martin, Dan and Dennis met at the sand pit to talk about screening options.

6:00 – Tom called the meeting to order

Public Comment period – none

Reports & Communication, Announcements –

Adam Stone – Adam still has about one-thousand cubic yards of road sand to haul per his contract with the town. He asked for a two week extension to get that done. Adam’s bid was accepted on 5/18/15 for \$4.99 cy to haul the road sand.

Tom moved; Jason seconded, to give Adam Stone a two week extension on the 10/1/15 deadline to haul the road sand. All were in favor.

Bridgette Remington request for reappointment as PC alternate – Bridgette requested reappointment to the Planning Commission as an alternate.

Tom moved; Michelle seconded, to re-appoint Bridgette Remington as an alternate on the Planning Commission. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

9/8/15 – Rae moved to approve the minutes of 9/8/15; John seconded. All were in favor.

Draft - Unapproved minutes of the 9/21/15 selectboard meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

Road department vacancy – Two applications have been received so far. One being today that Martin hasn't had the chance to look over. Martin will review the applications and if there are any candidates that he feels the board should interview, he will schedule time at the 10/5 meeting for that purpose.

Discussion followed about rates of pay; and how reputation and experience might be a negotiating factor; Duxbury's new hire started out at \$17.50 per hour; including a pay rate in the job advertisement; too low of a pay rate may create turn over; and possible interest from state highway workers taking early retirement.

Sand pile usage draft policy – Dan said it has been a long summer for construction, and contractors have had the use of the town sand pile area. The noise is very loud and makes it impossible to sleep and relax after work. Dan added that the board needs to address the noise issue, which sometimes began at 5:30 am and goes into the evening.

Discussion followed: review of a draft policy for usage of the sand pile area, including who would be affected by the policy (road department?); how long the permit would be good for; who should be able to use the area, contractors working for the town or any contractor; insurance requirements; shorten the hours for use; change the backup notice devise from a beeper to "white noise"; signage wording; replacing the current shrubs with a difference species that would better survive the conditions; changing the location of the access; and building a 2-3' berm to lessen the noise.

In the end, the decision was to have no policy, but the Selectboard will consider requests to use the area on a case by case basis; put up signage that "no unauthorized commercial vehicles are allowed" in the sandpit area.

Appeal of Grow Compost certification revocation mediation date – Mediation date is 10/1/15. Rae and Tom or Jason will go depending on Jason's schedule.

Draft – notice of unapproved minutes of the 9/21/15 selectboard meeting

Since the 8/6/15 selectboard meeting when the board agrees Lisa Ransom stated Grow would contribute to the neighbor's mediation costs, she has since denied making the statement and won't contribute to the neighbor's mediation costs. MLI has agreed to contribute. It is unclear if ANR will contribute.

The Douglass's prefer to pay their mediation charge.

There was discussion about the town contributing to the neighbor's mediation being a conflict in any way. The board will ask Ron, but they don't think that would be the case. Everyone is in mediation for themselves. Paying the neighbor's (on the service list) mediation costs is just to ensure that they are able to participate in the mediation process. If they choose to pay their costs as the Douglass's did, that is fine too.

The board wants to discuss mediation strategy, and found the need to enter into private session.

Tom moved to enter into executive session at 7:33 pm to discuss the mediation litigation regarding the revocation of Grow Compost solid waste certification. Premature public knowledge would clearly place the town at a disadvantage. John seconded. All were in favor. Cheryl stayed.

Tom moved to come out of executive session at 8:13 pm; Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Rae moved to pay up to \$1100 for mediation costs, which includes the town's share. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

New Business:

Nomination by the Service Officer for use of the Charles O. Davis Fund –

Since this request is a confidential matter, Tom moved to enter into executive session at 8:20 pm to review a request for assistance from the CO Davis Fund, where public knowledge would clearly place the person involved at a disadvantage. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

Tom moved out of executive session at 8:30 pm. All were in favor.

Tom moved to accept the nomination made by the Moretown Service Officer and prepare payment of \$7,743.23 from the Charles O. Davis Fund as requested. John seconded. All were in favor.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 9/21/15 selectboard meeting

**Review invoices and approval of warrants - #47 –P/R – e-check # 2005-2014
check # 17161-17162
#48 – A/P - check # 17163-17204**

Other documents approved:

- Overload permit for G.K. Bisson Trucking
- \$832.99 Requisition for expenses related to the sidewalk
- Personnel Policy minor housekeeping revisions to Section 6 (provision to allow for 4/10 hour work days for the road crew) & Section 18 (delete Columbus Day and replace with Bennington Battle Day).

Tom moved; Michelle seconded, to adjourn at 8:50 pm. All were in favor.