

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

Notice - draft minutes of the 7/18/16 Selectboard meeting

Board members in attendance: Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, Rae Washburn, Michelle Beard, Jason Aronowitz at 6:15

Guests included: Bruce Westcott and Leesa Stewart from CVSWMD, Jonathan Siegel, Don LaRocca, John Riley, Cheryl Brown as board assistant

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Reports & Communication, Announcements –

Copier lease – The five year lease on the copier is up. A new lease will cost about \$10 more per month, but the unit will have the capability for color copies which will reduce the town’s cost significant for ink cartridges for the separate color copier that we have now. The new copier will have faxing features so we can do away with the fax machine we have now.

The board approved signing the five-year lease.

Phone system for the new building – Costs for phones at the new office with Waitsfield Telecom will be about \$260 per month. The cost includes one additional phone line/internet, and leasing five phones for a five-year period. The service includes all internet services, voicemail, and incoming fax via email (which we currently pay \$15.90 per month for). Additional cost from the current Comcast service will equal around \$40 per month.

The board approved signing the contract to lease.

Mowing around the fire station – John Girard DiCarlo spoke with Cheryl, saying the lawn area behind the firestation (riverbank area) wasn’t being mowed and it doesn’t look good.

It is unclear who is mowing the front lawn. Cheryl will check with Steve.

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Park and Ride grant application – Rae will come up with an estimate for the grant application due 8/31/16.

Town Office grant – The board wants to get an extension until the parking lot paving is figured out. The current agreement expires in December of 2016.

Sandra Reagan – Sandra has applied for a town zoning permit to operate a cottage industry in the garage at her home on Route 100B. A DRB hearing will be scheduled.

Morefest update – celebration is scheduled for Saturday, August 27th at the Moretown Commuter Parking lot. A contract for the fireworks was signed; the board approved Michelle ask the road department and fire department for any barriers necessary for the car show; the town will provide trash bins; there will be a bake sale with proceeds donated back to the town for landscaping the area.

Cobb Hill retaining wall – Pam Nelson property – Rae has an appointment tomorrow at the site.

Paving/repairing the parking lot – Johnson Paving is low bid. The boards need to get together to finalize a maintenance agreement. Cheryl will ask Kate and Duane to put together a maintenance plan agreement draft.

Ball field condition – Michelle reported that the dug outs have frost heaves and are in general disrepair. Michelle will call the Little League and see if they use the field and will come back with an update.

Town office landscaping of Schultz property – Tom and Rae went to look at the current landscaping. There are large gaps in the cedar trees planted along Schultz's line. The board estimates 15 or so trees need to be planted to fill the gap. Cheryl will ask the Schultz's if they would be willing to get prices for the trees including the planting.

Town office landscaping budget – It seems there is fill needed at the town office for the lawn. It is unclear what remains, if anything in the landscaping budget. There needs to be a meeting with Henry, the garden group (Rita LaRocca) and the board to figure this out. There is one area so steep it can't be mowed.

Approval of Minutes:

7/5/16 – Rae moved to approve the minutes of 7/5/16. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

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Leesa Steward and Bruce Westcott from Central Vermont Solid Waste

Management District (CVSWMD) – Leesa is leaving CVSWMD. Bruce is taking her place. Leesa gave an overview of the number of towns in the District and its purpose. Including:

- The district consists of 18 towns; about 5100 members.
- Primary focus is on zero waste.
- Currently a total of nine special events are planned for household hazard waste/paint, batteries, fluorescent & CFL bulb collection. Residents within the district may attend any collection in any town.
- The special collections are driven by Act 148.
- Fees are \$1 per capita and a \$30 per ton surcharge.
- Leesa spoke about how the surcharge is assessed at collection sites.
- Bruce added that transfer stations should be asking what town you are from when you take your trash. Moretown residents should not be charged the surcharge.
- Waste haulers record receipts (dumpsters) by the town they are collecting in. User's pay rates by what town they live in; ie: the Mad River Resource Alliance has no surcharge; CVSWMD does. So if realistically if you are a town in the CVSWMD, you would pay more as the surcharge would apply. Audits indicate the haulers are pretty accurate in their charges.
- Jon Siegel brought up that Moretown currently has no surcharge, so costs could go up to people in Moretown if CVSWMD is joined, and noted the difference between an alliance and a district. He is not in favor of leaving the alliance.
- It was noted that CVSWMD did not contact the town, the town contacted CVSWMD. CVSWMD is not soliciting towns to join the district.

The process to join would be:

Moretown would write CVSWMD requesting permission to join the district.

Board of supervisors would agree or disagree to allow the town in.

Vote of the Moretown townspeople to allow Moretown to leave the alliance and join the district.

The CVSWMD decision process would take about one month.

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Investments – Don LaRocca was invited in to help explain how the town stands with its current investment choices through Merchants Trust. In his opinion, it might be time to reevaluate and get more opinions. Don suggested having Craig Eilers look at our portfolio, and see what he has to say, possibly others. See what options and strategies are available.

We cannot direct Merchants Trust to change their investment mind set.

The board asked Don to contact Craig, and other firms to look at our portfolio and see what they have to say, and then come back.

OLD BUSINESS:

Blodgett litigation – The judge demanded a walk of the proposed access area. The walk does not have to be during a hearing. The purpose would be to look at the area Mr. Case offered using earlier this year to see if it will work as a crossing to reach the Blodgett Trail, and if determined it will work, the board will see if Mr. Cases offer is still on the table.

Do to the threat from Travis Blodgett earlier this spring to Tom when he tried to walk the proposed access, the board will not walk the property without a law enforcement person in attendance. Tom will call Paul Gillies to see if 8/1/16 at 5 pm works for all parties, and if Blodgett will pay any law enforcement costs.

Grow Compost Act 250 status - No word from the attorney.

Sand pile screening – discussion was tabled until 8/1/16 to allow time for John to investigate costs.

John Riley mentioned the permit conditions for landscaping when the town was issued the permit. It was discussed that the more trees there are, the better resolution for noise filtering.

Pressure wash town buildings – No replies to the request for proposal to pressure wash four town buildings. Cheryl will look up companies and get quotes to do the work.

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New Business –

Development Review Board (DRB) member vacancies – Request for reappointment to the DRB was received from Tom Badowski, Jim O’Neill, and Erick Titrud. Requests for appointment as a member of the DRB were received from Paula Woods and Gregory Nagurney.

John Riley thinks we have a good board now, and asked the board to reappoint Tom, Erick and Jim, and to appoint Greg and Paula as alternates.

Discussion followed about the past and present size of the DRB, and about the possibility of increasing the DRB to a seven member board.

Tom moved to appoint Tom Badowski, Erick Titrud and Jim O’Neill for three - year terms to the Development Review Board; and to appoint Paula Woods and Greg Nagurney as alternates for a one-year term. John seconded. All were in favor.

Planning Commission member vacancy – Karen Horn requested reappointment to the planning commission.

Tom moved to appoint Karen Horn to the Planning Commission. John seconded. All were in favor.

2016 Tax Rate – A working draft of the 2016 tax rate was giving to the board for review. The plan is to set the tax rate at the next meeting on August 1st.

Review invoices and approve warrants

A/P # 16034 - Ck # 17885

P/R # 16035 – Ck# 17886-17889 / e-ck# 2207-2216

P/R # 16036 – Ck # 17890-17891

A/P # 16037 - Ck # 17892-17918

P/R # 16038 – Ck # 17919 / e-ck# 2217-2226

A/P # 16039 – Ck # 17920-17929

A/P # 16040 - Ck# 17930-17952

Vtrans Annual Financial Report was signed.

Tom moved; Michelle seconded to adjourn at 8:50 pm.