

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

DRAFT – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 11/21/16 Selectboard meeting

Board members present: Michelle Beard, Jason Aronowitz, Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Tom Martin arrived at 6:05

Guests: Cherilyn Brown, Jonathan Siegel, Mary Murphy

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

Public Comment: None tonight

Reports & Communication, Announcements:

Schultz contaminated soil – Notice from Vermont DEC that contaminated soil was found on the Schultz property on 100B from a leaky fuel oil tank, in November of 2015. DEC will continue to monitor the cleanup.

Efficiency Vermont grant incentive award - entry form has been submitted. The award will be given to commercial buildings designed & constructed as high efficiency. The award incentive will be \$1,290, and will come from Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC).

Radon mitigation - The radon mitigation is complete and tested well under the 4.0 threshold (less than 1.0). The cost for the radon mitigation and testing was \$1,580 and will be paid by the town office grant.

Star at the town garage – Martin reported that someone dropped of a star wrapped in lights with a note thanking them for all they do, and asking them to display the star in remembrance of the five kids killed in the October car accident. As the star could be taken as religious in nature, Martin wants a decision from the board whether or not to hang the star.

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The majority of the board agreed to hang the star to show a united and supportive community.

VLCT Town Fair – John reported that the open meeting law updates, effective May 24, 2016 were talked about, and changes were reviewed.

A copy of the handout was given to every board member.

Friends of the Mad River – John provided a copy of an email sent to Ridge to River (R2R) members from the Friends of the Mad River, notifying of a December 13th meeting at the Duxbury Town Garage, 9 am-10:30 am., scheduled to get all town road departments on the same page as far as best practices for road repairs and erosion prevention.

There were questions regarding making sure the best practices being proposed meet or exceed State Standards for AOT and Water Quality. Will someone from the State be the speaker or be present for the conversation? John wasn't sure.

Moretown's road crew plans to attend.

Mad River Park sale – According to John, the sale of the Mad River Park was discussed briefly at the last Leadership meeting. The MRV Recreation District won't know exactly how much money is needed from Moretown/all towns for the purchase until they know if the grant is received. John thought other town boards in the MRV Recreation District will be budgeting worst case scenario.

Before Moretown begins serious discussion about going in on the purchase of the Mad River Park, the selectboard want an adequate financial plan in place; a survey to see if the majority of the town supports purchasing the park; and a determination if can we afford it. Rebecca Baruzzi will be attending the 12/5 Selectboard meeting to talk more. Hopefully she will have more details then.

Cheryl will contact Rebecca and ask her to forward any information she plans to present the board on 12/15. It was noted that some of the Moretown kids using the field were being counted for each sport they partake in, increasing the actual percent (45%) of Moretown kids said to be using the field.

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Vote – This past election broke the record for votes cast in Moretown. 1049 voted on a checklist of 1409. An excellent turn out.

Approval of 11/7/16 minutes: Michelle moved; John seconded to approve the minutes of 11/7/16 as written. All were in favor.

Cory Stephenson was unable to attend tonight’s meeting.

Cherilyn Brown came in to answer any questions the board had about the explanation for the shortfall. The board had time now to review the document. Cherilyn explained that part of the shortfall was because of paying back the capital reserve fund the \$160K borrowed in June of 2016; delinquent taxes of about \$90K, and unbudgeted expenses such as the town’s share to build the new town office which was about \$26K; equipment repairs etc. Cherilyn provided borrowing information, and ideas how to wipe out the shortfall.

The board will consider their options between now and the next meeting. Cherilyn will provide interest rates.

Cemetery Commissioner Mary Murphy re: cemetery lot mapping – The Cemetery Commissioners would like to have the Mountain View Cemetery (off Freeman Hill) plots mapped, showing the burials and lots available to purchase. There are 860 lots in that cemetery. The other cemeteries are basically inactive.

There are two phases to the project as quoted by Grenier Engineering, who did a great job on Waterbury’s cemeteries. Phase 1 is \$1,500; phase 2 is \$3,000. Mary explained each phase saying, to do both phases would cost \$4,500, but there would be a clear and concise mylar of the lots with names, and clearly defined boundaries. There would be CAD drawing (computer generated) map, digital to scale, and edited by Grenier when a lot is sold. The Commissioners would like the town to contribute \$4,500, but would be thankful too if a partial amount was budgeted.

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Discussion followed about the money the cemetery fund has available for things such as this, about \$24K. Mary indicated that if there were to be another flood etc., they would need money to make repairs like they did after TS Irene. The money is on hand for such a disaster.

If the town decides not to contribute, the commissioners plan to move forward with the mapping anyway.

The board will take the request under consideration during budgeting.

Additional mentions:

- All of the stones were cleaned last summer.
- Once the mapping is done, a mylar would be posted on the town website and in the town clerk's office.
- Cemetery lots cost: \$500 or residents; \$1000 for non-residents.
- It would be nice to post the lot prices on the website.

Old Business:

Blodgett court settlement - Cheryl spoke with Paul Gillies today. Paul does not have the signed agreement back from Blodgett. He doesn't expect a problem.

Planning Commission appointment – John Schmeltzer and Deborah Feldman both applied to fill the vacancy on the planning commission. Both would bring important and useful knowledge to the PC.

John Schmeltzer was appointed to fill the vacancy on the planning commission; Deborah Feldman (a Lister) was appointed as ex officio on the planning commission. John seconded. All were in favor.

Amendment to the town office grant – The State has accepted paperwork to amend the town office grant deadline to 6/30/17, and to increase the grant by nearly \$50,000 for the acoustics, flood gates and paving.

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Grow Compost Act 250 update – There has been no update of change from the attorney.

Sidewalks – The design drawings are nearing the final approval stage with the State. The board would like to have bidding begin by January/February for summer construction. After the holidays easement discussions with property owners will begin. Board members will actively participate in the visits.

New Business:

2017 budget – A worksheet of the department requests received so far was provided to the board. More work will commence over the next month or so.

Warrants approved:

Warrant # 65 – ck# 18311 – 18320 e-ck# 2311-2319

Warrant # 66 – ck# 18321-18356

Warrants and check numbers were found to be consecutive with the last warrant

Other documents approved:

Preventive Maintenance Agreement for the heating / cooling system – Quote for \$1,150 per year from Peak. The contract includes two visits per year maintenance. Peak installed the new system.

Crestone Acoustical Solutions quote for labor and material – furnish labor and materials to improve sound quality in the town office. Approval for installation of noise mitigation in the town clerk area for \$5,275, via a motion by Tom and seconded by Rae. All were in favor.

Ruggco PCO#15 for flood gates – approved for \$3,600.
Both the acoustical work and the flood gates will be paid via grant funds.

Motion by Tom; John seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.