

## Town of Moretown Selectboard Minutes

1/22/2019

**Board members present:** Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Jason Aronowitz, Callie Streeter and Tom Martin

**Guest Present:** Catrina Brackett, Katie Martin (Valley Reporter), Peter Langella, Chris Butsch and Neil Nussbaum.

### **Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00pm**

**General Public Comment:** Chris Butsch was present to speak to the Board about petitions being needed to be on the ballot. He had previously sent an email to the Board. The Board has decided it was a topic that should be discussed at Town Meeting and asked Catrina to do research into how other towns handle the requests.

Chris also mentioned he was in support of giving the road crew a raise to be inline with other area towns. Tom spoke about doing an assessment about 3 years ago for every Town employee and being inline then. The Board plans to have an independent person do a review this year. Tom also said the Board agrees and knows the employees were just as important as the infrastructure.

Peter Langella was present to speak about the petition that Neil Nussbaum had been circulating, stating "Should the Moretown School withdraw from the HUUSD". Peter agrees there needs to be some sort of catalyst to keep talking about the chance the Moretown School could be closed in 2021. Even though it isn't being talked about right now Peter believes it still will come down to Moretown and Fayston closing.

**Neil Nussbaum-** The petition is something Neil said he has been working on for a couple of months. He doesn't think the vote would actually pass but feels it would be something to make all the residents in Moretown aware that he believes MES is still on the chopping block. The Board feels this is not a ballot issue but that the subject needs to be discussed. Tom would like this to be included in the agenda for the informational meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>. John mentioned how he didn't get the same impression from the School Board members that attended their last meeting.

**Winter Parking Ban-** Martin would like to see a simple ban similar to what Waitsfield has. The Board agreed. **MOTION:** The Towns prohibition against parking in a public right-of-way begins on November 1<sup>st</sup> until April 30<sup>th</sup> the following year. Any vehicles parked along Town roads, within the right-of-way could be removed at the owner's expense. Seconded by Tom. All agreed. The Board will add instructions for employees taking steps for cars to be removed into the Personnel Policy.

**Reports and Communications:** John spoke about changes to the Financial Committee (minutes from the 1/17/19 meeting can be found on the Towns website). **MOTION:** Rae

made a motion to ratify the minutes as presented by John tonight, seconded by Callie.  
All Agreed.

## **Town Administrators Report**

### **TA Report 1/22/19**

1. The 2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage report to VTrans will not include any changes for Legal Trail #17, as the decision to change the access is under appeal. The report is due to the state by 2/20/19.
2. Budget number needs to be changed via a motion, to \$1,196,946.  
The result is \$875 less than the original motion.
3. Town Meeting warning will be available to sign on January 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at the town clerk's office, if it isn't ready tonight.
4. Discussions are happening with Pam DeAndrea and Corrie Miller about applying again for an Ecosystem Grant. We want to meet with Ned Swanberg first with the final design regarding the floodplain regulations. Grant applications are due 3/31/19. We may not be ready for this round. The old project cost was \$700K. The new project cost is \$150K. I want to see why the drastic difference before going further. If we do apply for the grant in March, CVRPC would be managing the project for Moretown, with the management fees written into the grant. This will help with the transition of my retirement.

**Old Business:** Jason asked about the damage to the column at the school. Tom is going to contact Ray Daigle.

**New Business:** None at this time.

**Town Administrator Discussions:** **MOTION:** John made a motion at 7:20 pm to enter into executive session for the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee. Seconded by Rae. All Agreed. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to end executive session at 7:55 pm, seconded by Jason. All Agreed. **NO ACTION**

**Budget:** Work was done on the budget with a new total amount of \$1,203,492.

**Next Meetings:** 2/5/19 and TUESDAY 2/21/19.

**Minutes:** **MOTION:** John made a motion to accept the minutes from January 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Tom. All agreed.

**Warrants:** 19003 PR, eck#2973-eck#2963; 19004 AP ck#20218-ck#20243

**Documents Approved:** Annual liquor license for the Moretown Store. Overload permits for Snider Trucking and Newport Sand and Gravel Inc. / Carroll Concrete Co Inc.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Callie seconded, all agreed.