

Town of Moretown Selectboard Minutes

2/19/2019

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

Guest Present: Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Ron Shems, Michelle Beard, Cherilyn Brown and Elizabeth Burt

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

General Public Comment: Elizabeth was present to give an update on the Library's presentation plan for pre/town meeting. They have decided to not include a budget because they don't feel they are far enough along in the visioning process. The Board agrees with the decision.

Town Administrators Report:

1. An email was received from Philip C. Woodward, Esq. containing a complaint, which had been filed with the Court, and a requested waiver of formal service. Phil Woodward lawyer for the Towns insurance though Vermont League of Cities and Towns will represent the Towns interest in the suit alleging negligence on the part of a grader operation resulting in Thomas Cheney having an accident on River Road 6/21/2016. The Board agreed to grant the request to waive formal service. No date or court case number has been assigned as of yet.
2. Cheryl spoke about emails concerning placement of a catch basin on the north side of the Fire Department instead of Deborah Carroll's property. Doug Henson is currently working on plans for the viability of this option.
3. A letter from Ned Swanberg, Central Vermont Floodplain Manager confirming the Community Assistance Visit (CAV) on March 8th from 9am to 12pm. Both JB and Cheryl intend to attend the meeting. The CAV is an opportunity to discuss the community's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and address any questions about the flood plain management program. Cheryl felt at least one Selectboard member should be present.

Reports and Communications:

Callie spoke about attending Local Government Day. She attended a discussion on the proposed gas tax as funding for roads. Less salt and more sand use were also spoken about as a cost saving opportunity. After this Callie attend a discussion with the House and Senate where they discussed a new possible proposal to give municipalities more control.

Callie also spoke with Stefan Pratt about starting the Fire Department Woman's Auxiliary. She put a post on FPF and had 3 responses within 24 hours.

Tom received a phone call from Stefan last week, the clutch went on the fire truck, Tom advised him to send it to a shop in Jericho where they had received the best quote.

An email addressed to only the Selectboard from JB Weir Zoning Administrator resigning from his position as soon as a replacement can be found. MOTION: John moved to accept his resignation, seconded by Rae. All agreed. JB suggested David Specht who is Duxbury's Zoning Administrator. An ad will be placed in this week Valley Reporter as well as online. With applications being due by March 4th.

Committee for Seniors: Cherilyn Brown and Michelle Beard were present with the following proposal.

PROPOSAL: Create a committee that would meet regularly and help to match Moretown residents who are in need and would like assistance with available services. The committee would research the services that might be of interest to people, who to contact and how to access the services. The committee would also try to determine if there are unmet needs in the community and how to best meet those needs within the community.

The focus would be on utilizing existing state programs, helping to connect people with agencies who are tasked with the management of these existing programs, and organizing volunteer efforts if there is a situation that warrants it.

We have found that it be sometimes confusing for individuals to determine what is available. It can also be difficult for people to ask for assistance. It is sometimes easier to reach out to someone on a local level. This committee does not plan to duplicate any efforts that are currently set up within the county or the state. It is envisioned as a committee that would assist Service Officer and serve as a resource to Moretown residents.

GOAL: The goal is to have no Moretown community member slip through the cracks if they are in need of assistance.

POTENTIAL COST TO THE TOWN: \$0

PROPOSED MEMBERS:

Cherilyn Brown – Town Clerk
Sasha Elwell – Assistant Town Clerk
Deborah Feldman – Service Officer
Michelle Beard – Moretown Resident

PROPOSED NAME: Moretown Local Needs Committee

The Selectboard agreed this is a great idea. MOTION: John made a motion to form the Moretown Local Needs Committee as suggested, seconded by Callie. All agreed. The Board would like them to check back in with their progress.

Finance Review Committee update: The committee adopted the following Mission Statement as follows; To review, understand, clarify and recommend best financial practices for the Town.

John also said they have discussing using no penalty CDs for the Capital Reserve Fund or what it would look like to borrow from the CR fund for new truck payments. No decision was made.

New Business:

Open Town Hall painting bids: One bid was received from Darrell Mays for a total of \$11,500. He is willing to complete the work this summer and they Town can hold \$4500 until the first of the year 2020. The Board will hold off on making a decision until after Town Meeting.

Pre Town-Meeting discussion: The Board would like The Library and financial Committee on the agenda.

Old Business: Jason talked about the condition of Hathaway Road with a lot of logging going on South Hill. Martin is aware of the situation and is monitoring it. The Board would also like a post on FPF concerning removal of trash cans in the Town ROW. Cheryl also informed the Board of a truck that had to be towed on Lovers Lane during the last storm because it was parked in the ROW.

Executive Session: Tom requested executive session to talk to the other Board members about a question he wanted to ask the Town attorney. John made a **MOTION** at 7:10 to enter into executive session for confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the body, seconded by Rae. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to end executive session at 7:16, seconded by John.

Executive Session: Tom requested executive session to discuss the Town Administrators position. John made a **MOTION** at 7:22 to enter into executive session for the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, seconded by Rae, all agreed. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to exit executive session at 7:29, seconded by Callie, all agreed.

Executive Session: Tom requested executive session to speak with the Town attorney. John made a **MOTION** at 7:30 to enter into executive session for the negotiating or securing of real estate purchase or lease option. seconded by Rae, Catrina and Cheryl were invited to stay. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to end executive session at 7:44, seconded by Callie.

Executive Session: Tom requested executive session to talk to the Town attorney. John made a **MOTION** at 7:45 to enter into executive session for confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to

the body seconded by Rae. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to end executive session at 7:47, seconded by John.

Next Meetings: Monday March 4th 6pm at the TOWN HALL, followed by pre-Town-Meeting at 7pm, TOWN HALL. Town meeting Tuesday March 5th at 9:00 am.

Warrants: AP 19006, ck#20264-20244; PR 19007; e2985-e2996, ck#20266; AP 19008, ck# 20333-20365.

Documents Approved: Annual Financial Plan-Town Highways. Municipal roads General Permit Planning Report. Overload permits for- Scott Brown, Spafford and Sons, Austin Construction, and Allen Lumber.

Motion to Adjourn: Rae made a motion to adjourn at 7:48pm, seconded by Callie, all agreed.