

**Town of Moretown  
Selectboard Meeting  
Via conference call  
04/20/2020**

**Board Members Present:** Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, Rae Washburn, Callie Streeter, Don Wexler

**Guests Present:** Cherilyn Brown, Neil Nussbaum, Stefan Pratt, Sasha Elwell-Badore

**Meeting called to order** at 6:00 pm by Tom

**Public Comment:** There was none.

**6:10:** Dickerson Road was discussed. The permits are holding up any construction on the road, due to it being in the flood zone. Local and State permits are needed for this project. Cherilyn spoke about the grant she is working on with CVRPC for this project. She is confident that the 2021 FY Structures Grant will cover this and the payment would normally be within a couple of months. Once the permits are completed, the bids will be considered. Rae informed the SB that Dubois is willing to put off the billing for this project if that helped the town, (if they were awarded this job). Martin had asked a few different companies to look at the job, and due to the pandemic there were only a few willing to bid. Don asked about putting a road closed sign up so that there is no normal traffic, Martin will be asked to do that. Cherilyn asked about what the actual project would be classified as for the grant, Rae responded that it would be considered a stone retaining wall project.

**6:20:** Discussion was had on taxes, and the possibility of collecting taxes early. Cherilyn reconfirmed that any resident is more than welcome to pay their taxes early. There are indeed a few people that pay their taxes monthly. Tom believes that there is a bill being worked on in the House right now, regarding penalties on property taxes, that the Selectboard may be given the opportunity to make the decisions on a local level. Cherlyn is going to be in touch with VLCT on this. John agreed that it's a good idea, if the SB can make those decisions. More discussion will be had at a later meeting.

**6:30:** John made the motion to approve the minutes from 4/06/2020, with clarification on the town money for the purchase of the new excavator, that money is coming from the Savings Reserve. Callie seconded. All were in favor of the amended motion.

**Reports & Communications:** Sasha had nothing to report. Tom wanted to thank Neil for the information that he gave the SB about the school. He also reminded him that he will be put on a future agenda for more discussion on this. John said that the construction projects are still on hold due to the governor's restrictions.

**Old Business:** Tom spoke about a conversation with Martin regarding the road crew getting back to regular work schedules. All agreed that Martin has been doing a good job in keeping up with the roads. John motioned to pay Martin \$100 from the SB fund as a bonus. Tom seconded. All were in favor.

Tom spoke with Cherilyn regarding the office remaining closed. She explained that it would be a process with the cleaning requirements, three times a day and after each person that comes in, it would be very difficult to get much work done. Tom supports her decision and thinks that we need to continue with what is being done currently. John feels it is too soon to "let our guard down" yet. Rae voiced that the town should follow with the governor's lead.

**New Business:** Cherilyn asked the board for permission to allow the land records to go live online, so that title searchers can access them through this pandemic. It would be of no cost to the town, and it is secure. She found out that ten towns have implemented this and five more are getting the service. It could be sooner, but it may take up to eight weeks for this to go into effect. The SB thought that this service would be a great idea. Tom made the motion to allow Cherilyn to put the land records live online and sign off on the contract. John seconded. All were in favor.

Cherilyn informed the SB that future voting may only be by mail, and would like the town to consider installing a drop box, it could also be used for tax payments. She thinks that it could be installed for roughly \$500.

**Adjourn:** Tom made the motion to adjourn at 6:53 pm. John seconded. All were in favor.