

**Town of Moretown  
Selectboard Meeting  
10/19/2020  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6201042716>  
Via ZOOM Meeting ID 620 104 2716  
Passcode D84ysR  
Or to call in: 929-205-6099**

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

**Guests Present:** Orca, MRVTV, Hadley Laskowski (VR), Stefan Pratt, Emily Wood, Neil Nussbaum, Lisa Mason, Kristen Rodgers, Laura Schaller, Dara Torre, Jon Siegel, Martin Cameron, Sasha Elwell-Badore

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

**Public Comment:** None

Tom spoke about the prices he has obtained by two different dealers for replacing the dump truck. Freightliner out of New Hampshire with the trade in would be \$135,579. International at Clark's with the trade in would be \$144,059. There would be a difference of \$3932. The International would be the preferred choice by the road crew, after demonstrating both. The International has much more power, and with the mountains that the town plows, it makes for a better choice. The truck would be ready the end of October-mid-November. John made the motion to accept the proposal from Clark's for the dump truck, including trade in. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

**6:15:** Lisa and Kristen joined for updates on the schoolboard meeting. They advised that there was a motion to start thinking about merging. The motion that passed was to move forward with 7 & 8 grades moving in 2022-2023. Bonds were brought up because of the financing piece. It was mentioned that the 2022-2023 school year will be the year for the new superintendent. The question was asked of Lisa and Kristen, what should be done next. They both agreed that exploring should be done now, get the facts, pros and cons, so that there is no scrambling when the deadline is here. Someone mentioned that they had heard of Warren and Fayston perhaps having talks about pulling out as well. Tom asked that Sasha check with the other towns to see if that is really happening. The SB and Neil thanked both Lisa and Kristen for coming to the meeting and speaking out with their opinions.

**6:30:** Dara joined to discuss the Energy Plan. There have been meetings with the Planning Commission, working on edits to the town plan. Tom asked if there were some top 2 or 3 plans that are currently being thought about. Dara would like to work on how the town buildings are doing. She will need an authorization letter from the SB and

account numbers (fuel and electricity). Tom asked that she go ahead and draft it up and they will fill the blanks in for her, (authorization is for Efficiency Vermont). Dara would like to put something into the town report. She would like to do some studies on the transportation side of things and maybe look into the town vehicle fuel usage. She would also like to attend the meeting where Green Mountain Transit will be a guest.

**Reports and Communications:** 6:45: Sasha brought up just receiving an email from Mike Woods on Errors & Omissions, she had forwarded it onto the SB but they had not had enough time to look it over for discussion. Sasha mentioned the contract for Stantec needing to be approved for the next sidewalk project. The Rec Committee reached out again to ask about meetings inside the town hall. Virtual is the way it will stay at least until the beginning of the year. Jerry Cassels asked to borrow eight tables from the town hall for the function he has planned at the Moretown General Store porch for the coming weekend. Cory needs to be spoken with and Jerry needs to be spoken with about the sanitization of the tables when brought back. Tom would like to know what Jerry's plan is, Sasha will contact him and Tom will be getting with Cory. Sasha also asked that the SB make plans to stop by and sign the warrants (they are piling up again). Rae and John have been signing them electronically. Tom and Callie said that they would stop by this week.

**Old Business:** amendments to the 10/05/20 SB minutes, John would like it noted that *the town will probably end up replacing them vs. relocating.*

Also, the two executive sessions need to be listed separate. Amended as follows:

*7:11 pm Tom made the motion to go into executive session after making a specific finding that premature public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Rae seconded. All were in favor. Tom made the motion to exit executive session at 7:32 pm. Rae seconded. All were in favor. 7:33 pm Tom made the motion to go back into executive session to discuss the Charles O. Davis Fund, the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. Tom made the motion to exit executive session at 7:35 pm. Callie seconded. All were in favor. Tom made the motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm. Callie seconded. All were in favor. No actions were taken.*

John made the motion to approve the SB minutes of 10/05/20 with the amended changes. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

John made the motion to accept the SB minutes of 09/21/20. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

**7:13:** Tom made the motion to use the Charles O. Davis Fund to aid the Moretown couple that requested help with the struggles they are having, due to Covid-19. John seconded. All were in favor.

There was brief discussion on the sidewalk and what Pike was able to do on the side of the road where the sidewalk still needs to be replaced. It's much better not being all broken up and at least the tripping hazard is no longer an issue.

Tom would like to have Franco from CAI back for a future meeting and have the listers attend the meeting as well.

Tom would like the second meeting in November to be on the budget. Have all departments turn them in by the Thursday before, deadline being November 12.

**New Business:** John mentioned the Finance Committee meeting, they had been talking about the capital budget, but due to Covid-19 it has been put on the back burner until at least January. He thinks that a FPF post should be put out about the new dump truck that is on the ballot.

Callie said that she had a good conversation with Neil about the withdrawing from the district. She mentioned that if withdrawing was the decision made, the deadline is June 30 / July 1.

Halloween was brought up and no one had heard that it is being cancelled. Stefan said that last year they had the fire station open to warm up, but he isn't sure how to do that safely this year with Covid-19.

Tom said that he had received a call from someone complaining about a stone that chipped his windshield by one of our trucks. The driver had the tarp up and did his part, so he was not liable. It is considered a road hazard and the town is not required to cover it. Tom also mentioned an accident that damaged the guardrails on Stevens Brook Road near Bat Hennessey, Sunday (10/18/20) morning about 5:30 am. Lafayette is planning on looking at it on Tuesday, but won't be able to replace it until mid-November. Research is being done on who the driver is so the town can be reimbursed for the damages.

**7:21:** John made the motion to go into executive session for the appointment of employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided that the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision during the open meeting. Tom seconded. All were in favor. John made the motion to exit executive session at 7:29 pm. Tom seconded. All were in favor. No action was taken.

**Adjourn:** Tom made the motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm. John seconded. All were in favor.