

Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECT BOARD

DRAFT – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 12/5/11 selectboard meeting

Board members present were: John Hoogenboom, Tom Martin, Reed Korrow, Clark Amadon, Stephanie Venema

Guests included: Duane Pierson, Jonathan Siegel, Sarah Zschau, Sheila Getzinger, Craig Eilers, Stuart Grandfield, Scott Sainsbury, and Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Sheila Getzinger –

Carrigan Road – Sheila said the Mountain Road near Carrigan Road seems narrow since the work on Carrigan Road was done. The board will have Stuart look.

Proposal and Resolution Regarding Zoning Permits and Curb Cuts – All of Moretown’s zoning permits and curb cuts that were issued over the years were lost in the flood. Because attorneys and others rely upon these records for a variety of purposes, Sheila drafted a proposal and resolution whereby the Town of Moretown, after receiving proper documentation from the applicant, allows the Zoning Administrator the authority to issue approval of a zoning application provided they have no knowledge of any outstanding violations.

Town hall septic – Sheila said the Cutler house shares a septic with the town hall, but she can’t find an easement in the land records. Sharon needs an easement from the town in order to sell the house, and only the selectboard has the right to give that easement.

John moved; seconded by Clark to give Sharon Cutler an easement for sharing the septic at the town hall.

Discussion – Sheila will prepare a simple easement for the selectboard to sign. Vote: All were in favor.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 125/11 selectboard meeting

Craig Eilers – Delinquent Tax Collector – Craig said that he had brought up the issue in the past, that work has been done for the town by people who owed delinquent taxes, and he thinks there should be a procedure in place that would allow the town to collect some of the delinquency via monies the town would be paying that person. Craig would like to amend his delinquency policy (published in the Town Report) to include language for when town monies are being paid to a person, the town will withhold that payment and apply it toward delinquent taxes. Craig would like it if the selectboard were on board with the new policy as well.

There was discussion - about the language being a stipulation on all bid requests going forward; donated and or charitable funds will not be considered town funds and therefore not subject to the new collection policy; the Treasurer must be made aware of the new policy too.

Craig will prepare a policy for the board to sign and once done, give a copy to Cherilyn.

Scott Sainsbury –

More donations – Scott said MRNA received another \$12,000 in donations, and he will bring it in to Cherilyn.

Stephanie said there may be others that need assistance, so maybe the donation committee could research that.

Clark said Jeb Bouchard is on the Long Term Recovery Group, so she might know of someone who needs help too.

Bridge replacement /flood related business - Scott said the emergency trail that was used on Steve Vantine’s property while the bridge was being replaced, has been officially closed by Vantine. Scott was asked to notify the town about the closure. Scott thanked Steve for allowing the emergency trail to be accessible during the emergency.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 12/5/11 selectboard meeting

Scott also mentioned dust problems, a telephone cable that was cut, and barriers that were left on his property, all from the bridge construction.

Stuart said they will pick up the dirt and debris left in the road from the construction. Clark will let Waitsfield Telecom know about the telephone cable.

Washouts on Sainsbury's property – Scott said there are washouts on his property and asked if he could get material to fix them. Stuart said we have class IV town roads that need gravel. Scott understood, and said he will do his best to repair the washouts on his own.

Sarah Zschau – speeding through the village – Sarah has experienced excessive speeding of construction trucks through town. She understands the need for the construction trucks, but would like measures to be taken to slow the trucks down.

Stuart Grandfield – road department business

Road repairs from flood budget – There was discussion about the status of road repairs and how it might impact taxes next year. The selectboard have options such as how the Town Meeting article could be adjusted so that more tipping fees could be used to offset the expenses for road repairs; reserve funds could be used rather than raise taxes; and the board may not know the extent of the road / and bridge repair expenses by Town Meeting because it is still unclear what costs FEMA will cover. Raising taxes in 2012 will be the last option.

Plans for 2012 road projects – The town received a \$40,000 AOT grant to resurface a portion of the Moretown Mountain Road, so that project will be done. The town's share of the project cost will be \$8,000 (20%). Stuart will assess other roads for road repair needs.

Codes & Standards language – The language in Moretown's Codes and Standard for roads and bridges will be amended next year, to meet FEMA's reimbursement standards; such as rip-rap of streambanks and riverbanks; around box culverts etc. Stuart will get help from Tom Anderson at VTrans for language.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 12/5/11 selectboard meeting

Temporary road help – Stuart said he has spoken with Jeff Baker about helping out with plowing again this year and Jeff is on board as soon as we need him.

Establishment of a town office placement committee –

Tom said he, Duane Pierson and Kaj Samsom met over the weekend about forming a town office placement committee.

Tom moved that a town office placement study committee be established and include, Duane Pierson, Kaj Samsom, Rob Roberts, John Schmeltzer, and Clark Amadon. Clark seconded.

Discussion followed that others could be included later; and Cherilyn should either be on the committee or kept closely in the loop so town clerk and treasurer needs can be heard. Vote: All were in favor.

Approval of meeting minutes”

10/17/11 – Tom will finish up his portion of the minutes.

11/21/11 – Stephanie moved; seconded by Reed to approve the minutes of 11/21/11. All were in favor.

11/28/11 – Stephanie moved: seconded by Clark to approve the minutes of 11/28/11. All were in favor.

Reports & Communication, Announcements –

Bids for fire station work – John reported an inquiry about how it was determined who would do the repairs to the fire station.

Tom remembers there were four or so bids that Sean reviewed, and they were narrowed down to two contractors – K Bar and Cedar Hill. K Bar’s bid was higher, so Cedar Hill got the job.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 12/5/11 selectboard meeting

John asked Cedar Hill to put the furnace rooms back together enough so that the furnaces could be re-installed. He will prepare an outline of what repairs still needs to be done so bid requests can go out.

More on the town office placement study committee –

John Schmeltzer was happy to be on the town office placement committee, saying a good group of people were chosen.

Don Wexler – made the suggestion of reaching out to the Bozacks to see if they would be interested in selling a piece of land for town offices; about inquiring whether or not Jack Barnes still has lots available; building on other town land near the soccer fields; and the Taplin School near Middlesex might be suitable for town offices. Don will get the square footage of that building.

2012 budget work - began and amendments were made to the draft provided by Rob Roberts. A copy of the changes will be forward to Rob for the next budget meeting scheduled for 12/12.

Old Business: All old business was tabled.

New Business: None

Review invoices and approved selectboard orders – invoices were reviewed and warrant number's 74 and 75 were approved for payment.

Other documents presented for approval -

NEMRC – A contract with NEMRC for \$7,200 per year at a reduced rate of \$75 per hour.

Clark moved; seconded by Reed to adjourn the meeting at 9:30. All were in favor.

