

**Town of Moretown  
Office of the SELECT BOARD**

**Draft** – unapproved minutes of the 8/6/12 selectboard meeting

Board members present were: Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, and Clark Amadon arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Guests included: Raymond Munn, Dara Torre, Chuck Martell, Don LaRocca, and Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

Tom and John were the only two members present at 6:00 p.m. so there was general public comment until Clark arrived at 7:35 p.m. Reed Korrow and Michelle Beard were on vacation, and Clark was attending the School Board meeting for the Town Office Committee to talk about sites for the town offices.

**Raymond Munn commented –**

**Bridge #41 replacement project –**

Weight limit on Spillway Road - Ray said the town is putting in bridge that will hold 90,000# trucks on a road that is posted for 16,000# (Spillway Road). Ray asked the board to think about what it will cost to upgrade Spillway Road to support the weight of the heavy trucks.

Bridge expense - Ray asked if since FEMA has classified the new bridge as an “improved project” and we don’t know what they will pay for, if the project needs voter approval.

**Tax rate –**

Ray asked why Moretown’s tax rate hasn’t been set yet. It was explained that because Moretown had a reappraisal, it is taking the State longer to set Moretown’s education tax rate /common level of appraisal – the selectboard is not holding up the process - as soon as the town receives the numbers from the State, the tax rate will be set and tax bills will go out.

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**Town office placement –**

Ray said the voters can't afford to build a new building or buy land. He heard comments that the old town office was going to be repaired.

The board explained that bids went out, but it is unclear at this time what will be done with the old town office, or about a town office; and that the selectboard is getting information from FEMA that would help pay for mitigation repairs in the floodplain and/or purchasing property to build a new town office out of the floodplain.

**Dara Torre and Chuck Martell – Health Center request for assistance**

Dara is Moretown's representative on the Board of Directors for the Health Center. Chuck is also on the Board of Directors.

Chuck explained the challenge associated with keeping a community owned facility financially feasible, and so they are ask town's for financial support. Community support is the key to keeping rent costs low, which helps ensure that the building will be used for health care. The Health Center is affiliated with Central Vermont Medical Center.

Dara wanted to come in tonight to say that she has heard support from Moretown voters for supporting the Health Center, and went on to express some of the values to having a community owned facility. Other discussion: the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor renovation was paid for through grant funding; community involvement; and nearly 18% of Dr. Fran Cook's patients are from 05660 zip code.

**Dara Torre – Bike/Ped grant program announcement**

There is a Bike/Ped. grant opportunity which could be used for an initial phase of sidewalk construction in Moretown village. A feasibility study done by Dubois & King in 2010 breaks down the project into four phases, with studies for each phase which would be helpful in the grant writing process. There is also a VTrans Enhancement grant that might be available, but that grant has a 20% match, where the Bike/Ped. grant is a 10% match. The cost for the first phase, which is the area in the lower village to around the town hall, is \$375,000. Dara suggested having a forum for public input. She would write the grant if the board decides to move forward.

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**Don LaRocca re: Investment Policy/Council**

Don provided the board with a draft of a structurally complete investment policy to review and to comment on. The draft included the policy, the investment council policy and guidelines.

Discussion followed about coming up with structured guidelines about who would qualify to be on the investment committee. Don suggested the selectboard come up with written suggestions before the next meeting.

Don said he would be willing to be appointed the investment manager to get this thing started. He would interview and help pick qualified individuals (3) and establish the investment committee.

The town’s attorney will look over the draft prior to adoption.

Don will come back on 8/20.

7:30 p.m. Clark arrived and Tom called the meeting to order

**Open bids for the town office flood repairs –**

Two bids were received – Craig Ciampi and Joe Gabaree. Clark said he also met with Jeff Hoogenboom and Brad Reagan.

Bids were as follows:

Craig Ciampi	\$55,758.75
Joe Gabaree	\$46,471.00

Acceptance of bids was tabled for now.

**Reports & Communication, Mail**

**Notice of hearing and site visit for Moretown Landfill applications -**

8/13/12 – 6:00 p.m. at the Moretown Town Hall, for groundwater reclassification proposal.

8/14/12 – site visit for cell 4 –at 4:00 in the afternoon at the Moretown Landfill.

8/14/12 - Public hearing for cell 4 – at 5:30 in the afternoon at the Thatcher Brook Primary School Library at 47 Stowe St., in Waterbury.

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**Letter from John Riley of the DRB** – to the Planning Commission, requesting that Section 4.1 (A) of the Moretown Zoning Regulations be amended for new structures when a residence is already on site.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Host Town Agreement extended for one-year** – Clark moved; seconded by John, that Tom Martin sign a Fourth Amendment to the Host Town Agreement that would extend the current Agreement for one year. All were in favor.

**Lynch Hill/Herring Brook loop site visit date** – After discussion about getting all parties together for a site visit, it was decided to ask the State Police, Game Warden, Washington County Sheriff’s Department and Town Constable to come to the 8/20 selectboard meeting at the town hall.

**Village Hill repair** – It was reported that the holes in the village hill have been fixed, and a nice job was done by the road crew.

There was discussion about applying for a VTrans grant next spring to pay 80% of the cost to repave the hill.

**Bridge #41 replacement** – Discussion included:

- It is undetermined at this time how much FEMA will pay because the project is being considered an “improved project” because the new bridge will be in a slightly different location to allow the temporary bridge to remain until the new bridge can be used.
- Spillway Road may need to be improved to handle the heavy truck traffic that will be allowed to over the new bridge.
- The Austin’s have not granted an easement yet. It appears they would like the new bridge placed in the same spot as the old bridge was.
- Perhaps the Sainsbury’s would sign a waiver releasing the town from any liabilities if the town removed the temporary bridge so the new bridge could be put in the same footprint.
- Tom will call Evan Detrick at DuBois & King to see if it is even possible to change the project at this point.
- Moretown has not received a contract from Austin Construction. If a contract comes in this week, Tom may call a special meeting to sign it.

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**Town office committee update by Clark –**

Clark attended the schoolboard meeting earlier tonight to let them know that the committee would like to bring the old school building back on into the equation as a site for the town offices. The next step is for a professional to study the five sites, and make recommendations. Monies were put in the budget for this expense.

The town offices can stay at landfill rent free thru 2014, after that rent would be charged.

**New business:**

**Tax Rate** – A worksheet figuring the municipal tax rate was reviewed and approved, but the tax rate cannot be set until the education rate is set by the State.

**There will be a public forum on October 29<sup>th</sup>, at the town hall to discuss:**

1. Placement of the town offices
2. Investment Policy
3. Sidewalk improvement / Pedestrian safety

Clark moved; seconded by John, to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.