

**Town of Moretown  
Office of the SELECTBOARD**

**Draft** – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 7/21/14 Selectboard meeting

Board members present were: Rae Washburn, Michelle Beard, John Hoogenboom

Guests included: Don LaRocca, Martha Douglass, Ricky Blake, Deborah Feldman, Mike Woods, Heather Raylinsky, Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

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

**Public comment:**

**Don LaRocca** – expressed his concerns that migrants crossing the border in the south may eventually begin to impact Vermont towns, and asked that the selectboard take a pro-active stand.

Investments – Don had the chance to review the Schwab investment packet and thinks they offer some good benefits. The investment council will meet soon to review the Schwab packet further.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**6/16/14 & 7/7/14** – Approval was tabled until 8/4/14.

**Reports, Communication and Announcements:**

**Village Hill reconstruction project** – John reported being told that the State archeologist signed off on a paving project that goes from Route 100B to the town of Berlin town line.

Rae assured that paving for the Mountain Road reconstruction project will only include the short area that is already pavement.

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**Dogs running loose at swimming holes** – Michelle reported of complaints about dogs running loose around children at a Moretown swimming hole. Owners are required to keep their dogs in control, or else they must be on a leash.

Cheryl will put an article on Front Porch Forum to remind people of the Animal Control Ordinance regulations.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Host Town Agreement outline of objectives** – Items K & L were discussed tonight.

K. *The percentage of income from the gas to energy operations with PPL.*

1. The board will inquire about the portfolio for PPL (Pennsylvania Power & Light), for the gas to energy operations at the Moretown Landfill, and find out what PPL pays the landfill.

L. *The term of the contract.*

1. Possibly the term of the contract could be based on the length of time before the landfill would need re-certification.
2. Basing the term on the re-certification may not be a good idea because re-certification could take a while during which time the landfill would remain open.
3. Setting a one-year term for the first year of cell IV seemed like a good idea. The term would be on a calendar year basis.

MLI's permit application was found to be "Administratively" complete by the State, but MLI is still working on the "Technical/Groundwater" part of the application.

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Maloney culvert on Jones Brook Road – Rae still has not caught up with Jason Maloney. He will keep trying.

Blodgett litigation – Martha had questions regarding the status of the litigation. She was told that parties could not come to an agreement and the town is waiting for a court date. She wondered why it came to that.

John explained that after the mediation it was discovered that a landowner would lose access to their property via the trail if the mediation agreement came to be and that portion of the trail was discontinued. When that factor came to light after the mediation meeting the board turned down the agreement. Later another agreement was offered by the town. It was turned down by Blodgett.

Fire department financials - There was discussion that the fire department record keeping should be restructured, and what is the best way to help them do that without offending them.

Cheryl will talk with Steve about how the fire department would feel comfortable about getting help with budgeting; expenditures; etc.

Welcome signage – The welcome signs are done and Rae advised that he will be meeting with Mary Murphy Blake next Tuesday about placement of the signage.

Flags in the village – Rae asked if the town has gotten any feedback from the Legion/VFW after the letter that flying flags without lighting is illegal.

There has been no correspondence.

Local Project Manager (LPM) contract – The State has not given word that the contract from Staff Sterling Management meets grant guidelines. Rather than wait until the 8/4 selectboard meeting, the board will approve that Cheryl sign the contract once it has approved by the State.

Michelle moved to allow Cheryl sign the contract with Staff Sterling Management for LPM services, once the State has approved the contract. John seconded. All were in favor.

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Elevator entrance repair – There was discussion that Joe isn't sure about using foam and just a cement pad method is the way to go. He thinks it might make more sense to let Haskins/Anderson do the pad when they pour the new steps as quoted if he would be willing to do it.

There was discussion that at the last meeting the board voted to reject all bids for the elevator entrance work, but Anderson was the only one to bid on the elevator work. It was decided that Rae will contact Anderson to see if they can still do the work. Their quote was \$2,975.

Rae moved that the selectboard authorize him to call Brian Anderson to see if he is willing to do the rear elevator footing walls and slab work as quoted on June 18, 2014 - \$2,975, and if so hire him. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

There was discussion about how to pay for the work. There is about \$2,100 left in the town hall renovation fund that can be used for these repairs. The total for both repairs will be \$8,575 (\$5,600 for the new steps - \$2,975 for the elevator) leaving about a \$6,500 deficit.

John moved to use the remainder of the money left in the Town Hall Renovation Fund, and to pay the balance of the \$8,575 for the repairs from the Town Office insurance reserves. Rae seconded.

The balance of the town office insurance reserves includes monies received for repairs to the town hall that weren't totally used. All were in favor.

### **New Business:**

**Budget spending** – The newest budget status report shows there has been some overspending of line items. There was discussion about how to make over spending the budget without selectboard approval stop. Some ideas were:

- Create a purchase order system; where no purchases could be made without a purchase order number which would be gotten from Cheryl;
- Departments must present their budget requests in person to the selectboard at budget time, so they can be educated that overspending of their budget requires prior approval. Taking into consideration that the departments have no control over light, heat expenses etc.

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At this time there was a short break in the meeting.

Listers re: tax map revisions – some of the reasons stated for needing new tax maps are:

- The current tax maps are inaccurate and haven't been updated for 14 years.
- There were two bids; one from CAI Technologies for \$44,400; and Bear Creek Environmental for \$44,003.
- The listers recommended hiring CAI Technologies, and explained the reasons for their decision.
- The current tax maps are paper and hard to read and do not show property transfers.
- Accurately identifying abutters and created subdivisions.
- The new tax maps would in a digitized format.
- New maps would have the ability to make property owners changes; assign new Parcel ID numbers; and to keep the Grand List up to date and accurate.
- The new maps would have the ability to overlay different information such as floodplain and fluvial erosion areas, to insure compliance with FEMA and National Floodplain regulations.
- All work performed will be the property of the Town.
- The above will insure accuracy of tax records.

Letters supporting the update of the tax maps were submitted by JB Weir, Zoning Administrator and Cheryl Brown, Town Clerk & Treasurer.

There was discussion about how to pay for the mapping update. \$5,000 was budgeted in 2014 for the update, but the other \$40,000 would either need to be presented to the voters via an article or in the town budget.

The listers will contact CAI to see if payments could be spread out over a 3-year period (2014-2016), and advise CAI that the contract would be contingent on voter approval.

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The listers will provide a contract from CAI Technologies, and the selectboard will review it when there is a full board before signing, and the listers will provide answers to questions raised tonight including what the annual maintenance fees will be; payment arrangements, etc.

The selectboard told the listers that they appreciate the excellent work they have done getting these proposals together; and researching references.

The lister's noted that Steve Sharp and Dan Currier from CVRPC helped a great deal with the request for proposal and during the interview process.

**Invoices were reviewed and warrant # 36, 37 & 38 – were approved as presented.**

There were no other documents for signature.

Rae moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m., Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Brown 7/23/14