

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

DRAFT – Notice of unapproved minutes of the April 6, 2015 Selectboard meeting

Board members present: Tom Martin, Michelle Beard, Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom

Guests included: Tom & Martha Douglass, Jason Aronowitz, Paula Woods, Rachel Goff, Cherilyn Brown, Pat Travers, Frank Piazza, Dara Torre, Neil Nussbaum, Corrie Miller, Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and then explained that because there is more than one person requesting appointment to the vacant Selectboard seat, that the interviews should be in executive session to be fair.

Candidates for Selectboard - Tom moved to enter into executive session at 6:01 p.m. to interview applicants for the Selectboard vacancy in office. John seconded. All were in favor.

Jason Aronowitz was the first to be interviewed.

Paul Woods was interviewed directly afterward.

Tom moved out of executive session at 6:30 p.m. No action.

Public Comment period:

Martha Douglass – provided the board a copy of a newspaper article related to the new universal recycling law.

More on candidates - Tom moved to enter into executive session at 6:34 p.m. to deliberate after interviewing applicants for the Selectboard vacancy in office. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Tom moved to come out of executive session at 7:02 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor. No action. The agenda continued to keep on schedule.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

Cherilyn Brown – Treasurer business –

Fund Balances/Tax Anticipation Loan – Cherilyn gave fund balances and explained that some of the tax anticipation loan had been used to pay expenses related to the sidewalk grant and the town office grant expenditures until they were reimbursed, and that can't happen.

The board agreed and told Cherilyn to transfer monies from the Deeryard Fund to cover the unreimbursed sidewalk expenditures, as was the plan reflected in minutes past.

Tom moved and John seconded to approve Cherilyn do the paperwork for a line of credit for \$40,000 (the amount approved in the town office vote) with the Merchants Bank for a term of 5-year term and at an interest rate of 1.72%.

Discussion, that as the reimbursements come in from the town office grant they are to be applied to the line of credit balance. All were in favor.

New Librarian pay – Jennifer Tripp-Meade informed Cherilyn today that Lisa Samson had resigned as librarian and Sarah Nussbaum had been hired by the Trustees to take her place. Jennifer indicated that Sarah was to be paid the same rate (\$13.01) per hour that Lisa had been getting. Cherilyn wanted the approval of the board that Sarah be paid \$13.01 per hr.

Tom moved to pay Sarah Nussbaum \$13.01 per hour as librarian; John seconded.

Discussion followed about the town's personnel policy and the probationary period within; and that the budget given to the library by the town is governed by the Trustee's. Vote: John, Tom and Michelle were in favor. Rae opposed. Motion passed.

Martin Cameron's check – Cherilyn noted receiving a check from Martin Cameron for about \$222, for what he said was for use of the town's excavator last year.

Tom said Martin took a survey of what excavators are being rented for and wrote the town a check for his use of the town's excavator.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

Recreation field use – There have been recent inquiries about using the recreation fields. Cherilyn volunteered to work with people to schedule the use of the fields so there are no over-lapping events.

Dog fine from 2014 – The Selectboard will deal with the fines levied in 2014, but the most important thing is to get dogs vaccinated and licensed now.

Pat Travers – Sidewalk Project status report:

- Pat Travers had questions on the last conceptual plans received from Doug.
- A major portion of the sidewalk project is in the floodplain.
- None of the design firms picked up the floodplain issue during the bidding process.
- Doug Henson indicated to Pat that he will not be billing the town for the extra work (permitting & reporting) associated with the project being in the floodplain. Doug plans to stick to his original contract price.
- JB Weir submitted a letter of support to DEC for the project last week.
- Pat thinks Sasha Pealer from VT DEC will move forward and give the floodplain permit now that she has JB's letter.
- An updated hydraulic report on the bridge (#3 on 100B) over the Doctor's Brook needs to be done. Cheryl will contact hydraulics and order the test.
- The floodplain issue set the project back about one month.
- There may be a need that the bridge over Doctor's Brook be removal so VTrans can do bridge maintenance. Pat will find out definitely.

Next Step:

1. Doug will develop 60% complete Conceptual Drawings (CD) once he gets the floodplain permit from Sasha – probably within two weeks after. There will be another public hearing and a “walk-thru” at that point.
2. Doug will develop 85% complete CD, incorporating any changes to the 60% CD as a result of the public hearing.
3. Then 100% CD and the contractor bid process will begin.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

Frank Piazza expressed concerns again about being sure that water doesn't pond on people's property. Pat will be sure Doug addresses this during the design process. Frank is also concerned about the sidewalk alignment and would like to talk with Doug about that.

Neil Nussbaum re: use of the recreation fields for lacrosse – Neil is here tonight to ask permission to use the recreation field on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4/28 - 6/9 to practice lacrosse. It would be the back field and practice would begin about three in the afternoon and last about an hour and a half.

Michelle moved; Rae seconded to allow Neil Nussbaum the use of the recreation field as indicated above for lacrosse practice. All were in favor.

Reports & Communication, Announcements

Laure Murphy re: Mad River Valley Soccer Assoc. – An email from Laure asking permission to reserve the soccer M/W/F from 4 - 6:30 p.m., in early May thru mid-June; and Saturdays May 9th – June 6th. The board approved the dates and will let Cheryl know.

Mark Austin re: Spillway Road and bridge concerns – Mark Austin called earlier today with concerns relating to ice jamming due to the new landscaping done around the new bridge, causing a "catch basin" and tree plantings along the riverbank, and about the use of heavy equipment on Spillway Road.

Tom, Rae and Martin will meet with Mark at the site about his concerns.

Mad River Resource Management Alliance (MRRMA) invoice – The invoice dated March 10th for the solid waste alliance dues (MRRMA) is for \$6,632.00. \$5,000 was budgeted.

After meeting with John Malter the consensus of the board was that they didn't have the full picture at budget time.

Rae wondered if paying the full invoice, which is about double from last year, is sending the wrong message to the State about the unfunded mandates imposed as part of the new Universal Recycling law.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

Not paying the total invoice is sending the message to the wrong person. John Malter is donating much of his time as it is trying to make up for Northfield separating from the alliance.

John moved to pay the \$6,632 to Mad River Resource Management Alliance as billed. Tom seconded.

Discussion that over the next year the town will look at how the new recycling law will impact MRRMA, talk with John Malter, and commit to looking at what is best for Moretown overall; staying with the alliance or go with a district; especially since Northfield's withdrawal will surely impact next year's dues.

Vote: All were in favor.

Clayton & Sandra Wetzel's town sponsored grant – The board reviewed the commitment letter signed by the Wetzel's, agreeing to pay the 25% match related to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant awarded the town on the behalf of the Wetzel's to raise their Herring Brook home above the flood stage, and found the letter dated 11/15/13 sufficient.

Friends of the Mad River asks for a letter of support – from the town, in support for a grant proposal to High Meadows Fund. The letter was circulated to board members prior to tonight's meeting, and questions arose about what exactly the board was being asked to support. Executive Director Corrie Miller was present tonight and gave a brief overview, saying that the grant was basically for "planning". To develop a valley-wide watershed management plan.

Michelle will revise the language in the draft letter of support that was provided by Corrie, so Tom can sign it by the 4/14 deadline. John will be the town's representative.

Tom moved to support the Friends of the Mad River grant proposal to High Meadows Fund, and provide a letter of support as such. John seconded. All were in favor.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) asks for a letter of support – from the town, in support for a grant proposal to High Meadows Fund for a mid-Winooski Partnership project. The CVRPC proposal outlines technical analyses of dirt road erosion studies; culvert flow analysis.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

CVRPC also plans to apply for a grant through the Better Back Roads Program that would help facilitate some of the findings related to the impact of stormwater during extreme weather events.

John will also be the town’s representative for this Winooski Partnership.

John moved to sign the CVRPC letter of support for the grant application to the High Meadow Fund, to fund the mid-Winooski Partnership. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Shane Grace request for appointment for Constable – Shane sent in a request for appointment as constable.

Announcing - Saturday Night Lasagna Dinner with Dancing to follow - sponsored by the Moretown Historical Society on Saturday, April 18th at the Moretown Town Hall. Dinner will be from 5-6 p.m. and then dance to the **BIG HAT – NO CATTLE** band from 6-9 p.m. \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids under 12.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointments to fill vacancies –

1st Constable – Tom moved to appoint Shane Grace as 1st Constable. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

2nd Constable – There are several interested in being 2nd Constable. Rae Munn, Clarence Wood and Jason Gerrish. Jason is new to the area so the board will invite him into their next meeting.

The offices of auditor, lister and selectboard still have vacancies.

Capital Budget spending planned for 2016 – The board wants to meet with departments to justify why we need to buy new equipment that is listed in the capital budget for 2017.

Draft – unapproved minutes of the 4/6/15 selectboard meeting

New Business:

Town Hall porch railings – need repair. Cheryl will call Joe Gabaree for a quote.

Belding Cemetery location – The Vermont Old Cemetery Association (VOCA) records showed the Belding Cemetery as being on Route 100B near Fox Farm Run. The VOCA records have since been corrected to reflect that the Belding Cemetery is off Route 100 between the Maynard Farm and Harwood Union High School.

More on candidate for Selectboard – Tom moved to enter into executive session at 9:02 p.m. to continue deliberations after interviewing candidates earlier tonight. John seconded. All were in favor.

Tom moved out of executive session at 9:30 p.m. Michelle seconded. All were in favor. No action except to continue deliberations on Thursday, April 9, 2015, at 7:45 a.m. at the Moretown Town Offices, to finalize who will be appointed.

Cheryl will email Paula and Jason to let them know the board is getting together on Thursday to make a decision on the appointment.

Review of invoice and approval of warrants – Approved were:

Payroll Warrant #14 – check # 16792 & 16793 and e-check # 1881-1888

A/P Warrant #15 – check # 16791 and 16794-16804

Payroll Warrant # 15016 – check# 16805 and 16806 and e-check # 1889-1897

A/P Warrant # 15017 – check # 16807-16824

Other documents for signature included:

Several overload permits

Liquor license renewal for Jolley Assoc.

Reimbursement request for \$6,955.02 for sidewalk expenses.

Grant Agreement Resolution for the Town Office Grant

Annual Financial Plan – Vtrans

Tom moved to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.