

Town of Moretown
Selectboard Minutes
08/06/18

Board Members present: Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Callie Streeter, Jason Aronowitz (arrived at 6:55pm)

Board Members not present: Tom Martin

Guest Present: Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Katie Martin (Valley Reporter), Shawn Graves, Stefan Pratt, Steve Smith, Will Houghton, Jamie Wimble and Jennifer Hill

General Public Comment: None at this time

Town Administrator Report:

1. Next step in the Montgomery appeal of Blodgett Trail access - approve answers prepared by Paul Gillies.
2. Next step in Travis Blodgett's Motion to Reopen or Alter response – approve or deny the request. Travis's motion was filed late (after the Montgomery appeal was filed). Once an appeal is filed on the decision all matters are in the hands of the court. The Selectboard has no jurisdiction in the matter. The trail is not on the plat/survey approved, but Rob Townsend is working on a revised plat.
3. Dick Hosking's said anything in the state ROW has to have a traffic investigation for new speed/pedestrian signage. Investigation underway near the Maynard Snack bar and on Rt. 2 near Gallagher Acres.

Reports and Communications:

Lewis tree - Spoke to Martin and Henry Lewis. The problem Henry is having with his driveway is not a town problem but they did make suggestions on how to fix it. Also, the trees that are sick/dying in the Town ROW is not the responsibility of the Town to remove as they are not causing a road issue.

O'Brien tree - A letter was also received from Charles and Georgia O'Brien concerning a dead tree in the ROW on Cobb Hill they have been having problems with. John looked at the tree with Martin and together decided the tree is not the responsibility of the Town because it is not causing a road issue. Cheryl will send a letter explaining the decision.

Red Hen - An email was received from Eliza Cain owner of the Red Hen Bakery thanking the Selectboard for their generosity of the \$500 to go towards helping find the persons responsible for damage. She feels the money would be better put towards another community service.

Steve Smith's email was received dated 7/14/18 informing the board that he was retiring from the MFD for personal reasons. The board thanked him for his 20+ years of service to MFD.

WASI - An email from the Waterbury Ambulance Service was also received concerning general funding. They would like a Selectboard member to come to a meeting on 9/4/18 at 1pm in Waterbury. John will attend and report back to the Selectboard.

Grow Compost - An update concerning Grow Compost stated they have “dropped its argument that it is not subject to Act 250.”

Stormwater Management Plan – John reported a meeting on 8/23/18 from 1-2:30 pm at the Town Office. The plan shows 54 sites around Moretown that needed improvement of which 43 are completed. At this meeting they will decide which 5 out of the 11 remaining sites should have the highest priority. Rae would like the plan sent to him again.

Finance Committee - John reported the first Finance Committee meeting was held. Beki Auclair is the Chairperson. They reviewed the budget and tax rate process. Next meeting will be 8/29/18, 9 am at the Town Office.

Fire Department- Will (new acting chief), Stefan (new administrative chief) and Shawn (officer) were present at the Selectboard’s request to discuss their budget. The FD had some unforeseen truck repairs and will budget better in the future based on the ages of the equipment. Cheryl offered to help with any paperwork. Steve was also present and is also still available for any help in the transition. Will spoke about their decision not to do Morefest this year, based on the transition they are in and the fact the Neill’s barn had been damaged they didn’t feel right asking them for a corn donation. They do however plan to be present with their truck(s) for a touch a truck and answer any questions. August 21st is their next official election for officers.

Old Business:

Blodgett Trail access - the Selectboard signed a Response to Motion to Reopen or Alter dated 7/13/18. The Response stated the Selectboard no longer has jurisdiction over the matter. Consequently, it denies the motion to amend or alter. **MOTION-** Rae moved to accept the Response written by Paul Gillies. Callie seconded. All agreed.

Montgomery Timber Appeal- An answer was filed on behalf of the Town of Moretown, through Paul Gillies. **MOTION-** John accepted the Answer as written by Paul Gillies. Callie seconded. All agreed.

Sidewalks- The DiCarlo property was sold and the information came into the Town Clerk last week. John and Pat are setting up a time to speak to the new owner(s) concerning the easement needed for the new catch basin part of the project.

Town Hall Mold- Catrina met with A&J recycling concerning construction debris etc. at the town hall. They quoted her a price of \$200. **MOTION-** Rae made a motion to accept A&J Recycling quote for \$200. Callie seconded. All agreed.

New Business:

Library Survey- Jennifer and Jamie discussed a new time line the Library had constructed to be ready at Town Meeting with a possible design and budget. Cory also requested to meet with the Selectboard again to get their view on what the Town Hall may look like / goals in the future. Cory will come in to the September 17th meeting which will be held at the Town Hall. Rae will reach out to the Historical Society to make sure they are kept in the loop. The SB would like the

Library to have a normal budget, one time only moving budget and future budget. Jamie spoke about the Trustees possible selling the current Library building. The proceeds will go to the Library which they plan to use towards the possible Town Hall move.

Bulletin Boards repair- The Town bulletin boards on Jones Brook Rd. and Moretown Mountain Rd. are in a need of repairs. The SB approves of removing them permanently but before that happens, Catrina will post a sign on them giving people notice of the date it will be removed.

Morefest update- Catrina spoke about the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) wanting to have a beer tent at Morefest this year as a fundraiser. Any server will be licensed by the Vt. Department of Liquor Control (DLC). The application for festival permit to DLC will be under the Towns name but the PTO will incur all the cost and profits. Morefest will not be taking a portion of the proceeds because they feel everyone should be able to have a fundraiser there as it is a community event. A closed off area will be “constructed” for the beer tent involving the baseball back stop and snow fencing. The Morefest committee has also hired the Washington County Sheriff to be at Morefest. **MOTION:** Jason made a motion to approve the PTOs request to have a beer tent at Morefest. John seconded. All agreed.

Listers- the SB would like to explore the option and cost of hiring a consultant to do the Lister work.

Minutes from 7/16/18: MOTION: Rae made a motion to approve the minutes from 7/16/18. John Seconded. All agreed.

Minutes from special meeting 7/30/18- Jason suggested grammatical correction and to add the sentence “Tom said that the Selectboard report will explain the factors that went into the tax rate”. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected of 7/30/18. John seconded. All agreed. Jason wanted it noted that he meant to say explicitly showing uncollectable delinquent taxes in the tax rate calculation.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held 8/20/18

Warrants: PR 18035, 19723, e2809-e2820; AP 18036, 19725-19761; AP 18037, 19762; AP 18038, 19763-19791 and PR 18039, 19792, e2821-2833

Documents approved: Errors and Omissions 2018 Grand List - Parcel ID: 10-002-001 Owners name: Rudy L Powlin & Jordan Gonda; Change of Value from \$0 to \$100,000; Reason: Failed to enter data into Grand List. NorthStar Fireworks contract for Morefest costing \$3500. Certificate of approval for location of salvage yard, applicant name GHR Enterprises, purchased from R. Brown.

Motion to Adjourn: John made a motion to adjourn at 8:02pm. Callie seconded. All agreed.