

**Town of Moretown  
Selectboard Minutes  
5/6/2019**

**Board Members present:** Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom and Jason Aronowitz

**Board Members not present:** Tom Martin and Callie Streeter

**Guest present:** Catrina Brackett, Sasha Elwell-Badore, Katie Martin, Stefan Pratt, Martin Cameron, Brian Fleisher, Dan Von Trapp and Carl Wimble

**Meeting was called to order** at 6:00 pm by John.

**Public comment:** Brian Fleisher a Waitsfield resident was present to speak to the Selectboard to speak about the HUUSD school board. He said the school board chair should have sent an email to all the valley Selectboards announcing public engagement dates. No one present was aware of the email. Brian is personally very concerned about the possibility two valley schools may close and all middle school will be sent to Crossett along with it the parents and after school activities involved. He believes the valley can substantive a middle school itself for all the valley schools, keeping Waterbury/Duxbury at Crossett. Brian believes he is the only one voicing this option and wants all the Selectboards to get involved in the process before its too late and decisions are made. John spoke about several previous conversations the Selectboard has had about the School board plans. Jason also stated with all the ideas that have been shared we have yet to see a detailed plan based on facts.

Dan Von Trapp a resident on Gove rd. in Moretown was present to speak to the Board about a plan to build a pond on his land. He had spoken to the Zoning Administrator who said according to the zoning laws a pond is considered a structure and the fees apply the same way making a 250'x 50' pond a permit fee of about \$1250. Dan came to the Board to ask if he was willing to that his pond be a "fire pond" for the Town would the Board consider waving this fee. The Board advised Dan to speak with the Fire Chief Stefan Pratt to see if the need is there for a fire pond and it would be accessible. The MFD were having a meeting at the same time so Dan went to the fire house to speak with him. Upon return Dan stated Stefan thought it was a great idea

as there is no water source in this area. MOTION: John made a motion to waive the building application fee (not the DRB fee or any other fees, engineer etc) for access to the pond for fire needs. Seconded by Rae. Since two members were not present the full Board will ratify this decision at the next meeting.

Carl Wimble was present to speak about a sugaring operation at the end of Bradley Rd which is class 4 for .18 miles. He stated and had already spoken about the bad condition of the section reporting its more of a "ditch" with 1'-1.5' "walls" on the sides. His suggestion was if the Town would throw up the road he would be happy to construct a private road parallel to the class 4 section on higher ground. Only his land would be affected by this change. Martin was present at this point and stated he would be happy to put a few loads of gravel in but that was all the town could do. Carl is going to research the different options before coming back to the Board.

### **Reports and Communications**

**Brownsville Road** - An email received from Martin stated he had spoken to Jason Lombardo regarding work that will need to be done on Brownsville road to allow for delivery of a cabin on August 1<sup>st</sup>. He needs 14' of clearance for delivery. Martin felt this was a reasonable request and wanted to confirm if Brownsville Rd was a 1-3 rod road. He advised Jason to seek a road work permit before any work was done. Jason will be doing all the work (or hiring a contractor). The Board also asked if this would be a year-round residence, Martin was not sure but it will be checked with the ZA.

Jason asked Martin questions about the dip and dropping culverts on Common rd. Martin is aware of the issue and continues to monitor.

### **Public hearing for comments related to adoption of Interim Subdivision Bylaws**

Carl Wimble was present and stated according to 24 VSA 4415- interim bylaws could only be adopted by the Selectboard if it was an emergency. Carl did not feel it was an emergency since a clerical mistake was the reason the bylaws were not on the Town Meeting Ballot. Catrina cited the same statute that the legislative body may adopt interim bylaws in order to protect the public health, safety and general welfare and provide for orderly physical and economic growth. John stated the emergency was the large parcels currently on the market. The Board felt since they didn't have a full Board and no Planning Commission members, nor the Zoning

Administrator was present there would be no action taken at this time. It will be on the next agenda, inviting the ZA and PC. End of public hearing at 7:25pm.

**Executive Session: MOTION:** Rae made a motion to go in to Executive Session at 7:27pm for the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee, provided the public body shall make a final decision to hire or appoint a public officer or employee in an open meeting and shall explain the reasons for its final decision in an open meeting, seconded by John, all agreed. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to end executive session at 7:35pm, seconded by John, all agreed.

**ACTION:** in reference to the 4/15/19 minutes, the action taken after Executive Session should have read in two separate motions: (1) Sasha will be offered at her current rate, part time to full time hours to take over some of the administrative work: and (2) Cherilyn will be offered the grant administration work to be compensated at \$250 for applying for a grant and \$250 if/when the grant is awarded. Both motions were made by John, seconded by Tom and all agreed. Also noted by the Board was that Sasha and Cherilyn both accepted the offers.

**Truck Bids-** Martin said Tom had spoken with Heritage Ford and St. J. Dodge, Saint Jay was willing to give more for trade on the old truck. Martin said the Dodge would work great and is already built ready to go. At some point they will have to have the sander and plow installed before winter. John spoke about the Finance advisory committee recommending buying the truck with the Capital Reserve, then paying it back over the next 3 years as a line item in the budget. There is \$111,000 in the Capital Reserve account currently. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to purchase the 2018 Dodge truck from Saint Jay Dodge for \$64,554 total (including accessories, plow and sander) per the Finance advisory committee suggestion of using the Capital Reserve fund and paying it back over 3 years as a line item in the budget. Seconded by John. All 3 approved.

**Old Business:**

**Sidewalks**, John wondered if when the RFP was ready should it read the Town was looking for a bid to be completed by October 2019 and a separate bid to be started in Spring 2020 and completed by Fall 2020. Rae felt the more information on an RFP the better and thought it was a good idea.

**Charles O Davis Fund**. Jason has done some research on who Charles was but would like to know if the intent of the fund was to keep everything confidential. Sasha will research.

**John attended an Arbor Day** conference which he learned the process of maintaining public lands (forest) should start with a plan for the land as a whole, including public input and putting together a committee including members from the Recreation committee, Selectboard, residents etc. John will start the process by reaching out to the rec committee.

**New Business** Memo from Cherilyn along with the list of delinquent dogs

Memo from Local Needs Committee, approval of donation box to be placed out back of the Town office. It will be for food donations or need. Details have not been worked out yet.

**MOTION:** Rae made a motion to allow the box to be placed out back. Seconded by Jason adding if the box is not being utilized donations should be taken to the Mad River Food Shelf. All Agreed

Letter from the Health Inspector to Shane Grace regarding an issue- Richard Valentinetti was made aware of a complaint of excessive trash though the ZA. Upon inspection there appeared to be a “mini dump” by the Casella container. 10 days were given for it to be cleaned up. John said as of today it had been cleaned up.

DRB – Gregory Nagurney and Jim O’Neil both request to be reappointed to the DRB. **MOTION:** John made a motion to approve Greg Nagurney as an alternate for the DRB, seconded by Jason, all agreed. **MOTION:** John made a motion to approve Jim O’Neil another term on the DRB, seconded by Rae, all agreed.

Rae suggested at least one meeting a month should be held at the Town Hall. Everyone agreed. The next meeting in May will be held there.

**Minutes 4/15/19-** Callie felt the basement would be better for the library because it could have a cozier feel with renovations- is how the minutes read. Adding in- All the Board members agreed there was no reason the Library couldn’t be in the basement. They did not want huge

book cases upstairs. Next Meeting dates- May 4<sup>th</sup>- is how the minutes read- needs correction to May 6<sup>th</sup>. Not enough members were present to accept the minutes.

**Warrants:** 19021 – E checks 3042-3052

19022 – check 20329-20503

19023 – check 20504-20533

**Items to sign**

Overload permits for NA Manosh

Irving Oil

Wind River Environmental

Haskins Concrete

Tim Stone Trucking

Sean Krusch

Mark Diego – road permit

Approval for the Local Emergency Management Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Rae made a motion to adjourn** at 8:16pm. Seconded by John. All agreed.