

Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECT BOARD

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 2/19/13 selectboard meeting

Board members present: Clark Amadon, Tom Martin, Michelle Beard, John Hoogenboom and Reed Korrow (arrived at 6:30)

Guests included: Norma & Vince Rooney, Pat & Scott Sainsbury, Lisa Ransom & Scott Baughman, Tom Allen, Dean Moulton, Adam Greshin, Maxine Grad, John Malter, Rachel Goff from the Valley Reporter, Rae Washburn, Jeff Meyers and Cheryl Brown as board assistant

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and gave a brief overview of tonight's agenda.

Public Comment:

Norma & Vince Rooney – came in because their property tax payment was received by Moretown five days late due to damages to the post office where they mailed their payment, by Hurricane Sandy. The Rooney's would like to be refunded the 8% penalty and 1% late fee they were charged (about \$700) for the late payment. They said they mailed their check five days prior to November 1st from New York City, but apparently because of post office being closed the letter wasn't post marked or mailed until after November 1st. The Rooney's live in New York City, but own property on Congdon Road.

There was discussion about the abatement process and whether or not interest and late fees alone could be abated. The board will check the abatement laws and get back to the Rooney's. Michelle will talk with BCA chair Rob Roberts.

MRNA - donation from the Ground Hog Day celebration. Pat & Scott Sainsbury brought in one-piece setting of dinnerware and silverware that was donated for the Moretown town hall by MRNA.

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Tom Allen presented the dinnerware to the town and explained that the Ground Hog Day celebration was held for the purpose of supplying the town hall with new dinnerware and silverware.

Pat explained that through benefit proceeds and a great discount from Kittridge Foodservice Equipment and Supplies in Williston, MRNA was able to purchase a 100-piece place setting of fine china and silverware.

The donation is greatly appreciated.

Dean Moulton – requested that a full CPA audit be done this year.

Dean was informed that there would be a CPA audit done on the 2012 and 2013 financials because the flood expenditures exceeded \$500,000. Sullivan Powers Company will audit the 2012 financials. Bids will be sent out for the 2013 audit.

Approval of Minutes:

2/4/13 – John moved; seconded by Clark to approve the minutes of 2/4/13 as printed. All were in favor.

Reports, Communication & Announcements –

Lister resignation – Letter from Linda Joyal resigning as a Lister.

John moved; seconded by Clark to accept the resignation from Linda Joyal. All were in favor.

Letter of interest for town hall management – Sasha Elwell sent a letter expressing interest in becoming the town hall coordinator if ever the need arises.

Fire Department use of the old town office for fire training – Tom reported that Sean O’Brien wants to know if the fire department could use the old town office for fire training while it is vacant. The board approved.

Temporary Town Office – Clark reported talking with Mike DiMaggio about the town offices remaining at its current location at Moretown Landfill thru 2015. Mike said Advanced Disposal doesn’t have a problem with that, but if the landfill offices become vacant AD would like the town to pay the utilities.

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Town Hall -

Rentals - Tom reported that he and Michelle will be working together to see how other towns rent their town hall, rules etc., and draft a rental policy and procedures. This will initiate more accountability as other town departments have done.

Repairs – Tom reported speaking with Craig Ciampi last week about the town hall flood repairs. Craig would like \$2,000 against his contract to purchase flooring materials. Craig would still be due about \$4,000 on the contract once all of the repairs have been finished. Remaining items to finish are the bulletin board (outside) and the flooring. The board approved paying Craig the \$2,000 when he submits an invoice. Tom will call Craig.

John Malter – Mad River Resource Management Alliance annual report - John gave an overview of the Alliance report, which will be available on the “Community Reports” table at Town Meeting.

John closed by saying that the town could expect a \$1.50 per capita increase in Alliance dues for administrative and program costs for 2014 if the landfill closes.

Maxine Grad and Adam Greshin – State Representatives for Moretown, were asked to come in tonight so the selectboard could make them aware of the financial impacts to the town and the region if the Moretown Landfill closes.

Michelle prepared a spread sheet of the estimated financial impact to Moretown should the landfill close, which shows a six-year history 2007-2012 of benefits to the town from landfill tipping fees, taxes and in-kind services.

Adam and Maxine will take the impact study back to the House.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Office news and request for proposal (RFP) – Discussion about what sites the town office committee is considering for a permanent town office. Sites being considered are building a second story on the old town office; building a new town office on the school playground or on the tennis court area. The RFP includes conceptual building design for all three sites and for the entire construction phase. There was discussion about using space at the Moretown Elementary School for the town offices.

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Discussion included the current decline in enrollment at MES and Harwood Union; future enrollment expectations; what if the State suggests consolidation of pupils with other valley towns; and the financial advantage to the town and the school if sharing space came about.

Clark will give a presentation at Town Meeting giving taxpayers an overview of where the town stands with finding a location for a permanent town office.

Cherilyn will be asked to look over the RFP before it is advertised. Bid forms will be available beginning February 28th and will be due on March 15th. There will be a mandatory site visit on March 6th. Questions should be directed to Clark Amadon at clark@amadononline.net

Host Town Agreement – the selectboard has asked an attorney to look over the Host Town Agreement contract and to give their opinion of the town's legal position should the landfill close. The board expects to have the opinion prior to town meeting.

New Business:

Odor Task Force – Michelle reported that the Odor Task Force (re: Moretown Landfill) meets tomorrow and she will report at the 3/18/13 meeting.

Invoices were reviewed.

Warrant #'s 9, 10 & 11 were approved as submitted.

Clark moved; seconded by John to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. All were in favor.