

**Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECTBOARD**

DRAFT – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 6/15/15 Selectboard meeting

Board present: Tom, Rae, John, Jason, Michelle arrived at 6:20

Guests included: men & women from the Moretown Fire Department, Travis Blodgett, Henry Erickson, Bill Gallup, John Calamaio (RUGGCO), Rachel Goff, Karen Sharpwolf, Elizabeth Burt, Cheryl Brown as assistant to the board

6:00 Tom called the meeting to order and opened up the meeting to a pizza social for the Moretown fire department, initiated by the Selectboard to show gratitude and appreciation to the fire department for what they do for the town, and for comments in general. Discussion included:

- Becky offered to get information about the Red Cross 72 hr. emergency services program
- Many of the firefighters have committed to 9 month long trainings
- Most are hazmat certified
- Fire Chief Steve Smith praised the quality and dedication of the Moretown firefighters
- The town budgeted a \$4,500 stipend so each firefighter gets something. The amount of the stipend given will be at the discretion of Chief Smith.
- There will be a monthly test of the fire siren. The horn will sound every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The purpose is to test the horn and to alert residents of a disaster. The department will work on a communication plan by Town Meeting that will act as a guideline about how/who to contact for information about the disaster.
- The fire department has great communications with the highway department.
- The plan is to apply for a grant this fall to buy a new tanker truck. Department personnel will begin gathering information and pictures for the grant narrative.
- The Selectboard very much enjoyed the social, hearing the stories about their incidents and the overall communication. It is clear the department is very passionate about what they do. There will be another social in 2016.

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7:00 pm - General contractor bid selection for the town office project – A list of options and associated pricing, was reviewed and changes were made to the overall cost of the project. Discussion included adding a direct vent furnace as a back-up system only; using PVC rather than steel piping; how to keep the humidity inside the office at a level adequate for the preservation of land records. Bill will look into humidity control options. The project is in good shape financially. The target for ground breaking is mid-September with a spring 2016 completion.

Tom moved to allow Bill Gallup and Henry Erickson to put together a contract with RUGGCO Inc., for \$766,015 less Alternates #1, DAS 1-4, DAS #7 totaling a deduct of \$23,111 from the RUGGCO contract. John seconded. Discussion: no decision will be made on whether or not to add a backup heating system; or what to do about humidity control. Vote: All were in favor.

Henry's contact person – Tom will be Henry's contact person for the town.

Public Comment Period:

Travis Blodgett – Asked when the board approved that trail #18 – Showacre Road be altered and when a road maintenance permit was issued to do the work? He said the entire road can no longer be accessed due to a huge embankment that was installed sometime in May 2015 at 308 Showacre Road.

The board knows of no permit issued and Tom will ask Martin to take a look.

Elizabeth Burt – Karen came in as a library trustee, introducing Elizabeth as being interested in becoming involved as a library trustee for one of two open spots since Lorie Murphy resigned. Karen was advised to have Lorie send a formal resignation to the town clerk for the next town meeting election purposes.

Elizabeth told about herself and her interest to become involved as a library trustee.

Tom moved to appoint Elizabeth Burt as Library Trustee to the vacant position, until Town Meeting 2016. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

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Clayton Wetzel – came in tonight with an invoice related to the Hazard Mitigation Grant that the town is sponsoring for raising the Wetzel’s home out of the flood plain.

Tom moved to approve the Gastineau Log Homes invoice dated 6/15/15 for \$12,764.10 for payment. Michelle seconded.

Discussion that the town will be reimbursed for all costs associated with this grant. Vote: all were in favor.

Approval of minutes –

Rae moved to approve the minutes of 6/1/15 as written. John seconded. Tom, Rae, John and Jason approved. Michelle abstained. All were in favor.

Reports and Communication, Announcements –

Mountain Road reconstruction – GW Tatro expressed safety concerns for having the road open at night. Cheryl will contact Tatro and ask them to post road closure signage this week.

Neighborhood Watch signs – The board approved that more signage be ordered. Discussion followed about installing signage on Moretown Common Road near Farnham Road to the Ross residence; from the town line on Jones Brook Road to the Berlin town line on the other end; Hathaway Road from the Jct. of Hathaway and the Mountain Road to near the Eric Howes residence; and in Moretown Village between Hurdle Road and Dickerson Road. Cheryl will order more signs, and respond to an email from Leslie Russell about the signage; and contact Lt. Nally to get the contact names from other towns for help to build a successful Neighborhood Watch program.

Request to lower speed limit on Route 2 – There will be a hearing of the Traffic Committee on 6/26/15 at 1:00 pm at National Life in Montpelier, to hear testimony about the need to lower the speed limit from 50 to 40 mph in the Gallagher Acres area of Moretown. Interested parties are welcome to attend.

100 on 100 relay road race – The board approved that the annual relay race to be held on August 15th can go through Moretown again this year.

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Road Maintenance Permit application – A permit application from Brian Ward (via Colby at Fountains Forestry), to perform road cuts etc. on Bat Hennessey Road for the purpose of supporting log and chipwood trucks to make the corners in the road.

There will be a site visit on Monday, June 29th at 6:00 pm so the board can get a visual/explanation of the proposed plans. Bat Hennessey is a class IV road having at least two full-time residents and one camp.

Leahy Environmental Summit Meeting – High Meadows Fund grant – There will be a meeting on 6/25/15 from 2-4 pm at the town hall for the organization to meet people who they plan to give grant funding to. Dara and John will attend for the town.

OLD BUSINESS:

Payroll Advance Policy - #26 addition to the Personnel Policy – Tom moved to accept the changes to the personnel policy as defined tonight in Section 18 and Section 26. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

Benefits & Salaries – Tom moved to accept the pay scale as defined on 1/1/15. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

Sidewalk project – Pat Travers will be asked to have someone from the State to come in and address speed issues with the installation and realignment of the new sidewalks, and for a progress report for 7/6/15.

Pre-Town Meeting Informational Meeting needed – The town votes by Australian ballot, so yes holding an informational meeting is required. The school district could have their meeting (if they decide it's needed) on a different night. The date will be determined later, but it must be within 10 days of the Australian ballot voting.

Town Meeting Warning – Two articles will be removed from the warning this year, and the wording on one article will be revised.

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Town Plan revisions – The Planning Commission incorporated the solid waste language as advised from the town’s attorney.

The Selectboard also wants language added that the town supports the development of a host community relationship for construction and management of a compost facility.

Discussion followed about whether development of a host agreement would include facilities already permitted. The consensus was that any host agreement would include all compost facilities in Moretown.

Blodgett litigation – The board decided that because there has been no agreement filed with the court that they know of, tonight’s discussion should be in executive session.

Tom moved to enter into executive session at 9:00 pm to discuss the Blodgett litigation whereby premature public knowledge would clearly place the town and persons involved at a disadvantage. Michelle seconded. All in favor. Cheryl was invited to stay for the discussion.

Tom moved out of executive session at 9:08 pm. Michelle seconded. All in favor. No action was taken as a result.

Review invoices and approval board orders –

a/p warrant #27 - check # 16953-16957

a/p warrant #28 – check # 16958-16987

p/r warrant #29 – check # 16988

e-check # 1929-1938

An overload permit for Grandfield Masonry was approved.

Tom moved to adjourn at 9:20 pm. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.