

Town of Moretown Select Board Meeting
1147 Vt. Route 100B, Moretown Village, Vermont
July 5, 2016 – Notice of unapproved minutes

The meeting was called to order by Tom Martin at 6:00. A full board was present.

Tom Martin, Chairperson
John Hoogenboom
Michelle Beard
Rae Washburn
Jason Aronowitz
Mimi Clark, acting secretary
for Cheryl Brown

Active participants:
Jon Siegel
Karen Horn
Carl Wimble
Robert Martin III, "Guy"
Martin Cameron
Jamie Wimble
John Weir "JB"

Jason took the minutes until 6:45 as follows:

TM called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Jamie Wimble: Comments on the website. Has not been able to find info on website. Mostly a very good website but some things seem to be missing. I was trying to find out who the constable was. Also could not find info on the 2015 town meeting it goes from 2014 to 2016, where it says town meeting.

MB: I think it's there, on the right side.

TM: JB does our website, if you have suggestions send it onto Cheryl and she will pass it on to JB.

Approval of Minutes:

JH: I make a motion to approve the minutes for 6/6/16.

JA: I'm abstaining.

TM: Alright, any further discussion? No? All in favor? 4 ayes. (I did not hear a second).

JH: I'll make a motion to approve the minutes of 6/20/16.

Rae seconded. 3 ayes, TM and JA were not present on 6/20.

Denise Gabaree appeared for public comment.

DG: 8/27 event, historical society, 3-9 pm, we are thinking of 2 pm ribbon cutting for the new town office, little speech.

TM: I'm gone that week. John can do it.

DG: Thinking of a display of Irene Pictures. I'm here for your input or permission.

TM: Great idea, work with John or Cheryl, she has a lot of pictures.

MB: Should people walk through the town office just once? Can be hard to supervise. Is that something we should talk to Cherylyn about?

TM: Yes, I'd like to see it. Could have it for a one hr period or something, say 3-4.

DG: We could do our presentation from 2-5 then lock everything up. I'll be in contact with Cheryl and Cherylyn. I'll probably come in closer to the event too.

Martin Cameron: It's all about money tonight. I brought the pickup to Cody for inspection, found that it needs \$3500-4000 of work. I gave the OK to get started on it. We needed it. I thought of taking it somewhere else but it would have to be towed. Pitman arms in front end, emergency brake cables, rear calipers, exhaust manifold leak, muffler and tailpipe, transmission line leak. It's a 2011.

JA: Could you email me that list for the minutes?

MC: Yes, I can.

RW: How many miles on it?

MC: 60K

TM: Haven't done much work on it, right?

MC: A little bit. No trouble until now. Down the road issues with the back bed. (rust from salt). From the inside out. I don't know what the long term plan for the pickup is. We have a \$200 budget, so we have to make that up.

JA: We weren't planning on replacing that truck any time soon.

MC: We'll end up putting some money into it. Can I use Front Porch Forum to warn culvert work? Rae asked me about Cobb Hill retaining wall \$1800-2000, tires – transfer stations get \$6 per tire, estimate 200 tires – the lady who's the property owner thinks she knows someone who will do a \$2 per tire.

RW: That doesn't include your time, so \$6000 total?

MC: Yes, at least 3 days, \$2K in man hours.

RW: Its right at the right of way, but not the town's. How much work is our responsibility?

MC: I agree with Rae. Potentially a disaster if it's not fixed it could collapse into the ditch line cause loss of the road. We could see if she could pay some part of it. She's under the impression that we are going to do something.

RW: Can we put some stone in there to stabilize it?

MC: It's such a narrow line already.

TM: It's a rough call, sets a precedent. We're willing to work with her. But a \$6000 fix...

RW: Martin, want to contact her?

MC: I will. VYCC will start on Devil's Washbowl at no cost to the Town (we didn't get the grant). Cleaning ditches, brushwork, overall handwork. Just willing to work on Class 4 so far.

MC: [re other side of the sidewalk] took out a full bucket load. Any permanent fix will be expensive and anything temporary won't last. As you get south, the curbing gets high, and the State truck gets it.

RW: Suggestion: the paving contractor for the school may be able to help us out.

Guy Martin: I was under the impression we were going to talk about the Blodgett

TM: That will be later, under old business.

GM: I've been waiting 5 years. I guess I can wait a little longer.

JA: The two bidders for the school lot [bus lane; switched the Type II and Type III thicknesses.

RW: Yes, the bids came in with very different measurements. The switched thicknesses are not a big deal. [Rae estimated the cost based on the higher area measurement, found Johnson to be the low bidder.] In my opinion, the 3.5 inches may be a bit overkill for a temporary fix- 2.5 inches could save us \$5,000.

MB: Need to clarify ownership with the school and church.

TM: Have to sit down with those guys soon and do that. We want to go forward with the paving but with a clear MOU. It'll probably take two meetings. Needs to be done end of July to do the paving in August.

Old Business (6:43 PM)

TM: Executive session to discuss Blodgett litigation, where premature public knowledge would disadvantage us or the Blodgetts. MB seconded. All ayes.

Rae moved to come out of executive session. JH seconded.

6:45 Executive Session – Mimi takes over the minutes –

7:00 Discussion over the Blodgetts and Trail 49 situation. The next available court date isn't until the end of August. The judge wants to walk on the trail. It's all in the courts for now. Guy Martin wants the trail properly presented and represented.

8/9/16 vote articles - Jon Siegel led discussion about the proposed subdivision regulation on 8/9/2016 (article #2) vote. At the 11th hour, based on input from the community, he suggested that the article be rescinded. JB said that based on the Middlesex model, the board would not need a permit from the DRB to do so; 3 or less articles, it is not required; 4 or more, it would be.

Tom asked that since the article is warned, what would be the process to rescind it? Cheryl could send out an email; Karen Horn suggested that it could be voted down. Jon Siegel said that most people in all likelihood aren't going to vote. Discussion continued and the question was asked if Cheryl would have to stamp the proposal to rescind the vote? The answer was yes and it would have to happen before the deadline of July 10th. The question could also be left on the ballot but the votes not counted. There would have to be a sign to notify voters.

Tom moved to strike the proposed subdivision regulations (article #2) from the ballot. Jason seconded. A vote was taken and the ayes had it.

Tom said that JB was coming to the Planning Commission meeting for revisions and asked Jon if that adequately addressed the issues? Jon replied that meetings address things over and over and no one shows up. Carl Wimble said that minor subdivision changes could involve 24 pages or a single paragraph. Tom asked for feedback from the Planning Commission. Jon S. reminded the board that the next meeting is on July 19th, two weeks from this tonight.

Town building maintenance - Tom - the town buildings maintenance walk thru was good, and that the board needs to follow through by putting the maintenance needs on schedules.

Sand pile screening - He then asked about the sand pile screening as requested by the Liz Harris on the same walk thru of town buildings. John H. asked how many trees were involved as they are \$50 a piece. The rotary will help plant them. Which side of the road are they to be planted on? At the very least, they should be planted on the sides, staggered yews. Rae asked if it would be feasible in September or October? What is the planting schedule?

Tom instructed John H. to come up with the number of trees we are looking at and he also brought up using the pile as a screen by addressing it from the rear of the pile and Tom and Rae discussed briefly the history of approaches.

Parking lot maintenance - Tom about the parking lot maintenance issues at the school/town office site. The subject was initially diverted to an executive session at the end of the meeting and Tom asked if there was any new business.

Tom- As per the MOU what is the use of the parking lot and who is paying?
Michelle- who is responsible and who owns what? Rae-the school owns to the sidewalk. Period. The town owns everything else. John H.-The school owns on the other side.
Jason-MOU with the school should include maps of what the town owns and what would be fair share. Tom- 4 years ago the pastor of the Methodist church, David Peterson said that wanted no money; they just wanted to hand it over. Cheryl could have for the next meeting in researching with Martin what it will cost to do the plowing, mowing and maintenance. Jason- Is there shared capital cost for paving? Maybe offer? Discussion included options of one, five or ten to be shared with the supervisory union?
Rae- Hire a landscape engineer and come up with a plan. Tom-We will continue to do what we are doing with the 25,000. Jason- What about stay mat to the town office? Discussion ensued about grants possibly available. Tom-There's not a lot of extra money around this year. Discussion on paving in the parking lot. Tom-Rae check with Dodson and have an idea for the next meeting.

New Business:

Intersection maintenance - The boulders that mark the edge of the town right away at the intersection of the Moretown/Northfield road and South Hill as the abutting property owners, Michael and Jane Dimotsis have concerns that their property lines are being compromised. The board agreed to follow up on what was discussed at the last meeting.

Borrowing from the Capital Reserve Fund - Cherilyn has asked permission to borrow from the Capital Reserve Fund.

Tom moved to allow her to do so and John H. seconded. A vote was taken and the ayes had it.

Town office project / landscaping - Annette and John Schultz submitted a letter requesting more trees for screening. Tom- Schedule time to walk with Schultzes before next meeting. Why don't we decide how many trees to buy. Tom-The next meeting will begin at the new building. Other old business included having Cheryl check Henry if he can be finished by mid July?

Rae mentioned an Act 250 meeting in Waterbury on the 12th.

Tom moved to adjourn. Michelle seconded it.