

**Town of Moretown**

**Selectboard Minutes**

**11/6/2017**

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

**Guest present:** Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Travis Blodgett, Martin Cameron, Stefan Pratt, Deborah Feldman, Mike Woods and Elizabeth Burt.

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

**General Public Comment.** Travis Blodgett spoke to the board about class 4 road maintenance and if a permit and insurance was needed. Tom M replied yes, a permit was needed and since the road Foreman checks the work after no insurance was needed.

**Town Administrators report.** Cheryl spoke about the grants that have been submitted for reimbursement and another class 4 road maintenance of hydrologically connected grant though Central Vermont Planning Commission for that she had for the board to sign off on. The grant would be for work on Lynch Hill as it connects with Jones Brook Road.

**Reports and Communication:** Tom M had spoken to Karen Sharpwolf a library trustee. She stated the employees were not receiving holiday pay. It was a miscommunication between the trustees and employees and going forward they will receive holiday pay. Tom M suggested any future employee of the town no matter department should sign off on receiving the employee handbook.

Tom M spoke about Grow Compost and whether or not their ACT250 permit had been terminated or not. It's very unclear from the information the town has received. Cheryl spoke that the Stephanie Smith from the Vermont Department of Agriculture and she is also looking into AG status for Grow's current operations. Tom B stated he thought that "production for a specific use" should be under production not agriculture.

Tom B brought up the dog issue on Howes Road that was discussed at previous meetings, between Saffron and Rothenburg. He had meet with the Vermont Health Officer who stated if the dog was a public issue the town health officer could get involved. Tom M had spoken to Shane who stated the neighbors had gotten together and discussed an agreement. Tom M would like to see the agreement in writing.

John announced the 3rd annual leadership meeting for selectboard and planning commissioners will be taking place on 11/16/17. John will be attending. He has yet to see an agenda.

**Minutes from October 16, 2017-** Motion was made by John to accept the minutes. Tom B seconded the motion. All agreed.

**Highway Department Business** - Martin was present to discuss replacing the excavator. The current one is from 1999 and just in the last 4 years they have put about \$30,000 into maintaining it. The board would like Martin to research options to rent/lease/buy and present it to the board. Martin also spoke about purchasing a roller to put on the grader. The price would be between \$7,500-\$10,000. Martin believes a roller would mean less erosion, possibly using less chloride and more time in-between grading. Tom M would like Jason to look at the capital budget for possible use on these items.

Martin spoke about water coming in on the back wall of the town garage. He needs to see the plans so he can locate the footing drains.

Martin and Tom M spoke about Stefan starting back for the road crew December 1<sup>st</sup> at 30 hours per week. Using Stefan on the winter weekends would mean less overtime for fulltime employees.

Martin also discussed the CVRPC grant funding for hydrologically connected class 4 roads, and that he and Dan Currier already discussed using on Lynch Hill. Martin will put together a list of other class roads needing this type of work.

**Town Lister Business-** The listers presented the board with the completed tax maps. They discussed now having to update the grand list with the new tax map parcel info. This work is to be completed by March 31, 2018 at which time letters will be sent out to community members and grievance meetings can be scheduled.

Tom M made a motion to accept the maps as presented. John seconded the motion. All agreed.

The board needs to decide on how much of the info gathered to do the tax maps should be made public.

The listers discussed their proposed budget for 2018. There are a couple different options on how to know store and update the tax maps going forward. The options are to have it all on one computer in the Town office or make it web based and accessible online with login and password.

The listers also noted the company who helped with the ax maps also gathered data for free concerning more detail i.e. Distances on property lines. They were offering the information to put on the maps for \$2000, which is normally \$5000. Both listers didn't feel it was necessary but wanted to give the board the option.

**Library Business-** Elizabeth spoke to the board about the Library's proposed budget for 2018. Building maintenance- the Library would like to get the other two sides of the exterior painted. Also pending the Historical Preservation Grant that was applied for, maybe replace the downstairs windows this year and upstairs next year. The board would like to see information about what other funding the library has and

what it has been used for.

Tom M would also like Jason to look at the Capital Funding Budget for the building maintenance.

Elizabeth also discussed moving from using the post office to a courier service for interlibrary book loans.

**Old Business:**

Harris screening- still on going, Tom M had spoken to them about 2 months ago for ideas.

Town buildings maintenance- still on going and will be discussed during budget meetings.

Culvert and Road inventory- has not been completed yet.

Economic Development and Investment news can both be removed from the old business list.

Trail #17- Blodgett Trail waiting on Mylar from Townsend.

Grow Compost- still ongoing.

Scenic Roads- still ongoing.

**New Business-** Mow bid for 2018. Ad advertisement was put out to bid on mowing of the town/school property as well as the town cemeteries. Only one Bid from Eric Howes was received.

Bid for town/school property: \$11,250

Bid for cemeteries: \$7,750

Bid for both properties together: \$17,650. All prices are good for a 3-year contract.

No action was taken at this time. Tom M. wants to get with Martin about cost comparison between contracting the mowing out or having the road crew do it. Cheryl provided

**Tom M made a motion to adjourn** at 8:40pm. Tom B seconded the motion. All agreed.