

Town of Moretown  
Selectboard Minutes  
7/9/18

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

**Guest Present:** Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Katie Martin (Valley Reporter). Don Butson (CAI), Listers Deborah Feldman and Mike Woods

**General Public Comment:** None at this time.

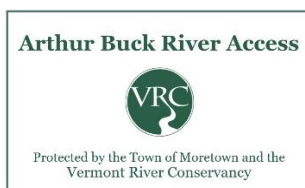
**Town Administrator Report:**

1. Applied for the 2018 Grants-in-Aid and awarded to pay 75% to fix more stormwater problems on town roads.
2. Town hall kitchen rebuild bids opened at 7/16 meeting.
3. Town land 178 acres; school land 2.1 acres. Cheryl grieved with a copy of the quit claim deed, ownership was reversed on new tax maps. Listers will correct.
4. GW Savage original bill for mold remediation. They did not remove as many cabinets as they originally quoted, but did remove more drywall. Original \$8602.12. Final \$8292.86 Difference of -\$306.26
5. Blodgett trail, interested parties have until July 19<sup>th</sup> to appeal the Selectboard's decision. Cheryl has received a few phone calls from attorneys requesting information.

**Reports and Communications:**

Rae spoke about the problems occurring on River Road. He hasn't had a chance to talk to Martin. Cheryl spoke to Martin and he believes it's the original material coming up though and causing problems. He believes putting down paper and gravel will fix the problem and estimates the work to cost around \$8000. Tom received a phone call from Henry Lewis who would like to speak with Rae concerning a road issue and John concerning trees on his property. Both will contact him.

John received an email from Lydia Menendez from the River Conservancy concerning the Arthur Buck access. They received a request from Caleb Dean (who mows the property) for \$500, for belts and blades. There is nothing in the original agreement for this. She also talked about fixing the pot hole in the driveway. John will speak to Caleb about the cost, if it will be on going/once a year, and if fixing the driveway is something he can do. Also, a new sign will be installed by the conservancy, as shown below.



Tom said Duane Howes contacted him concerning a fence he had hit when mowing a Cemetery. He took full responsibility, and already talked to the cemetery commissioners and will pay for the repair.

**Old Business:**

- Social media policy- Rae wanted to make sure any social media platform the Selectboard chooses will not allow for any public comment. Catrina assured them that is the way it will be set up, adding that regardless if the Selectboard decides to use Social Media a policy should be adopted. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to accept the social media policy as presented. Callie seconded the motion. All agreed.
- Town Facebook- Rae spoke of his concerns again. Callie spoke about doing some research on surrounding towns Facebook pages and noted they are very active and a good tool to get information out in a timely manner. Catrina stated the only thing that will be posted on Facebook are the same items that would be posted on the Towns website or FPF. Callie suggested it was also a great place to post any road closures or where and when the road crew would be working. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to start a Town of Moretown Facebook page, to be reviewed at years end. John seconded the motion. All agreed. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to appoint Catrina Brackett as the Social Media Administrator. John seconded the motion. **DISCUSSION:** The board would like Catrina to keep track of her time she is posting to Facebook. Rae would like any post "out of the ordinary" to be approved by the Selectboard first. Jason spoke about having a separate section for road announcements on the Towns website, Catrina will replay the request to JB. **VOTE:** All Agreed.

**New Tax Maps:** The Selectboard asked the Listers Michael and Deborah, and CAI, to come in to discuss the new tax map issues. Michael stated about 700 of the about 900 parcel owners of Moretown received a letter concerning the tax map changes, appraisals or current use. Of those concerning tax map changes they have held about 120 grievance hearings. Don stated in his 30+ years' experience, you can expect that about 95% of parcels without a survey will change. CAI uses aerial photos from the State of Vermont and can come within 1-2% accuracy. They also guarantee their work and will work with residents directly concerning any discrepancies. The listers had a form given to them for residents to be able to work with CAI directly, that should have been available though this whole process. Also included in their research is deed work when a survey is not available. The most accurate having meets and bounds. Don also spoke about adding dimensions on the map. They offered this service before at \$4100 and believe it is very important and good information to have included. He stated you rarely see tax maps without then. They are now willing to offer this service at a discounted price of \$3000. Michael stated he thought that Cheryl had a reason not to include the dimensions and will speak with her. Michael out of the first round of about 90 grievance hearing 13 went to the BCA for appeal. Jason said that there should be a process in place to track accuracy of parcels that were changed but for which had to reply. The Listers feel they are on track to lodging the grand list on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl spoke about and Deborah reiterated we should be moving forward with the process at this point so the grand list can be lodged, the tax rate set and tax bills sent out. The Listers also have until the end of the year to submit error and omissions as well.

**PUBLIC HEARING- SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS 7:30pm**

Guests in attendance for the hearing: JB Weir, Zoning Administrator; Jonathan Siegel, Planning Commission; David Russo and Carl Wimble.

JB stated the purpose of the public hearing was concerning subdivision regulations of which Moretown doesn't have any currently. He explained the difference between a minor and major subdivision. Minor being less than lots in any 5-year period where he would process the application. Anything over would trigger the new Major subdivision regulations and the application would go thru the DRB. JB see these regulations as a smart way to promote development. The regulations were "kicked into high gear" by the Planning Commission over concern of large forestry lots that have come up for sale recently. Johnathan said the planning commission is on board. David spoke about in general he believes having subdivision regulations is going to make the cost of homes in Moretown increase due to the fact that any developer will put his fees incurred from going thru the zoning/DRB process into the cost of the home. He also spoke about declaring that Moretown will remain a one acre town vs. a ten-acre town, which means any new commercial development over one acre automatically goes though ACT 250. This is something the town attorney would need to look into as JB has never seen anything pertaining to this in subdivision regulations. David also brought up several other inconsistencies with the current zoning regulations. The Selectboard suggests holding a meeting to include the Selectboard, DRB, PC and Zoning to discuss the regulations. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to send the subdivision regulations back to the PC. John seconded the motion. All agreed.

**END OF PUBLIC HEARING 8:20pm**

**Minutes from 6/18/18: MOTION-** A few grammatical errors were fixed- Tom made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, John seconded. All agreed.

**New Business:** John said they are still working on a meeting date for the financial committee.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held 7/16/18

**Warrants:** PR 18030, 19681, e2786-e2796; AP 18031, 19682-19690; PR 18032 19691, e2797-e2808; AP 18033, 19692-19714.

**Documents approved:** A memo from Cherilyn was given to the Selectboard requesting permission to transfer the following: \$165,000.00 from SRF to the GF to cover A/P and P/R expenses for the month of July. Tom signed and made a MOTION: to authorize Cherilyn to do the transfer. Rae seconded the motion. All agreed. A form indicating Catrina Brackett was appointed Social Media Administrator. A memo from Cheryl that read: To instruct the Treasurer to transfer \$49,872.00 from the Capital Reserve fund to the General Fund, for the 2018 loan payment on the 2018 International truck. As discussed on 1/8/2018. The Selectboard signed off. Also signed was an overload permit for Beacon Roofing Supply.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:28 to adjourn, Rae seconded, all agreed.