

Town of Moretown Selectboard Minutes

2/4/2019

Board members present: Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Jason Aronowitz and Callie Streeter

Board members not present: Tom Martin

Guest Present: Catrina Brackett, Katie Martin (Valley Reporter), Deb Carroll, Steven Reissig, Pat Travers, Dara Torre, Dan VonTrapp, Kate Wanner, Matt Williams, Steve Robbins, Karen Horn, Liza Walker, Dan Zucher and Ron Shems, Cheryl Brown

John called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

General Public Comment: None at this time.

Town Administrators Report:

1. 2019 road & bridge standards for board signatures tonight for adoption, which apply to the construction, repair, and maintenance of all town roads and bridges. By adopting these standards, Moretown agrees to abide to standards approved by the State of Vermont. May see revised standards as the year goes on as VTrans and ANR work together to incorporating Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP) to the road & bridge standards. The MRGP annual payment due to the state is based on the municipal size and they charge a flat fee of \$400/year for permits which the Town has paid since 2017. New this year is a \$1350 for annual operating fee. This is a state unfunded mandate.
2. Cheryl met with Ron Shems briefly today concerning discovery/settlement options for the Montgomery Timber appeal. He will be at the meeting later tonight.
3. Tom talked to Ray Daigle about the damaged columns at Moretown School, and Ray is looking for the video tape for the day of the incident.

Reports and Communications:

A letter was received from Robert Young, State of Vermont, Structures Project Manager. VTrans has completed work on the Preliminary Plans for bridge #2 on Rt 100b (currently has stop lights). Any comments by the Town are due by 2/15/19.

Email from John Lynch asking for a reduced rate to rent the Town Hall for drivers ed. classes, two days a week from 2/11-3/24. Catrina noted he was a good renter in December and always cleaned up after himself. John asked for a reduction from \$600 to \$300 total. **MOTION:** John made a motion to accept the request from John Lynch, \$300, 2 days a week, 2/11-3/24, seconded by Rae. All Agreed.

An email dated 1/22/19 was received from Leslie Polubinski supporting the idea of having a question of Moretown withdrawing from HUUSD on the ballot.

An email dated 1/13/19 from Mary Murphy was received concerning the condition of the driveway between the church and school (southern entrance). Cheryl has spoken to Martin about this. The road crew did quite a bit of work to the driveway in October and unfortunately nothing can be done now until spring.

A notice of service was received dating 1/15/19 from Tarrant, Gillies & Richardson, regarding the Montgomery Timber appeal.

Callie spoke about giving Stefan (Fire Department), info about the State Crises Management Team, and member Sonny for a contact.

John attended a Vermont Clean Water Network forum. Highlights were how to deal with appropriations and the long-term approach. Also, a geologic water assessment post Irene. They are also continuing efforts to investigate gravel road on the Lake Champlain Basin contributing to phosphorus levels. Rae noted he didn't think phosphorus could/would be coming from gravel roads and paved roads should be studied more.

Catrina sent a chart with data about how Road crew hours were spent from 2016-present, to the Board members. Information compiled for the report was taken from timesheets handed in.

Catch Basin Concerns: Deb Carroll and her partner Steven Reissing came in as well as Pat Travers to discuss the proposed catch basin/culvert on Deb and Stevens property. Deb as been consulting an attorney because she was overwhelmed with the situation. She stated the new purposed easement raised more concerns. She spoke with Karen Bates from ANR (VT agency of Natural Resources) about possible other methods of dealing with the water runoff. Deb suggested changing the location of the culvert entirely off her property. Cheryl also noted the culvert on Debs property is so old there isn't an existing easement on file with the Town or State. Next steps- Pat and Rae will meet on Wednesday to brainstorm a new location if possible, for the culvert, possibly near the fire station. After that Doug Henson will have to incorporate any changes into the plans.

Northfield Ridge Group: Members of the newly formed group came to the Selectboard just to keep them updated of the group's ideas. They still have to refine their goals and possibly have a public forum for input.

Old Business: None at this time.

New Business: None at this time.

Town Administrator position discussions: Rescheduled for next meeting.

Next Meetings: TUESDAY 2/21/19. Monday 3/4/19

Minutes: John noted in the TA report it should say Cheryl not I since Catrina gave the report in Cheryl's absence. **MOTION:** John made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Callie. All agreed.

Executive Session: John made a **MOTION** at 7:40 to enter into executive session for a discussion with the Towns attorney Ron Shems concerning civil actions, where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the municipality or persons involved at a substation disadvantage, seconded by Callie. Ron Shems and Cheryl Brown were invited to attend. **MOTION:** John made a motion to end executive session at 8:00, seconded by Callie. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

Warrants: AP 19004; 20244-20264. PR 19005; e2974-e2984

Documents Approved: Annual Town Road and Bridge Standards and Certification of Compliance. Certificate of highway mileage. Fleet permits for- Bourne's Inc; Cardinal Logistics Management Corp; Hinesburg Sand and Gravel; and Velco.

Motion to Adjourn: Rae made a motion to adjourn at 8:02, seconded by John, all agreed.