

**Town of Moretown
Selectboard Minutes
07/15/2019**

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

Guest present: Catrina Brackett, Sasha Elwell-Badore, Cherilyn Brown and Michael Brown

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

Public comment: Michael Brown was present to speak to the Board about being appointed to the vacant Lister position. Michael is a self-employed forester and has knowledge concerning current use. He has already met with the Listers, Mike and Deb, who have passed along their vote of confidence to Tom. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to appoint Michael Brown as a Lister, seconded by John, all agreed.

Reports and Communications: Sasha relayed a message from Robin Herbick at 1947 South Hill Rd who had concerns about a drain pipe/culvert on her property. Sasha said that Robin had intended on contacting Martin. Rae will follow up with the Road Crew.

Jason- Spoke concerning a FPF post from Karen Horn about Consolidated Communications being her only option for internet, who has said they will not be extending fiber optics to Moretown. WCVT is currently running fiber optics to their customers in Moretown. Jason cautioned about inviting other companies to Moretown since WCVT was already in place. Tom suggested having reps from WCVT as well as Central VT Fiber to come to a meeting and discuss possible expansion or new service in Moretown.

Jason also spoke about the Finance Review Committee meeting. Their next task is to work on longer term capital needs, as to what they would mean to cash flow. They are also working on the Capital Improvement Plan for the Town Report.

Cherilyn also said the Committee is discussing having an article at Town Meeting asking the voters to consider paying 2% of the amount borrowed from the Capital Reserve Fund back, for the truck purchase.

Rae relayed a message from Steve Magill that he didn't intend to ask the Board to move the curb cut across from his home but only to alert them to the process. Rae had spoken to all

involved and everyone was happy. Steve had concerns about there being Japanese Knotweed on the property as well and it was found that it was not there. Jason inquired about the Road Crew being certified to spray chemicals and Rae did not have a chance to speak with them on that.

John relayed to Rae his concern of a giant pot hole on Pony Farm Road where the pavement meets the dirt.

Minutes: **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to approve the minutes from 7/1/19, seconded by Callie, all agreed. Tom thanked Sasha for doing a good job.

Setting the tax rate was discussed by the Board with Cherilyn and Sasha. Jason noted the Grand List had gone up by 4% and the base budget by 7.5% **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to set the municipal tax rate at .4394, Jason seconded, all agreed.

Old Business: Continued discussion on the **Road and Bridge Standards** which are due August 1st. The State is asking the Town to adopt State Standards. The Board would like to have a special meeting with Dan Currier and have the Road Crew be present on Monday the 29th.

Employee wages: MOTION: John made a motion at 6:43pm to go into executive session for labor relation agreements with employees, where premature general public knowledge would clearly place the state, municipality, other public body, or person involved at a substantial disadvantage; provided that the public body shall make the final decision in an open meeting. Seconded by Tom, all agreed. **MOTION:** John made a motion to exit executive session at 7:24, seconded by Rae. All agreed.

Action- The Board will meet with employees at the special meeting on the 29th **Motion:** John moved to increase Sasha's hours by (8), seconded by Rae. All agreed.

Warrants: PR 19035; AP 19036; AP 19037

Items to sign:

4 road work permits
Contract for CAI, GIS to the Internet

Tom made a motion to adjourn at 7:30pm, seconded by John, all in favor.