

**Town of Moretown
Selectboard Meeting
Via conference call
05/18/2020**

Board Members Present: Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, Rae Washburn, Callie Streeter, Don Wexler

Guests: Cherilyn Brown, Valley Reporter, MRVTV, Sasha Elwell-Badore

Public Comment: There was none.

6:15: Discussion was had on the HUUSD Budget Re-vote for June 16, regarding location and procedures. Cherilyn asked the board to adopt the drive-up voting procedure. She felt this would be the most convenient for voters and safe for all (voters and election workers). The process would be to enter the school driveway, pick up a ballot at check-in, vote in your car, deposit the ballot into the locked box, check-out and exit on the town office side of the parking lot. Rae made the motion to adopt the municipality drive-up procedure for voting. Callie seconded. All were in favor. Cherilyn let the SB know that procedures for the Primary and General Elections are still being worked on.

Cherilyn let the SB know that Ruggco was coming to measure for a quote on the plexi-glass in the office. She is continuing with making appointments for title searchers to come into the office once a week.

Discussion was had on the location of the next meeting. There would possibly be more room for keeping the six-foot social distancing at the townhall. Tom is going to speak with the library about this. There are still no rentals being allowed at the townhall, as well.

6:25: Construction update – GMP did some trimming of the Lone Pine and it should be coming down after Memorial Day weekend. Requests have been voiced for slices of the tree to make tables, benches, etc., for the town, since it's loved by so many. Rae thinks that it is do-able. John is going to reach out Rachel Miltner, it is her tree after all. John said that there is an ash that needs to come down at the Westerman/Gemst property on Route 100B, there is some rot and possible ash borer evidence. Rae will be getting numbers on that for the SB.

Dickerson Road construction was finished up last week. Cherilyn has been working with the state on moving the grant money from the Mountain Road to Dickerson Road to cover those expenses. Rae said that it possibly could use a guardrail, with that tree being gone now.

The road crew has been working on Pony Farm Road, in preparation for the bridge construction traffic.

6:45: Reports & Communications

John thinks that after the grievance hearings, the SB should hold a special meeting to set the tax rate. Also, put a notice out on FPF that the town can collect tax money at any time. He would also like to wait a month on the decision of how the town is going to pay for the excavator, banks have a really low interest rate right now. The finance committee is still "down" a member, the idea of adding another is being discussed, and they do have someone in mind.

Callie has concerns about the discount on taxes if paid early, she thinks that the "escrow" people may have a disadvantage.

Tom brought up an email from Peter Kulis from the schoolboard, he would like the email looked over before the next SB meeting. John suggested getting in touch with the Moretown members of the schoolboard as well.

Tom mentioned approving a letter of support for a grant that CV Fiber is applying for.

John made the motion to accept the minutes from 5/04/2020 SB meeting. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business: Don brought up forming a library committee, to get a feel from the community on the library location. Since another year was approved to be at the townhall, there is now time to figure it out. It may be a good time to start organizing it, because of the pandemic. Tom asked that Don figure out an outline of what the committee is going to do, and what it will entail.

Don brought up money for the Mad River Ambulance Service. Tom asked that it get put on the agenda for old business pending, it will be discussed at a later time.

New Business: John brought it to the SB's attention that there was an email from Catrina Brackett about 5:30 that day (to the board) regarding MECA. She has assisted in making MECA a non profit organization, and would like to know if the townhall basement could be used for the summer program for the PreK kids. MECA has been

notified that they can not use MES this summer for their programs. John said that Catrina signed the email as Neck of the Woods Office Administrator. He thinks that it needs to be looked into about it being turned into a non profit organization, because Duane Pierson is the one that organized MECA. There was no motion made on this, it's too early to make plans for kids being inside.

John said that the Dubois letter that went out to the village residents triggered a call from Fred & Carla Messer. They brought it to John's attention that their property has sewer lines that go under Route 100B. John checked with Dubois and it was not in the plans, so it was a good thing that the town sent out the notification letters.

It was briefly discussed, not having a 1st constable, and it needs to be added to the old business pending. Tom thought maybe Maxine Grad & Kari Nolan could be asked about looking into giving the constable some authority to help control speed enforcement.

Adjourn: Tom made the motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm. John seconded. All were in favor.