

**Town of Moretown
Selectboard Meeting
Via Zoom Meeting ID 620 104 2716
Passcode D84ysR
09/08/2020**

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

Guests Present: MRVTV, ORCA, Jamie Wimble, Rachael Wettenstein, Martin Cameron, Cherilyn Brown, Sasha Elwell-Badore

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Tom

Public Comment: Jamie was present to introduce the new assistant librarian, Rachael Wettenstein. Rachael told the SB a little about herself and her back ground. She is new to Vermont, (moved just before Covid-19). Tom said that she will be at the same pay rate as the last assistant librarian, \$13.73. One of the SB members will be signing off on the official form.

Rae brought up the drainage issue at the town hall, by the basement door (that has been an on-going problem). He advised that the road crew will be working on it next week, so that the library is aware of it. Martin said that he has spoken with Cory about it.

Martin was present to talk about the truck issue. He reached out to some other dealerships and checked pricing on other makes (Western Star and Freightliner). Their prices did not include the plow, so it would make the quotes about 6-9k more. He did not have the quotes with him to give the SB the exact numbers. His opinion is to go through Clark's and get another International, that way the fleet is matched. The 2012 (that will be traded) is in the shop for an inspection that is overdue, the brakes need to be replaced. This was brought up because it will be an additional \$8,000 that needs to be put into the truck so that it is legal. Discussion on this was had, in regards to a negotiating tool for the trade in price. Martin said that he will work on getting trade in numbers for the other dealerships as well, Clark's was \$40,000.

Martin said that Shane Elwell made an offer of \$6,000 to the town on the 2001 dump truck that is not usable. This truck was his dad's, Craig Elwell. Martin is pushing for Shane to haul material this fall for the town, instead of him giving the town money for it. Some of the SB feels that it would be "cleaner" for Shane to pay the town, instead of hauling in exchange.

Martin asked the SB about rolling his time over (Vacation/Sick) if he is unable to get his surgery scheduled before the end of the year. It was agreed that the SB would allow it. But he was encouraged to get in for the surgery and not to wait.

6:33: Cherilyn was present to speak with the SB on the CD that the town has, it matures in September and thought it would be best to not roll it over until after tax money starts to come in. There was brief discussion and the SB asked that Cherilyn come back to them in November to further discuss. John made the motion to not roll the CD over. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

6:38: 2021 Budget

Tom said that Sasha will be sending out an email to the Department heads soon. He asked all for any ideas:

Cherilyn thinks that the town has done well considering the effects of Covid-19.

Tom: expect increases in wages, fuels, and such that are being affected by Covid-19.

Rae: thinks that level funding is in order, with the exception of wages.

Don: has some ideas, Tom asked that he put them together and send them to Sasha to disburse to the SB.

6:42: Linda Vantine Abatement: Tom read aloud the newest letter from Linda explaining the situation more. There was brief discussion. Tom said that he was willing to abate her taxes, she has made an attempt to pay them. All agreed. Don suggested applying what she has paid to this year's taxes instead of refunding it to her. Tom made the motion to abate her 2019 taxes due and apply what she has paid on those taxes to her 2020 tax bill. John seconded. All were in favor.

Reports and Communications: Sasha brought to the SB, that Craig Oshkello sent a note of interest to be re-appointed to the DRB as an alternate. Tom so moved. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Sasha reminded the SB about the stump on the (old Haynes property) now owned by the Beard's. Since the sidewalk is done on that side of the road, the agreement was put in place that the town would take care of the stump removal/grinding and the road crew would be the ones to clean it up, making it cheaper. John made the motion to schedule the stump removal in the Beard's front yard and for the road crew to clean it up. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

Sasha brought two emails to the SB regarding use of the town hall. There was an inquiry of the rec committee using it for their winter meetings and a rental of twice a week for yoga in the winter months as well. There was brief discussion on it and all agreed that renting the town hall should not be done yet. But the rec committee and other committees should be able to use the town hall for town committee meetings. It

is the largest space for people to social distance with cooler weather coming. This discussion went into further detail on getting a couple SB members together to brainstorm on what will be done going forward with Covid-19. Rae and Don volunteered to meet with Cherilyn, Cory and Sasha for discussions on this. Tom brought up the need to plan on extra cleanings/disinfecting, procedures and precautions that should be in place.

Don brought up the sub-committee (town hall/library) that he is forming and would like to continue moving forward on it.

Don mentioned the signs that he put up on Pony Farm Road and said that he thinks it has made a difference.

Don commended the SB and all that were involved with the construction of the new town office. Laura Bailey contacted the town to let them know Moretown will be receiving an award from the Vermont Green Building Network on September 16th, through a free webinar.

Rae gave an update on the sidewalk. The last catch basin was put in and the last part of the sidewalk was poured that day. He thanked John for all of his efforts, and Tom agreed he did a great job. The communications he put out were very much appreciated. Tom also thanked Rae for his involvement as well and keeping the town's interests high on his priorities. Cherilyn was thanked for all of the work that she has been engaged in throughout the project too.

John said that there had been a dog issue with Mike Farnham on Pony Farm Road over the weekend. There was some discussion on it and Tom reminded all that Shane Grace's back up is the first and second constables – Tom Chenette and Clarence Wood.

Tom mentioned that the website is in need of being updated and that this should be put into the budget.

Tom made the motion to approve the SB minutes of 8/18/2020. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business: John made the motion to formally approve the sub contract for the skills park/nature trails that the rec committee is working on. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

It was brought up to be on everyone's radar, the FD tanks that they need. There has been nothing heard on the grant that Stefan applied for.

John wanted to mention how difficult it was to work with Paul Gillies on the easement changes for the sidewalk project. There were some frustrating issues had in the process and it took a lot of patience and time.

New Business: John announced that he is now a grandfather! He was born a week ago, three weeks early. He weighted 5 lbs 13 oz and his name is Anders.

Adjourn: Tom made the motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm. John seconded. All were in favor.