

**Town of Moretown
Select Board Meeting
04/05/2021**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6201042716>

Via ZOOM Meeting ID 620 104 2716

Or to call in: 929-205-6099

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

Guests Present: Stefan Pratt, Jamie Wimble, Michael Woods, Michael Brown, MRVTV, Cherilyn Brown, Mandy Couturier, Ray Daigle, Brad Long, Hadley Laskowski, Sasha Elwell-Badore

Meeting called to order by Tom at 6:00 PM

Public Comment: Jamie was present to ask the SB for an extension on allowing the library to stay at the town hall longer, due to the on-going Covid-19 issues. Rae made the motion to extend the library agreement to stay at the town hall until June 01, 2022. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

6:05: MOU – Ray and Mandy were present to discuss the MOU between the town and the school. Referring to last year’s agreement the short-term maintenance will remain the same. There have been no complaints regarding the work that has been done. Ray and Mandy are both continuing to work with the town on the parking lot. There are more discussions and meetings to be had with the designer, before things can be finalized. It looks like there is a grant that will cover most of the cost, so as the town and school are “off-the-hook”. John advised that the grant will cover the drainage issues but not the digging up of the poor soils and the paving. The road crew can do the work on digging and trucking the soils, and then estimates will be worked on for the paving of the parking lot. Ray asked that the MOU be updated with whatever new costs there would be on the regular maintenance and get it sent to him and Mandy for approval to go to the Schoolboard by June before summer break.

6:15: Efficiency Vermont – Brad Long was present to discuss the community engagement that they will be doing in Moretown between April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. There will be a webinar April 26; workshops outside for DIY; incentives; access to free products; and \$4,000 granted to the municipality for energy improvements. More information can be found at www.EfficiencyVermont.com/mad-river-valley.

6:30: Listers – Michael Woods and Michael Brown were present to discuss the lister position and where things are at with that department. Michael Woods was appointed to stay on, as requested. He wanted to be sure things are finished for 2021, but he will no longer be in the position after the end of August. There are two things that can be

done once his time is up: find someone else to fill the vacant spot as lister or appoint an assessor until the following town meeting or go straight to hiring an assessing firm. Which would entail one lister/admin person to complete the in-house tasks. NEMRC does provide those services and Michael Brown is willing to continue on and be that admin person. Mike W will work on getting a good description of the lister job so that it can be posted on FPF. Tom would like to touch base with the listers in June.

6:40: Sidewalk Financing – Cherilyn was present to discuss the terms she found out from the bank on financing for the sidewalk, it is now more than thirty days after town meeting so the money can be obtained. The article that passed was for \$370,975, consisting of \$100,000 from the SRF and borrowing \$270,000. Through Community Bank the interest is 2.08% on a ten-year term, working out to \$33,000 per year, and a fifteen-year term would be 2.27% with a \$24,000 payment per year. Going with the ten-year term would save the town \$20,000 and on either term there are no penalties for early payoff. Cherilyn also asked that the SB give her permission to move the remaining \$2,131.01 from the Deeryard account, to bring down the borrowing amount to \$268,843.55. John made the motion to borrow money for the ten-year term at 2.08%. Callie seconded. All were in favor. John made the motion to allow Cherilyn to move the money from the Deeryard account. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

6:45: SCBA FD bids – Stefan was present for the opening of the bids submitted to the town for the SCBA for the fire department, the article passed at town meeting. There were three companies that sent bids in:

Fire Tech - \$25,770

Reynolds - \$21,999

MES - \$24,834

Tom made the motion to accept the Reynolds bid of \$21,999, pending Stefan's approval of details on their quote. John seconded. All were in favor.

6:51: ACO – while Stefan was present, there was brief discussion on what he has done so far as the ACO. He has been keeping very busy with it.

6:55: Reports & Communications: Rae had received some phone calls about the roads, he reported that the road crew has been very responsive to the complaints. He also has some concerns about a lot of Jeeps going four-wheeling and tearing up the road going around the mountain off Jones Brook Road. Callie brought up closing Lynch Hill as a possibility from November to May. Tom asked that Rae & Callie work on some proposals and touch base with the rest of the SB in May.

Don received a call from John Summers, he was headed out on an ambulance call at 3AM Sunday and said that the Moretown Store was all lit up, as if they were open. He thought that there was some kind of agreement in place. This will be looked into.

John advised that he attended an open meeting law webinar through VLCT. He sent the recording to Sasha and he plans on going over it with the rest of the SB.

Callie mentioned a tree across the road, she received a quick response from the road crew.

Tom advised that the grader was broken down and it was determined that there was a faulty wire, a new wire harness has been ordered for it. Tom spoke with Cherilyn about a grant for a wi-fi hot spot, after asking Chuck Burt about it, he suggested the community parking.

Approve SB Minutes: Rae made the motion to approve the 3/15/21 SB minutes. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

7:10: Old Business: Rae wanted to clarify that he does support the Declaration of Inclusion that was adopted and voted on at the last meeting. He also brought up wanting to have another meeting with the designer on the parking lot and drainage issue. He requested that another meeting be set up with John, Ray, the designer, Cherilyn and himself, for further discussion on the drainage.

John mentioned that the FRC would like to see the maintenance reserve and the bridge & culvert fund be added to the budget as a line item, versus an article. That way is can just be contributed to yearly without being voted on.

7:20: New Business: Tom is excited to have Efficiency Vermont conducting walk throughs on the town buildings. He asked that Don be that point of contact since they are conversing on the town hall regarding efficiency.

Don brought up concerns of helicopter pads being installed. There was an email that went out (forwarded) by Cherilyn, so that the SB was aware of it. Callie found the email and forwarded it onto the rest of the SB.

Warrants signed and approved: P/R 21013 E-checks 3619-3629

A/P 21012 checks 22152 – 22176

A/P 21014 checks 22177 – 22208

Adjourn: John made the motion to adjourn at 7:26 PM. Tom seconded. All were in favor.