
**Town of Moretown Select Board Meeting
November 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM
79 School Street
In the John Hoogenboom Meeting Room
Via ZOOM Meeting ID 620 104 2716 or call in: 929-205-6099**

Members Present: Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom, Callie Streeter, (not present Rae Washburn and Don Wexler)

Guests Present: ORCA Media, Stefan Pratt, Emily Wood, Jennifer Hill, Nicole Melone, Martin Cameron, Cherilyn Brown, Sasha Elwell-Badore

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Tom

Public Comment: Nicole Melone was present to introduce herself as the new Assistant Librarian. She has been in Moretown for a year now.

6:02 **Regional Emergency Management Committees (REMCs)** - Stefan was present to speak with the SB about the second position on the REMC from Moretown. He said that Cortney Guyette is interested in filling the position. Tom made the motion to accept Cortney Guyette to the second position on the REMCs. John seconded. All were in favor.

6:05 **Employee Health Insurance** - Cherilyn was present to let the SB know about the rates for 2022. BCBS rates are going up 2.11%, but the town will be getting a rebate of \$3,324 on the plan that was utilized in 2021. John made the motion to accept the new rates for the Employee Health Insurance. Callie seconded. All were in favor. SB gave Cherilyn permission to sign off on the paperwork and send it off to Craig Eilers.

6:10 **Library** – Emily was present to discuss their proposed budget. They would like to increase Cory’s pay as well as the assistant librarian pay; increase the memberships by \$24 (considering Covid-19 and the technology being used now, that isn’t a big increase). Electricity has been running a bit more, so they would like that increased. Heating was previously discussed, so those numbers will be adjusted. Material has been increased to \$200, adding a platform similar to NetFlix. Tom inquired about the number of library card holders and Jennifer said she could get back to him on that.

Tom advised that the SB plans on going over the budget and also doing employee evaluations.

6:15 **Road Department** – Martin was present to discuss the budget. He is anticipating the need to replace the 2015 dump truck that he uses, in 2023. For the 2022 budget he would like the sand to be increased to \$63,000, he spoke with Varin’s and they are increasing their rates. 2018 International increased by \$1,500 to \$5,000. There was quick discussion on the grader and just having sent out oil samples. Martin advised that the grader is smoking a little and burning some oil, it’s possible that it is a turbo – which would be cheaper than an engine. He would like to get a drum roller for the back of the grader, (it will depend on the oil sample results), thinking is that Rodney and Shawn could build one for \$10,000-12,000 – as a winter

project. Martin checked into prices on a new sidewalk/mowing tractor, it would be roughly \$25,000 with the trade in. John Deere was cheaper by \$8,000 verses Kubota. The John Deere the town has now just had a new transmission put into it over the 2021 summer season. Building maintenance is a tough one, considering the condensation issue – there was no quote given on it, so setting a budget for that is difficult. The Connex boxes have gone up in price, like other things – that issue still has not been resolved. Discussion on an additional computer for the data entry with the RMS was discussed. Tablets and their capability taking pictures would be very helpful. Robert Turner and Mike with Butternut Systems will be discussing what is needed for being online, as well as server back-up. Martin is waiting on an updated quote from Pike, regarding the repaving of River Road. The quote that was obtained last year, was for skimming, now it is at the point where it needs to be ground down. Hopes are to be able to do the summer of 2022, he is working with Cherilyn on a grant. Martin met with a potential land owner on Legal Trail 11, off the Mountain Road. This “buyer” wants to know if he could improve the road for access to the land he buys, being that it is land-locked. Martin put the question out there for the SB to think about. He also brought up the same scenario on Cobb Hill Road, someone just purchased land there and submitted a permit to do work in the right-of-way in order to have access to their land. There is no way to resolve this quickly.

Tom advised Martin that in the next few weeks Rae and himself are planning on sitting down with the road department employees and discuss wages and lining up things with the current cost of living.

John inquired about the pot holes on the back side of the Common Road, Martin advised that he thinks that it is in the state ROW. John also has concerns about the speeding on Howes Road, perhaps putting a “curve” sign up, may slow people down, (that aren’t familiar with the road). Martin will look into doing that.

7:00 Reports & Communications – Sasha had three documents that needed approving: Contract for the NEMRC Reappraisal; Repro for the town reports (paper is going up in price) and locking the 2-year contract was the best deal. Library new hire paperwork signed off on for Nicole Melone.

John spoke briefly about the stormwater project, DRB approved the permit and he advised that easements for the out-flow will need to be done with St Patrick’s and Howland Brown & Beki Auclair. He advised that Cherilyn will be looking into the amending of their original easements. And that there may be a need for a boundary line adjustment with the Schultz’s. Tom thanked John for all of the time and effort he has put into this project.

Callie went to a Capital West meeting with Stefan and found out that they are in need of upgrading their system, so the town contributions will be increasing. As a whole, she thought they said \$3 million is needed to upgrade everything.

Tom advised that the Zoning Administrator, David Specht resigned and left quite a mess, there is a lot of work that was left undone. Tom spoke with JB Weir and he will be putting in some time to help the town out. JB is also willing to help train the new person. The vacant position is being advertised. John made the motion to accept David Specht’s letter of resignation. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Callie made the motion to approve the SB Minutes of 10/18/2021. John seconded. All were in favor.

7:10 **Old Business** – NEMRC has still been working on **Errors & Omissions**, Cassandra submitted four more corrections for the SB approval.

- Gail O'Keefe & Douglas Melton – span 408-127-10139 was \$636,600 changed to \$883,100 making a difference of \$246,500 due to being contiguous to span 11061, total 1.436 AC Prior being 849 AC – Current Use
- Douglas Melton & Gail O'Keefe – span 408-127-11069 was \$604,000 changed to \$0.00 making a difference of -\$604,000 due to being contiguous to span 10139 – inactive value on parent parcel prior 587 AC – Current Use
- Herta Kuczynski – span 408-127-10411 was \$557,500 changed to \$427,100 making a difference of -\$130,400 due to parcel is no longer contiguous – corrected acres per Plat Map Slide 17
- Herta Kuczynski – span 408-127-11080 was \$0.00 changed to \$263,900 making a difference of \$263,900 due to parcel is no longer contiguous- corrected acres per Plat Map Slide 17

Tom made the motion to accept the Errors & Omissions as presented to the SB. John seconded. All were in favor.

7:15 **New Business** – there was none

Warrants signed and approved

Payroll 21045 – e-checks 3802-3811

Accounts Payable 21046 – checks 22642 – 22684

NEMRC Reappraisal contract signed and approved.

Repro contract for the town reports (2-years) signed and approved.

Error & Omissions signed and approved.

Nicole Melone – new hire paperwork

7:16 Tom **made the motion to go into Executive Session** under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 (a)(1)(A) contracts. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

7:25 Tom **made the motion to leave Executive Session**. Callie seconded. All were in favor. John made the motion to approve a request for the Charles O. Davis Fund. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

7:28 PM **Adjourn**: Tom made the motion to adjourn. Callie seconded. All were in favor.