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**Moretown Select Board Meeting**  
**January 18, 2022 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**

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**Members Present:** Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom (via ZOOM), Rae Washburn, Callie Streeter, Don Wexler

**Guests Present:** Stefan Pratt, Chris Stephenson, Jon Siegel, MRVTV, John Malter - MRRMA, Cherilyn Brown, John Musella, Sasha Elwell-Badore

**Meeting called to order** by Tom at 6:00 PM

**Public Comment:** Chris was present to speak briefly about the rec committee, he has taken Steve Robbins seat on the committee. John H let Chris know that he will update him on the land management plan, once the ball is rolling on that.

John M (Spillway Road) was present to speak with the SB about an incident with the snow plowing. Both Tom and Rae spoke with John earlier in the day about his complaint regarding the way the snow is plowed. Tom asked that he send pictures.

6:10 **MRRMA** – John Malter and Jon Siegel were present to summarize 2021, along with the success of Green Up Day, they are able to recycle textiles again, with the help of a company called Helpsy out of New York. FY22 will remain the same as FY21 \$7.00 per capita, but expect an increase in FY23. Tom made the motion to accept the budget as presented to the SB by MRRMA. Callie seconded. All were in favor. Tom made the motion to re-appoint Jon Siegel as the MRRMA Moretown representative. Callie seconded. All were in favor. Jon S pointed out that John Malter works really hard for the MRRMA.

6:30 **2022 Budget** – Cherilyn was present to speak with the SB regarding the finalization of the budget numbers. Discussion was had on librarian pay, Rae made the motion to set the librarian pay at \$20 per hour, at 16 hours a week. John seconded. All were in favor. Law enforcement was discussed and all were in agreement that in order for the town to be impacted \$20,000 would hopefully do the job. The grader engine is going to need some work, that line item was increased to \$50,000, with that being fixed it will last the town quite a few more years. Zoning Administrator – CVRPC is willing to perform the ZA tasks on a three-month basis. Bringing the town into April 30<sup>th</sup> with coverage in the ZA department. In the meantime, the SB will brainstorm on recruiting some one (Bonnie with CVRPC has advised that this is a state-wide problem). John H believes CVRPC will do a better job and could use less hours, potentially being less expensive. The Select Board pay was briefly discussed, all agreed that with there being a few increases in the budget, that their pay will stay the same. Cherilyn brought up that there are a few members that are contacted on a daily basis and thinks that there should be more pay for them. The Mad River Valley Ambulance was discussed and to make up for the year their request was submitted too late, \$15,000 was added to the budget for 2022. The website was touched on, knowing that it does need improvements. \$5,000 will be added to the budget as a line item for finding someone to do that. Charlie Bisbee submitted a proposal but when asked if

he carries insurance, he said that he would need to look into that. Cherilyn will look into grants for revamping the website and perhaps more information on the ARPA funds would open up to covering websites as well, and maybe falling under broadband.

7:05 **Articles** – discussion was had on eliminating a few town positions, due to having no interest in filling them. Listers – NEMRC has been doing the actual work in regard to the lister duties. There is so much more involved with current use and other aspects, having a professional organization perform those tasks is working out well. Auditors – there is no interest in filling either. Pace & Hawley do the actual auditing and Cherilyn has had John H look over bank statements so that there is another set of eyes on it. Sending out the town reports was a topic that has been asked before and revisited again. The question of having it only electronic is an option, but it should be discussed further. NEMRC will be asked about there being a possibility of an email field in the grand list, so the town report could be sent out electronically. The article for allowing retail of cannabis was talked about, should the town pass this article there is a possibility of “tipping fees”. The maintenance reserve; bridge & culvert fund and SCBA packs are important articles to have again. Stefan advised that three more this year and three next year will get the fire department through the next thirteen years. Rae inquired about the ARPA funds, possibly being able to be used and purchase all six of them. That option will be looked into. Discussion on the tanker was had, in the coming year or so it will need to be replaced. Stefan has looked into prices, as well as, going from 1,800 to 2,000 gallons. The trucks need to be single axel, due to roll-over possibilities. This subject will be further discussed a year from now. John suggested the FRC meet and discuss this in more depth. Replacing the John Deere tractor for mowing and plowing sidewalks was discussed, Martin had obtained two quotes from two different companies. It was decided that an article for \$30,000 would cover the purchase of a new tractor.

Tom made the motion to vote all articles by Australian Ballot. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

8:30 **Mileage Certificate** – the only thing that has changed is LT 17 and the information on it needs to be given to the SOV. Sasha will go back through the email notice and contact them for further instruction. The motion will be held off on, until the next SB meeting.

**Reports & Communications:** A petition to stop the sidewalk project was submitted to the town. It was sent to Ken at Dubois & King and over to the town attorney to look over. Items under the statement were not accurate. Ron suggested rejecting the petition and Ken sent a letter in response to it as well, explaining/addressing each statement under: Reasons for this request. Further discussing the sidewalk, especially near the town hall, is so that when patrons are entering the stairway to the building, they are safer from the traffic coming around the corner by the turn for Moretown Mountain Road. Especially in that section, a sidewalk would slow the traffic flow. If the wording was accurate, it would be fine, but that was why the town attorney was consulted. The town has almost paid their portion of the grant, the town would lose out on more the \$100,000, requiring Moretown to pay all of that back to SOV. Callie suggested getting people more informed at town meeting.

Callie let the SB know that CDL requirements are changing. There is a new safety course that will be a must for new license holders. Shawn obtained his trailer endorsement permit (class A) and he is going for his test next week. Rodney and Stefan plan on going for their permits in the next couple weeks.

Don spoke about needing to find the "specs" on the town garage. He also mentioned the front door at the town hall, the repair he did isn't holding. It really needs to have a professional look at it.

John attended the HUUSD meeting and there was no discussion on mailing ballots, but there is supposed to be at this week's meeting.

Rae made the motion to accept the **SB minutes of 1/03/2022**. John seconded. All were in favor. Rae made the motion to accept the **SB minutes of 1/10/2022**. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

**Old Business** – there was none

**New Business** – there was none

**Warrants** signed and approved:

**Payroll** 22002 e-checks 3867 - 3876

**Accounts Payable** 22003 checks 22849 - 22878

**Adjourn:** Tom made the motion to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Callie seconded. All were in favor.