
**Moretown Select Board Meeting
November 21, 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**

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

Guests: Mad River Valley TV, Laura Brines, Cherilyn Brown, Kristen Rodgers, Stefan Pratt, Doug Reed, Cory Stephenson, Martin Cameron, Jennifer Hill, Allison Dellner, Sasha Elwell

Tom **called the meeting to order** at 6:00 PM

Public Comment: Cory wanted to confirm with the SB that the rental agreement was approved to use for the town hall. After quick discussion, John made the motion to approve the updated town hall agreement & policy. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

6:05 **Amphitheater** – Doug was present to ask the SB about \$45,000 of the ARPA funds to circle back to his original plan of an amphitheater. He brought with him a model of the original idea from back in 1996. There was discussion on funds that had been available and Doug was questioning where the funds could be. Cherilyn suggested to him that he go back through town reports for those years in question. He will be meeting with the school board on December 07 regarding this project as well.

6:20 **Spring Hill Preschool** – Laura was present to ask the SB about \$4,000 from the ARPA funds for the benefit of the preschool. There are currently 35 students attending the preschool. They are looking for funds to revamp their outdoor learning spaces.

6:35 **Budget** – Martin was present to discuss the road department budget. Several items have gone up in price, such as gravel, sand, salt and culverts have doubled in price this year. Along with fuel prices for the equipment and heating fuel, all are impacting the price of everything. The sign budget is going up due to placement of speed signs and several road signs being stolen along the Moretown Mountain Road. At the moment culverts are not in stock for any emergencies that arise. Martin will circle back to the SB in December to further discuss this. Beauregard Equipment will be sending an invoice for the 1,000-hour service, the service itself is covered under the purchase of the excavator, but they do bill for a trip charge. Martin plans on speaking with them regarding this. Marin is willing to meet with the FRC at their next meeting to discuss upcoming purchases that will need to be discussed. If voting on a new truck is done in 2023, ordering the truck is out one to two years. Manufacturing is at a standstill at this time, so this is going to be difficult in the ordering process. He advised that the 2018 International

has had a lot of issues. He let the SB know about the PACIF grant that Cherilyn applied for to purchase some safety supplies, he will be putting in an order for that this week if the SB approves. The SB agreed to go ahead and order the safety equipment. Cherilyn advised that the funds should be returned to the town before the end of the year. Other items discussed were the purchase of the connex box that was talked about last year at this time. Adding a line item for replacing guardrails, and a solution for a salt shed down the road. Cherilyn is on the lookout for grants for this, she has previously seen one.

While Martin was present, John asked about his take on the parking issue at the bottom of Pony Farm Road. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the land owner reminding them of the safety issues in the winter season and parking where they do.

7:30 **Budget** – Jennifer and Allison were present to discuss the budget with the SB.

7:45 **Budget** – Cherilyn was present to start discussion on the town office budget, she is planning on attending the next two SB meetings for further discussing. Cherilyn brought up the audit for this year and it needs to be a full audit. She put the request out to three firms and only one bid on performing the audit was submitted to the town, it came from Sullivan & Powers for \$19,000. John made the motion to accept the bid for the audit from Sullivan & Powers. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Cherilyn brought up the town hall maintenance line item. There are some repairs that need to be addressed and she wants to be sure the correct amount is reflected in that line. This will be circled back around to at another SB meeting.

7:55 **Reports & Communications:** Sasha let the SB know Karen Sauther is interested in taking a Zoning class through VLCT, the cost is less than \$100 and she is looking for their approval. Tom advised that it would be a good idea, so approved.

Sasha let the SB know that the new Superintendent as agreed to join the February 6th meeting.

Also, reminded the SB that the Errors & Omission form needed to be signed, from the last meeting where it was approved.

Rae voiced frustration with the Wastewater Committee meeting not being warned in time for them to have their meeting take place. Sasha explained that it was a website aka user hiccup that happened. It should be fine from here on out.

John mentioned the section on Route 100B near Freeman Hill Road where the culvert was recently replaced. There is quite a dip in the road. He asked that Sasha contact AOT, Rae suggested Michelle Redmond. John also mentioned that the RFSF sign will probably be moved in the spring with the assistance of AOT.

Tom mentioned speaking to Cherilyn regarding easements for the sidewalk project. The SB can set the range of money given for easements, by statute. Tom made the motion to allow the maximum amount of funds given to land owners for easements. Rae seconded. All were in favor.

8:02 **Old Business:** quick discussion was had on the fire truck bids, the FRC needs to be advised with on the financing for the half million-dollar purchase. When it comes time, the bids will be sealed bids.

Don advised that the town hall presentation will be ready for the December 19 SB meeting, for about half an hour.

John made the **motion to accept the SB minutes** of 11/07/2022. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Warrants signed and approved:

Payroll 22047 e-check 4112

Payroll 22049 e-checks 4114 – 4123 and checks 23543 – 23547

Accounts Payable checks 23475 - 23542

Adjourn: Tom made the motion to adjourn at 8:26 PM. Callie seconded. All were in favor.