
**Moretown Select Board Meeting
May 15, 2023 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, Robin Campbell, (not present Don Wexler)

Guests Present: ORCA, MRVTV, Martin Cameron, Cory Stephenson, Nicole Melone, Doug Reed, Frank Piazza, Jason Picard, Clark Amadon, Sam Lash (CVRPC), Dara Torre, Cherilyn Brown, Sasha Elwell

Meeting called to order by Tom at 6:00 PM

Public Comment: Frank and Jason were present to speak with the SB regarding the issues on the health order at one of Frank's properties. Jason believes that there has been some misleading information given to the SB. Discussion was had, and it was agreed that a meeting will be had with Frank, Jason, Tom, John and the town attorney. Tom asked that a budget (list of items being addressed) be given to the town, along with a current Certificate of Insurance from Jason. They are being asked to show the town a suitable solution. It was agreed that Frank will be contacted with a date and time.

Cory wanted to thank the road crew for the mulching that they did last week around the town hall.

6:15 **CVRPC** – Sam Lash was present to discuss the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP). She outlined what it is and if there was anything that she missed there would be an email going out, as well as the information being on the CVRPC website. The town has been awarded the \$4,000 in the initial roll out of MERP. It should cover a consultant for the town on a specific project. There are two levels to the next phase of MERP, Sam advised that going for level 2 is more beneficial. Level 2 is more in-depth, you need to pull utilities for the last five years. This also covers ADA accessibility issues. The next phase of MERP could award up to \$500,000 for a project. There's no fund matching and you can also bundle projects. Sam said that the process is still being worked on, but the application process should be opened up in the next month.

6:45 **Grader** – bids came back for a new grader

2024 Cat - \$399,900 with trade in

2023 John Deere – 772G - \$392,000 with trade in

The lowest quote on interest rate that Cherilyn was able to get was 4.69%, but that is expiring next week. She will need to recontact them to see what can be done, she anticipates the rates will be going up.

Martin brought up the sand bids, he spoke with Donahue and they are not interested in re-bidding for North East Materials. Stone would go up to \$8.50; Grandfield would go up to \$8.25; Pizzale would go up over \$9.00 and he has not spoken to Barrett's yet. This is still being worked on, no decision can be made.

Martin advised that the Town of Northfield put up the covered bridge warning sign near the sub station on Moretown Mountain Road and one near South Hill. Neither are standing out very well and wanted to know if Moretown would be all right with one of them being solar and able to blink. SB agreed as long as it isn't in view of anyone's home it would be fine.

Discussion was had on truck expenses. Martin will be contacting the Nav a Star Rep regarding the "warranty" work to the 2018.

Discussion was had on the 2021 truck repair through Viking, they were unplanned expenses totaling \$2359.77. Tom **made the motion** to transfer \$2359.77 from the maintenance reserve fund to the general fund to pay for the work done on the 2021 truck. John seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion was had on the Village Hill pavement, the grant that Cheryllyn applied for was awarded to the town to repave the whole thing, not just a fix. The quote from Pike was \$60,000 and it needs to be done by the end of next year. The grant agreement has not been received yet.

Special Grader Vote: after discussing whether or not to ask the voters to utilize some of the capital reserve funds to offset the tax rate. It was decided that the reserve funds could be better used in coming years. There will be bigger ticket items being purchased, big payments will overlap and have a larger impact on the tax rate. It would be better used at that time. The Special Grader Vote will take place on June 14, the wording for the warning will be, not to exceed \$410,000.

7:30 Doug Reed was present to speak about reconfiguring the **parking lot**. He described what he had in mind and it would give the parking lot 100 parking spots to utilize the whole area. The redesign would make it easier for plowing, make it so the buses are the only ones using the south entrance, with a section for teacher parking and designated areas for pick up and drop offs. John mentioned that the stormwater project will be starting June 15th.

7:50 **Wastewater update** – Clark was present to give the SB an update on what the committee has been working on. The test pits have not been started yet, there have been delays with the SOV on the clean water, the engineering plan isn't being accepted by the SOV. They have asked Otter Creek to clarify some things and they have not complied. Clark advised that there is a meeting for Tuesday morning. He is hoping for a resolution so that the application process can proceed. While on the subject of the application, Clark advised that there needs to be a second contact on it, he is planning on adding Tom. And then when it is done, the SB will need to sign it. Clark mentioned that the information in the Otter Creek invoices aren't adequate. Clark will let the SB know how the meeting on Tuesday goes, he may need the SB to contact Otter Creek. Clark also mentioned that there may be a need to do a water quality test of the Mad River, scheduling for that type of service right now is difficult.

8:10 **Reports & Communications:** the only thing from the office was a stack of documents for approval. Stantec Change Order, a couple of overloads, and a few liquor licenses.

Robin mentioned a few wording changes to the ACO. SB all agreed and Sasha will resend it out to the attorney.

Callie mentioned an email from Bobby Halpin regarding ATVs and allowing them to ride in Moretown. This had been discussed last year and nothing came of it. Callie will do some more research and she will reach out to Bobby.

John advised that the contract with Poulin has been signed and the stormwater project is going to start June 15.

Quick discussion was had on the RFP for the Clerk of the Works for this project and it should be due back to the town for the June 5th SB meeting. Sasha will follow up with the companies that are interested.

John mentioned the tree that is in question (under dug by ditching) on the Moretown Mountain Road. He confirmed that it is on the Martin property and Guy does want the logs. Martin has been asked to mark the tree so that quotes can be obtained for removal of it. John thinks that a third of the bill should be sent to TDS and Northfield Electric.

While John had Guy on the phone he asked about the access to his property. The SB agreed that the town should cut the trees and push it off to the side. John is planning on reaching out to the Blodgett's regarding the wood.

Tom mentioned receiving an email from Don regarding the assistant librarian's pay. The request is to give 7% of the raise that was given at the beginning of the year to the assistant. Which was \$14.99 per hour and went up to \$16.04 per hour, bringing the rate of pay to \$17.12 per hour. Tom **made the motion** to give the assistant librarian a 7% raise on the raise given. (an additional \$1.12) Robin seconded. All were in favor.

John **made the motion** to approve the SB minutes of 05/01/2023. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business: Tom and John quickly discussed a plan for meeting with Frank, Jason and the town attorney regarding the building violations at the property owned by Frank.

New Business: Discussion was had on liquor licenses to be approved. Bliss Ridge has submitted a couple for upcoming events. They are continuing to advertise for the tree houses and going against the DRB decision. It was agreed to not approve them at this time.

Warrants signed and approved:

Payroll 23022 e – checks 4258 – 4267

Accounts Payable 23023 checks 23905 – 23932

Adjourn: Tom made the motion to adjourn at 8:45 PM. Callie seconded. All were in favor.