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**Moretown Select Board Meeting**  
**June 17, 2024 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:** John Hoogenboom via ZOOM, Don Wexler, Robin Campbell, not present Tom Martin and Callie Streeter

**Guests:** ORCA, Robert Blodgett, Johnny Summers, Mark Giometti, Joe Montagne, Cherilyn Brown, Rae Washburn, Sasha Elwell

Meeting was called to order by John at 6:00PM

**Public Comment:** there was none

6:02 **MRVAS** (Mad River Valley Ambulance Service) – Mark was present to speak with the SB regarding the financial status of MRVAS. They have been extremely lucky in not having to ask towns for contributions, until now. They will be starting to ask for funding going forward, per population. They didn't want to keep towns in the dark about this situation, so they have been meeting with the surrounding towns to keep all in the loop. The ask from Moretown will be approximately \$6K in 2025. He said that Fayston is thinking about putting part of it into their budget and part into a ballot item. Just as a suggestion for Moretown to think about.

6:20 Cherilyn was present to go over some **Treasury items** – She did some research on moving the town funds to a different bank that has a higher interest rate for earning. Community Bank was able to increase the percentage to 1.75% and Northfield Savings Bank was able to give the town 3.05%. It was a no brainer for the SB to vote to switch over. John **made the motion** to move the General Fund from Community Bank to Northfield Savings Bank. Robin seconded. All were in favor. John **made the motion** to move the Savings Reserve from Community Bank over to Northfield Savings Bank. Robin seconded. All were in favor.

VLCT is offering additional employee benefits, nothing that the town needs to consider paying for, it would be entirely on the employee. Life & disability as well as term life insurance, there only needs to be 2 full time employees that are going to participate. Robin **made the motion** to allow Cherilyn Brown to accept the VLCT offering to full time employees at no cost to the town, the additional insurance that was discussed. Don seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion was had on the new Vermont Childcare Tax starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. The surrounding towns have all agreed to cover the amount for employees. All in all the average the town would pay is approximately \$2K, on behalf of all employees over the entire calendar year. Robin **made the motion** to pay the total Vermont Childcare Tax for all employees. John seconded. All were in favor.

Cherilyn brought up the expenses on the 2018 truck, she reminded the SB that there is \$30K in the Maintenance Reserve Fund for that purpose. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

Rae had the bids for the Village Hill Paving (overlying), no decision planned to be made, only to be opened and to have a recommendation for the next meeting.

JA MacDonald - \$39,840

Hungerford Construction - \$40,560

Pike Industries - \$48,942

Rae updated the SB about the meeting with the Methodist Church prior to the SB meeting. They would like more language added to the wording in the easement. There were several pictures taken and reviewed for prior construction. There will be pictures taken after the project is over as well, along with another walk through. Construction on the parking lot starts next week, one entrance will be closed and parking will need to be out behind the Town Office.

Cherilyn had one more item, the SB minutes of 5/20 needed to have an amended motion regarding the transfer of \$162K, it was considerably less, the motion should have been \$27,020.74 transferred instead. Don so moved to amend the original **motion** in the 5/20 SB minutes (in Reports & Communications). Robin seconded. All were in favor.

6:49 **Planning Commission volunteer** – there were three volunteers, Jack Barnes bowed out. The other two candidates are Robert Blodgett and Deborah Sargent. Both were given time to speak about themselves and qualifications they could bring to the table in assisting with the Town Plan that is being worked on right now. No decision was made, the SB wanted all members present when they decided who to appoint to the empty Planning Commission seat.

7:06 **Reports & Communications:** Don advised that the Vt Traffic Committee met and they agreed that Route 2 between the landfill and Gallagher Acres should be lowered in speed, it will be lowered to 45 MPH from 50. Don brought up an email from Judy Daly in Moretown, just bringing the point to the SB attention of the \$90K Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, hoping that the town could tap into some of this benefit. Don would like the Town Meeting Discussion to take place at the next meeting. He also brought up the Open Meeting Law, along with the changes. Making sure that at some point it is discussed at a SB meeting so that everyone is up-to-date on the changes. Perhaps talk about it at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Don also brought up the training for BCA members so that everyone knows what is expected and needs to be addressed with any grievances that come about from the grand list changes this year. There is a training available, all through Zoom. Robin and Don are going to try to weigh in on this. Don wanted to give a quick update on the Town Hall, so far, the Capital Campaign has raised \$35K, they are trying to raise \$70K so that there are no delays in the continuing of progression in the project. The grant that was applied for earlier in the year, should be heard back from some time in July.

Robin had nothing, John had nothing and Sasha had nothing

Don **made the motion** to approve the SB minutes of 5/20/2024 as amended earlier in the meeting. John seconded. All were in favor.

7:20 **Old Business** – Don will be following up with Michelle Redmond with VTrans regarding the culvert bump by the Maynard's on Route 100B. As well as following up with the Heath Family on the corner of Pony Farm Road and their parking.

7:25 **New Business** – there was none

**Warrants** signed and approved: Payroll 24026 e – checks 4561 – 4566; Accounts Payable 24027 checks 24839 – 24852; Payroll 24028 e – checks 4567 – 4576; Accounts Payable checks 24853 – 24868 (from the cancelled meeting on June 03 due to no power) Payroll 24029 e – checks 4578 – 4587; Accounts Payable 24030 check 24869 – 24902

**Adjourn:** Don **made the motion** at 7:30 PM to adjourn. John seconded. All were in favor.