Moretown Select Board Meeting Monday July 07, 2025 at 6:00 PM 79 School Street In the John Hoogenboom Meeting Room Via ZOOM Meeting ID 620 104 2716 call in: 929-205-6099

Members Present: Callie Streeter, Don Wexler, Mike Brown, Robin Campbell, not present Tom Martin

Guests Present: ORCA, Robert Blodgett, Steve & Linda Hazard, Chris Stephenson, Cherilyn Brown, Angelo Napolitano, Sasha Elwell

Callie called meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Public Comment: Robert was present to get the approval of the SB, for the Planning Commission to move forward on an application for the National Park Service. This is for the area on Route 2 where the FEMA buyouts are taking place, if they go through with it. Getting into this, there is a possibility of having a canoe portage access near the river. The first step in this would be a letter of support from the SB, Tom did approve that through email earlier in the day. The second step is the long application. Robin **made the motion** to authorize Tom to accept the pro bono program on the FEMA buyout properties with that National Park Service. Mike seconded. All were in favor.

Linda had two requests for consideration. They are regarding Honan Road and the extension between Honan and Corey's Drive. There is huge concern about the traffic and speeding through that section of road. Linda is asking for SB approval to put up a 15 MPH sign in that extension. There is a VRBO in that section of road and all kinds of out of state people using the road. They have spoken with the land owners and they are working on wording for the home when visitors come, as well as some signage for when they are leaving the driveway. There are a lot of children at play and people that walk that road, and Linda is very concerned about the speeding. She also asking about lowering the speed limit from 35 MPH, she understands that it is a long process. Don is adding Honan to his list of roads to lower. Steve asked if a curve or slow sign could be added to the road. Mike will be speaking with Martin on other things, he will see if there are any signs that say slow available.

Angelo was present with a big concern on the Moretown General Store being purchased by Stewart's, which the sale has gone through. Now employees have been telling customers that the store is being torn down in mid to late August and being rebuilt, along with adding more gas pumps. Concerns are that it is a historic building, which Cherilyn advised that the building has been modified in recent years, so there is no "historic" to it. And as long as they are not changing the foot print, they aren't required to notify the town, and as far as the gas pumps go, that is all through the SOV. But Carol (the zoning administrator) will be contacted regarding this to see what she knows about it or can dig up. Chris was present to speak about the email that was sent out about the Mad River Riders. There is a crew that will be working on the trails for two weeks. He asked if the town would be willing to donate a load of staymat to the rec for a spot behind the backstop. Mike will ask Martin about it when he is at that garage on other business.

6:35 **Tax Rate** – Cherilyn was present to go over the numbers for setting the tax rate. She spoke with Tom last week and he was good with it.

Residential – 1.6467 **Non – Residential** – 1.6478

For the first time, the non-residential rate is now higher due to the town CLA being so good. The town wide reappraisal helped with that.

Robin **made the motion** to accept the tax rate as presented, the residential rate at 1.6467 and the non-residential rate at 1.6478 for 2025. Don seconded. All were in favor.

6:40 **Reports & Communications**: the second estimate was received for replacing the heater at the old library building. Gillespie \$3,285.49 and Lafond \$2,900. Robin **made the motion** to accept Lafond Heating's quote for replacement of the heater at the Moretown History Center (old library building) using funds from the Maintenance Funds. Mike seconded. All were in favor.

Don asked Mike if he and Rae had looked at the FD septic. Mike said that it is looking fine, just needing to be mowed a little bit more, there is a section that isn't getting touched.

Robin is still working with Mary Murphy on Historical items. He also volunteered to be the contact for the maintenance on the wetlands in front of the town office.

Don **made the motion** to approve the SB minutes of 6/16/2025. Robin seconded. All were in favor.

Callie had a bid from Build Wiser, PLLC for the engineering project on River Road, Rae contacted her regarding the opening of those bids earlier in the day. Callie **made the motion** to accept the bid from Build Wiser for \$33K for the River Road engineering project. Robin seconded. All were in favor.

6:45 **Old Business**: there was quick discussion on the town garage, there is nothing new happening

Mike would like the subject of employee vacation added to the old business pending.

6:48 New Business: there was none

Warrants signed and approved: Accounts Payable 25032 checks 26369 – 26386; Payroll 25033 e – check 4868; Payroll 25034 e – check 4869 – 4877

Loan extension document was signed for Northfield Savings Bank

Change orders for Avery Excavating were signed and approved on the Ward Brook culverts

Adjourn: Don **made the motion** to adjourn at 6:57 pm. Robin seconded. All were in favor.