

## **Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes December 4, 2014 Special Meeting Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:06 pm

**BOARD PRESENT:** H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer (6:35 pm), T. Redfield

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Sally Achey, John Arsenault, Clarence Haynes, Pat Hemenway, Tom Hurcomb, Randy Kniffen, David Munyak, Jenny Talke Munyak, Bill Reed

**Planning Commission:** Tom Hurcomb informed the Board that the Town has received a Municipal Planning Grant from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development, up to \$7,800. The work undertaken for this grant must be completed by May 2016, and a steering committee (Marie Louka, Ryan Maher, Nick Seidner) has been established to determine the next steps of action. T. Redfield moved to authorize Herb Childress to sign the municipal planning grant agreement on behalf of the Board; C. Haynes 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Building Committee:** David Munyak informed the Board that the cleanup of the Parker basement began on Monday 11/17 and was completed on 11/25. Testing results were received on Monday 11/24, and showed all tested materials to be below State thresholds, thus meeting the Corrective Action Plan.

Because of various weather-related delays, ENPRO had calculated a substantial increase in project costs above their original bid; however, in negotiations with David, they have agreed to accept the original bid amounts and hold to their quoted prices for the two work components. There will be some additional engineering costs, both due to engineer time on site and to expanded work on creating the bid to reflect the presence of asbestos.

At present, the project has exceeded the amount received from the grant by roughly \$8,000. David is in contact with the DHCD for a possible added contribution, and any excess beyond that will be charged to the Town's reserve fund for the building project.

**Listers:** Sally Achey reported that the Listers have received a letter of appeal from Clarence Haynes, contesting the penalty for late filing of the homestead declaration. This is a complex circumstance, since the requirement for annual homestead filing didn't occur until 2013. In September 2013, the Selectboard voted to waive the penalty for late filing for the 2013-14 fiscal year, since the new requirement might catch some homeowners by surprise. In August 2014, the Listers asked the Selectboard to reinstate the penalty; however, since the 2013 action was to waive the penalty for only one year, the Board decided no action was required and that the one-year waiver would simply expire. However, the Selectboard had never originally acted to institute a late-filing penalty, so there was no penalty on the books to revert back to. M. Lamson moved to waive the homestead declaration late-filing penalties for fiscal year 2014-15, which were never formally enacted by the Selectboard; H. Childress 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*] Mr. Haynes' appeal can now be heard by the Listers.

**Highways:** The old sander has been sold and payment received, which will go into the equipment reserve fund.

Bill Reed reported a tough start to the winter; engine damage to the red truck, wheel and hub damage to the green truck, and brake-line damage to the pickup. In addition, the red truck requires some repairs in order to pass the upcoming December inspection. The green truck and the pickup have been repaired and are back in service; the red truck is at Earle's. C.

Haynes moved to have Earle's do the necessary engine work first to ensure engine function before the remainder of the work is completed; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*] H. Childress moved to authorize purchase of two new rims to replace those that failed last week; M. Lamson 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*]

**Board Orders:** T. Redfield moved to accept board orders as presented; H. Childress 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*]

**Street Lighting:** The Board finalized its street light location recommendations. T. Redfield will complete the power-pole ID for each recommended location. H. Childress moved to forward the street lighting proposal to the Energy Committee for its finalization; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup>. [*all in favor, motion carried*]

**Budget:** The deadline for the 2015-16 fiscal year budget is due on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Board will begin work sessions beginning with a special meeting at 6 pm on Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjourn** — Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Childress, Clerk