

**Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes
December 18, 2014 Special Meeting Approved**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05pm

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield

PUBLIC PRESENT: Patty Kenyon, Kevin Eaton.

Budget: The Selectboard conducted its first work session on 2015-16 budget. We will post a ballot initiative to expend up to \$10,000 to contract with the Sheriff's Department for external law enforcement.

Town Report: Patty Kenyon reported that Quickprint recommends us going up to 8.5 x 11 Town Report format for ease of layout and printing. This will probably result in fewer pages, but similar mailing costs. C. Haynes moved to go to larger book, H. Childress 2nd. [*Ayes—H. Childress, C. Haynes, T. Redfield; Nays—M. Lamson, S. Moyer; motion carried.*] With regards to the cover S. Moyer moved that we return to the tradition of featuring the current holder of the gold-headed cane, T. Redfield 2nd. [*Ayes—C. Haynes, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield; Nay—H. Childress; motion carried.*] Town meeting is Monday March 2, and the report must be mailed at least 10 days in advance. Letters have gone out to organizations requesting their material for inclusion, with a deadline of January 10th.

Minutes: December 4th special meeting—T. Redfield moved to approve as presented, M. Lamson 2nd. [*all in favor, motion carried.*] November 20th special meeting—Surveyor in question is Ray Page, not George Stannard. T. Redfield moves to approve with amendment, M. Lamson 2nd. [*all in favor, motion carried.*]

Public Comments: Kevin Eaton raised the issue of phone service loss during power outage. How can the Town attempt to remedy this difficulty, especially the 911/emergency services issue? The VTEL fiber-optic project has included Danby, Wallingford, Tinmouth, Mt. Holly, Middletown; we don't know whether the other communities faced similar telephone difficulties. H. Childress will investigate whether VLCT has suggestions or reports of other towns with similar concerns. M. Lamson will investigate whether SBC has any progress to report on activating the cell tower.

Road Commissioner: Bill Reed reported that the engine has failed on the red plow truck. Earle's options include new engine (\$19,000, 2yr warranty), rebuild engine (\$15,500, 1yr warranty), or rebuild lower half (\$8,500, 1 yr warranty on parts only). Other repairs required for inspection still remain to be done. New truck prices are roughly \$180,000 for a 7600 series [tandem axle] and \$150,000 for a 7400 series [single axle]. Bill will continue to investigate options for replacement; M. Lamson will investigate other repair options and salvage value for the existing red truck.

C. Haynes moved to not repair red truck H. Childress 2nd. Mike moved to amend motion to not repair red truck at this time until we have explored financial implications; T. Redfield 2nd. [*Ayes—H. Childress, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield; Nay—Carl opposed; motion to amend carried.*] *Vote on amended motion: Ayes—H. Childress, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield; Nay—Carl opposed; motion to amend carried.*]

The Selectboard will explore strategies for truck repair/replacement at a special meeting on December 29.

C. Haynes moved to increase Steve Geno's rate of pay by \$1/hr upon receipt of his CDL upgrade; H. Childress 2nd. [*all in favor; motion carried.*]

The Selectboard signed the final notice of action to throw up Moyer Acres and Whites Roads, which will be posted over the weekend. The Townspeople have 30 days to appeal the Board's decision.

Correspondence: H. Childress will investigate job descriptions for town administrators in similar towns. We received a service request form from Godfrey family on Buxton Avenue regarding plowing damage to their lawn; T. Redfield will visit to examine.

Board Orders: T. Redfield moved to sign board orders as presented; C. Haynes 2nd. [*all in favor, motion carried.*]

Town Lands: Ray Page is willing to do survey of town lot in January or February 2015. Sarah Haley has been approached by another party with interest in West Street property. Invite Sarah Haley to meeting on 1/8.

Adjourn: M. Lamson moved to adjourn, C. Haynes 2nd. [*all in favor, motion carried.*] Meeting adjourned 10:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Clerk