

**Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes
Regular Meeting March 24, 2016 Approved**

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Fenton, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

PUBLIC PRESENT: Sally Achey, Laura Castle, Shirley Moyer, Bill Reed

Approval of Minutes: P. Kenyon moved to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2016 Regular Meeting as amended by the Treasurer; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Town Officers: Sally Achey presented the Listers' explanation of the response to Walt Pepperman's letter disputing his Current Use valuation. One of the elements that has complicated this property is that his valuation was "frozen" while he had the dispute with the office of Current Use. The Listers modified the listing to remove the additional two-acre cottage site until the appeal was completed in May 2015; at that time, the two-acre cottage site was ultimately removed from the current use and brought to standard assessment rates. H. Childress moved to ask Gary Kupferer to send the Peppermans a letter reminding them of the May 2015 final resolution by the Vermont Department of Taxes that they had agreed to, and supporting the methods of determining the Town's 2016 property valuation; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Discuss List of Appointments: Letters have gone out to our candidates for the various open positions; H. Childress will put out a Front Porch Forum notice this weekend.

Town Clerk: The Town and School have received a joint proposal for copier service from the Supervisory Union for \$63 per month plus \$.005 per copy. Vermont Digital is offering 36 months at \$56 per month plus \$.006 per copy. H. Childress moved to renew contract with Vermont Digital for 36 months of photocopier service; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Town Lands: Building Committee is expecting Peter Stevenson to be at the Wednesday 4/6 meeting to discuss cost estimation.

Bill Reed and Josh Carvajal (River Management Engineer, VT Dep't of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division) reviewed the West Street property, and it may be possible to do some light vehicle maintenance work at that property. They were able to get sufficient flow from the existing well to wash all the vehicles as a test. At the moment, we are not going to list the property for sale again. We will work with Mr. Carvajal to determine next steps for flood determination at that property.

Road Commissioner Report: Bill has received the invoice from Charlebois Trucking, which is in the board orders. We should pick up the truck next week and execute the title transfer for the red truck trade-in. We've also received the warranty information from Viking for the plow/sander equipment; 12 months.

H. Childress moved to purchase a used utility trailer for \$1,000 from Frank & Joe's for use with the pressure washer; C. Fenton 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Bill has received a new quote from Pete's Tire for tires on the backhoe and grader. \$855.96 per tire for rear tires and \$349.00 per tire on the backhoe; \$591.00 per tire on the grader, plus an additional \$85 per hour for installation at 10-12 hours total for both vehicles. Total estimated cost would thus amount to about \$6500. We have \$7000 remaining in the budget for grader parts and repairs, \$4000 remaining for backhoe parts and repairs. H. Childress moved to purchase new tires for the backhoe and grader; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

No response yet from Bruce Orchitt regarding roadside mowing.

North Street Paving: The Paving reserve fund currently has just over \$55,000, and the 2016-17 budget adds \$15,000 to that. Bill would like to prepare a bid package for competitive pricing for the paving project. H. Childress moved to authorize Bill to create a bid package for possible North Street paving; C. Fenton 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Bill has prepared an application to VLCT for support in purchasing safety equipment and materials storage (eyewash, traffic control signs, etc). \$3,436 total cost, with 50% from the Town and 50% from VLCT. Terry has signed the application on the Board's behalf. We're also working on the inventory report for hazardous and flammable materials (Tier 2 report)

Bill's been working on developing Better Back Roads grants for culvert replacement on Coy Hill Road and Dayton Hill Road; waiting for a hydraulic study for the box culvert replacement on Garron Road.

We've received a service request from Little Flower Farm for remediation of road runoff into their barn. Bill and Michael Fioretti have discussed possibilities.

We'll need to set up a meeting with Brian Sanderson at VT AOT to develop the annual budget.

Solid Waste: P. Kenyon is now on the SWAC e-mail list, and will meet with Glen to coordinate SWAC activities. Large waste and metal day is Saturday May 7 at the West Street property; green-up participants should go to the large-waste site.

Correspondence: Note from David Wright about plow damage to stone pier, estimating \$350 to repair. Certificate of insurance for Fuller Sand & Gravel. Bill from Collin Schauerma for renderings of the town office: \$500. Request from US Census for updated town information. Request for overweight fleet permit Champlain Valley plumbing and heating, which H. Childress moved to approve; C. Fenton 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Board Orders: H. Childress moved to approve Board Orders as presented; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Legal: the meeting at Garron Road on Saturday 3/26 has now been warned. Site visit only, no testimony taken on site.

Other Business: H. Childress has had conversations with regards to Ballot Item #5—the junk and junk vehicle petition—with Gary Kupferer, Town’s attorney; Jonas Rosenthal, Poultney Town Manager; and Ed Bove, Director, RRPC. It is Mr. Kupferer’s opinion (seconded by VLCT) that the ballot item as worded obligates the Board to no action, but should be taken to be advisory. Poultney has zoning in place, so their ordinance is tied to their zoning; Mr. Rosenthal would have preferred to use the VLCT model ordinance. Mr. Bove indicates that several RRPC member communities are wrestling with the same issue. We have two possible modes of action. One is the VLCT model ordinance; the other is attempting to regulate solid waste/refuse within the designated Village Center. H. Childress will work to set a proposed time and date for a community meeting on this issue.

Adjourn: H. Childress moved to adjourn; C. Fenton 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned 9:45 pm.