

**Middletown Springs Selectboard Meeting  
Thursday, May 12, 2016 • Approved Minutes**

**BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:** H. Childress, C. Fenton, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield, J. Webber

**PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:** John Arsenaault, Steve Bartlett, Laura Castle, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Elizabeth Cooper, Alan Craig, Cynthia Craig, Frank Dykes, Margaret Fowler, Doug Freilich, Elaine Huber, Tom Hurcomb, Gary Lindorff, Mike Mullin, David Munyak, Jenny Talke Munyak, Shirley Oskamp, Michael Ravitzky, Bill Reed, Ellen Secord, Julie Sperling, Richard Spitalny, Aileen Stevenson, Peter Stevenson, David Wright

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:00 pm

**Approval of Minutes:** C. Fenton moved to approve minutes of April 28; P. Kenyon 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. P. Kenyon moved to approve minutes of May 3 special meeting, C. Fenton 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Public Comment:** Patty Kenyon reported that groSolar has applied for the 45-day notice prior to the Certificate of Public Good for their proposed solar energy project on Wescott Road. A number of residents came to discuss the possible project. Comments included:

- groSolar had claimed that there were no residences within 1,000 feet, which is incorrect.
- This is a small project compared to some around the state. It's new, it doesn't have to go through a screening process.
- groSolar's lease agreement gives them rights to lease up to 30 acres.
- Because of its size, they have no decommissioning plan. No one knows what happens after their site use ends.
- Tax credits don't accrue to the community.
- The town has no bearing in the uses of private lands; we have no specific mechanism to intervene.
- Other new commercial ventures would have to go through Act 250; solar arrays as yet do not. So the review is not as stringent as other commercial activities.
- In the absence of the *Magnet*, it's difficult to know what's being proposed unless someone is an adjacent property owner.
- Please continue to communicate the process as it goes along.
- The Select Board needs to have intervening status, to speak on behalf of townspeople.

Representative Robin Chesnut-Tangerman noted that the Town has to request "party status," to be able to get communication and notification on the project. The Select Board will do some research and consider whether to request party status.

**Town Officers:** Tom Hurcomb requested on behalf of the Planning Commission/Creative Economy to establish a restricted fund to receive donations for, and be expended toward, advertising the town and town events, beginning with the Memorial Day parade. The Planning Commission would be the party responsible for making decisions about expending any funds available. H. Childress moved to establish a restricted account in the General Fund to account for donations to and expenses toward promotion of the Town and Town events at the Planning Commission's discretion, in support of the Creative Economy endeavor; P. Kenyon 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Treasurer** J. Munyak has supplied the budget v. actuals through April. The Board discussed several detailed items, but the overall expenditures look as though they're in line with this point in the year, which should be at 83% of year's total. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter taxes are due on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

David Munyak has talked with Jerry Parker about scheduling the well drilling for the town office project; will likely occur during the next three to four weeks. Parker will donate labor and equipment, with the Town to pay materials and fuel. We need to get electrical service to the site for the drilling process; it's possible to either use a generator or have Green Mountain Power drop a temporary power hookup.

We have received paving bids for the North Street project:

- Pike Industries: \$45,373.80 (est 736 tons paving, 123 tons gravel)
- Wilk Paving: \$67,041 (est 900 tons paving, 45 yards gravel)
- Fuller Sand and Gravel: \$44,815 (est 806 tons resurfacing, 600' of swale)

**Road Commissioner:** tires have been installed on the grader and backhoe, and backhoe repair work is being conducted on slow days. The crew has done three culvert replacements in the past two weeks.

Bill will be doing DigSafe marking on Monday for the Daisy Hollow project.

We have received a VLCT grant for up to \$1494.57 toward safety equipment (eye wash station and safety wear), and have a recommendation from Brian Sanderson (VTRANS District 3) for funding of \$92,132.33 in the VTRANS highway structures projects, which would be used toward a box culvert on Garron Road.

**Solid Waste:** We had a big day at solid waste/metal collection day at West Street and at the Transfer station. There's a SWAC and VT Agency of Natural Resources review visit for the Transfer Station scheduled for 2 pm on Wednesday 5/18.

**Correspondence:** a letter from Richard Spitalny regarding the solar project; a title for the new truck; a fleet request for overweight permits (Cardinal Logistics); an Act 250 engineering review for an expansion of a building at Parker Water Wells; VTRANS notice for 2016 bicycle and pedestrian grants; letter to groSolar from RRPC laying out their requests for planning procedures. H. Childress moved to approve the overweight permit from Cardinal Logistics; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

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

**Coming absences:** Jenny Talke Munyak will miss June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting; C. Fenton will miss June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting; H. Childress will miss May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

T. Redfield moved to provide Jim Webber with two dump passes in compensation for plowing the school sidewalk; C. Fenton 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*]

**Adjourn:** H. Childress moved to adjourn; C. Fenton 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Childress, Select Board Clerk