

Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes
Regular Meeting 7PM February 9, 2017 Approved

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Fenton, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield
TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT: Laura Castle, Town Clerk; Bill Reed, Road Foreman
PUBLIC PRESENT: David Munyak, Nora Rubinstein
CALLED TO ORDER: 7:04 PM

MINUTES: P. Kenyon moved to approve minutes of January 26, 2017; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

PUBLIC COMMENT: Nora Rubinstein and David Munyak came to discuss the town's wireless connectivity, and the routers at the Town Office and Grant's Store. The system has regularly dropped signal numerous times, nearly from the beginning of service three years ago; not major loss of service, but periodic breaks in signal. The designated technician has claimed that the problem with VTEL, and VTEL has denied this, saying that the problem is post-router. Nora and David have asked the Board to issue a call for a new (and perhaps more local) service technician, since we are no longer contractually bound to the original technician. Nora brought the contract with the Vermont Council on Rural Development that supplied the equipment and installation originally. P. Kenyon will make contacts to investigate possible contractors.

Nora also let us know that the wireless system gets substantial use, so the grant has been very worthwhile.

TOWN OFFICERS: Town Clerk Laura Castle has been working on the ballots, which are especially complex this year with the school questions.

The Treasurer is in the process of preparing for the upcoming worker's comp audit. Any hired contractor not registered as a formal company needs to be clearly designated as a contractor rather than employee so that VLCT can appropriately manage and supervise benefits. We will create a master contract for individual services to be approved at the February 23 meeting.

TOWN REPORT: The 2016 town report is posted on the Town website, and is at the printer for 500 copies, \$1,754 printing cost. The Board missed a request from the Rutland County Parent-Child Center, for \$400; this did not make it onto this year's warning. We will discuss this at Town Meeting, and ask for permission to fund it from general operating funds. (It was approved in prior years, but was not on the 2016 warning, which is how it was missed this year.) The Board would like to thank Patty for her work on designing and laying out the report.

TOWN LANDS: Parker Water Wells has provided a bill for their donated services in well drilling at the Town Office property, so that the Town can count it as an in-kind donation.

The materials itself for the well totaled \$1,658, a substantial savings from what would have been a \$9,149 job. The Board will write a letter of thanks to Parker Water Wells for the generous donation of their services. The Building Committee is reviewing proposals for structural engineering and MEP (mechanical, electrical and plumbing) design.

The electrical panel at the transfer station is overloaded, and Chris Fenton is rewiring some of the circuits on Friday 2/10. The Board thanks Chris for his volunteer service.

T. Redfield moved to sign project conclusion papers provided by the Municipal Assistance Bureau for the construction of the sidewalk on School House Road; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

C. Fenton moved to provide Jim Webber two dump tickets for his service in plowing the sidewalk on School House Road; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

HIGHWAY: The ice storm has put a beating on the roads this past week; the crew has used a substantial amount of sand and salt. Bill has put in another order for 400 yards of sand from Chet McCullen and 50 tons of salt from Cargill. The road crew has also responded to numerous calls of cars off the road.

The 7600 has an alternator failure, which will need repair, along with new batteries (after 13 years). Earle's can do it Friday 2/10 same day.

The winter road policy has been a help to the road crew, but this weather—both icy and highly variable—has been almost impossible to address. The Board reminds everyone that winter road conditions will never be perfectly clear, and advises caution, extra travel time, and staying home in poor conditions whenever possible.

SOLID WASTE: The Board has received the updated transfer station ACT 148 compliance form from SWAC. H. Childress moved to sign the compliance form; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

CORRESPONDENCE: VT Department of Labor has issued a statement for unemployment coverage for a former Town employee; an invoice will likely soon arrive. Information from J. Hutchins paving contractor; Comcast emergency system response number; notification from Richard Spitalny of letter to VT Public Service Board; US Dept of Commerce notification of participation in 2020 Census, and request for information; Vermont Public Service Board notice pertaining to the solar project on Orchard Road (which has already been posted to the town website).

C. Fenton moved to approve the overweight permit of Wilbur Frederick; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

The Town Clerk received requests for renewal of the liquor license and tobacco license for Grant's Village Store. The Board will convene a liquor control meeting at the end of tonight's session.

BOARD ORDERS: H. Childress moved to approve board orders as presented; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

OTHER BUSINESS: The Board will host a special meeting on Wednesday February 15 at 6:30 PM in the Historical Society dining room for public discussion of the proposed ATV ordinance and junk/junk vehicle ordinance. Town Moderator Kimberly Mathewson will conduct the meeting.

The Creative Economy team has expressed an interest in coordinating the 2017 Memorial Day parade.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned 9:29 pm

SPECIAL CONTROL BOARD MEETING: T. Redfield called to order a special meeting of the Control Board for review of the alcohol and tobacco sales permits for Grant's General Store. H. Childress moved to approve the alcohol and tobacco permits; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

ADJOURN: Special meeting adjourned 9:32 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Clerk