

**Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting July 14, 2016 Approved**

**SELECT BOARD PRESENT:** H. Childress, C. Fenton, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield,  
**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Laura Castle, Shirley Moyer, Jenny Talke Muniyak, Bill Reed,  
Korrine Rodrigue  
**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:00 PM

**Minutes:** C. Fenton moved to approve the minutes of June 23<sup>rd</sup>; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Public Comment:** Korrine Rodrigue, candidate for Vermont Senate (Rutland County). Originally from Glens Falls, now lives in Rutland Town. She has background in sociology and public health, with a special focus on substance abuse (co-founded Project Vision—<http://projectvisionrutland.com/>). She hopes to develop a statewide prevention strategy for opiate use, and is also interested in economic development, avoidance of domestic violence, support for schools in low-income communities.

**Town Officers:** Treasurer Muniyak reports that the state's school tax rates have now been issued, and the homestead rate is again higher than the non-residential rate: the homestead rate will drop from approximately \$1.76 to \$1.66 for FY2016-17, with the non-residential rate stable at \$1.49. She is at work on the year-end balance for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

**Town Lands:** P. Kenyon reported that the Building Committee is setting up interviews to hire an energy modeler, as required by Efficiency Vermont's Net Zero Building program.

Three Select Board members accompanied an agent from the Agency of Natural Resources on a 7/13 site visit to the Town-owned Coy Hill Road reservoir to assess the dam's hazard potential and possible state contribution to its removal. We will learn our assessment in a week or two.

The Library Board has examined the possibility of purchasing the newly vacant lot east of the Library. They are exploring multiple options for purchase, with no immediate next steps.

**Road Commissioner:** Small equipment repairs to the grader, and brake repair to the pickup. Bill has ordered a new bucket and mounting hardware for the backhoe.

The paving contractor's work on the North Street paving project was completed today, and will likely come in slightly less than the estimate.

Bruce Orchitt has completed the summer roadside mowing, and has submitted a bill for services. Bill will review the mowing work before the Board approves payment.

P. Kenyon moved to allow Bill to purchase \$5,000 in processed gravel for summer and fall projects; H. Childress 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*]

Shirley Moyer requested that the Board consider placing a stop sign on Mountain Road as it comes downhill (northbound) at Coy Hill Road. H. Childress moved to install a stop sign on Mountain Road as it intersects with Coy Hill Road; C. Fenton second [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Bill will investigate technical requirements for installing a stop sign for best safety at that intersection. He will also investigate possibilities for signage at the intersection of Coy Hill and Buxton.

The Board approved a job description for highway maintenance worker, with an August 15 deadline for applications. The job will be posted in the Rutland Herald, the Lakes Region Free Press, Front Porch Forum, the new Town Newsletter, and the Town website, among other locations. The description is:

*The Town of Middletown Springs is accepting applications for a full-time Highway Maintenance person. The successful candidate must hold a commercial driver's license (CDL) and an up to date DOT physical exam card. Experience in operating a variety of vehicles—plow/dump trucks, sander/salter, back hoe, front end loader—is desired. The ability to lift up to 75 pounds consistently and perform manual labor duties is required. Candidate must live within 45 minutes response time to Middletown Springs. Candidate must be willing to work a flexible schedule and long hours as situations arise. Mechanical ability is a plus.*

*This is a full-time position (40 hours per week), with wages based on experience. This position offers health insurance, retirement contributions, sick and vacation leave. Successful candidates must pass a pre-employment drug screen and must continue to comply with the Town's Drug and Alcohol Policy throughout their employment.*

*Applications for this position, as well as a copy of the Town's Personnel Policy, may be obtained from the Middletown Springs Town Office. All applications are due at the Middletown Springs Town Office, in person or by mail, no later than August 15, 2016. Contact Middletown Springs Road Foreman Bill Reed with any questions at 802-235-2024.*

*The Town of Middletown Springs is an equal opportunity employer.*

The Board is also posting for a temporary summer laborer, at 20 hours per week, \$11/hour. Must be 18 and older, able to lift 75 pounds on a regular basis, capable of

extensive manual labor. Contact Middletown Springs Road Foreman Bill Reed with any questions at 802-235-2024.

**Correspondence:** letters of thanks for town contribution to Vermont Center for Independent Living and Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired; application for 2017 cycle of Vermont Park & Ride Grants; certificate of insurance pertaining to Casella fleet operation; a service request form from Linda Moyer; Cargill quote for 2016-17 salt at \$79.06 per ton; notice from Vermont Department of Taxes for the FY2017 Education Tax Rates (see Town Officer report for details); notice of land use permit issued by VT Natural Resources Board for a garage expansion project at Parker Water Wells.

VLCT has issued a dispatch questionnaire: Middletown Springs police calls go to Rockingham state police dispatcher; fire & rescue calls go to Washington County (fire association pays \$3700 per year for that). The Town foresees no need to change either situation.

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

**Other Business:** There will be a BCA meeting on July 21 with regards to a tax appeal by Walt Pepperman. Laura Castle will send an e-mail to Will Senning at the Department of Elections to request a vote tabulator; it should be ready for our use in the November 2016 election.

**Adjourn:** H. Childress moved to adjourn; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned 10:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Childress, Select Board Clerk