

**Middletown Springs Select Board Minutes
September 24, 2015 Meeting Approved**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, M. Lamson, S. Moyer, T. Redfield, J. Webber

PUBLIC PRESENT: John Colvin, Bill Reed, Chris Smid

Approval of Minutes: T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the September 10 meeting; M. Lamson 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]

Public Comments: John Colvin presented his thoughts on the proposed reconstruction project at the base of Daisy Hollow Road. The sketch doesn't show the width of ditching; Bill reports that the existing ditch footprint would be maintained, just converted from grass to stone lined. John is also opposed to the proposed stone-lined cut into his driveway. T. Redfield moved to proceed with construction, but to remove the proposed stone-lined cut from this year's project and raise the south side of the road to attempt to shed more of the water to the northern side and its new ditch; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Town Lands: Cemetery project is underway, with Michael Fannin scheduling work with John O'Rourke. The cost for the stainless steel connectors will be less than budgeted, approximately \$380 total for the eight stones.

Road Commissioner Report: The 7600 is back in service. We can allow Steve Geno to use that truck for training and road testing for his expanded CDL. The 7400 is at Earle's with an electrical problem.

Projects:

- North Street box culvert is finalizing construction (berming, reinforcing stone at head walls, clearing old gravel wash, cutting new drainage ways).
- Bill will be finalizing the grant paperwork to demonstrate total costs and completed work for the North Street box culvert project within the next week.
- Whites Road/Coy Hill is underway, with new headers, rock-lining of ditches, installation of small purge pool filter, and hydroseeding.
- On schedule for guardrail installation (at their discretion between now and Thanksgiving).
- Dudley Road drainage construction will be next week; Bill has purchased the drop inlet and surface grate.
- Final grading of roads after next week's rain.
- Ditching and ditch clearance.
- Building headers on the Fitzgerald Road culvert to hold guardrails.
- The design for the drainage project between the Church and Historical Society has been completed, and project planning is about to be underway.
- Chet McCullen can provide 3500 yards of material at \$9.40 processed cost per yard delivered. This would result in roughly 2000 yards of sand and the rest as tailings to be used as processed material for other road construction. H.

Childress moved to purchase 3500 yards of material from Parker's gravel pit and to contract with Chet McCullen to screen and deliver, for a total delivered cost of \$9.40 per yard; M. Lamson 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]

- The culvert inventory is underway with RRPC, approximately two days of work remaining.
- Steve will be unable to work the Large Waste and Metal collection day on 10/3; Bill may be able to operate the backhoe instead, depending on his scheduling.
- If we can get some rain, Bill will grade the firehouse lane to the Transfer Station.

We won't be doing the Spruce Knob road rebuild projects this fall, but will look into using the new geofabric material for next spring.

Act 46 Update: Chris Smid updated the current status of the State's Act 46, intended to increase school efficiency. Two preferred structure: 1) school districts of more than 900 students, one budget, one school board, and a single structure (all K-12 or all K-6, for instance) or 2) districts of more than 1200 students with more flexibility across school types. Another option is to do nothing and let the State assign us to a district; or to form a RED (regional education district) that is less clear but at least two schools having any particular format (NOT a state preferred format, and would likely have more oversight before approval). Towns would receive a tax break if they have their new districting by June 2016, a somewhat smaller tax break if they complete districting by June 2017, and then forced to complete by June 2018.

Rutland Southwest has not quite 800 students, and other proposed districts are targeting RS communities to bring themselves up to scale. It seems possible that Rutland Southwest may dissolve as a district. The MS school board is attempting to develop alternatives, and the RS district also a consulting study currently underway, which they'll bring to the community later this fall or early winter. The proposed public issues forum co-sponsored by the MS Democratic and Progressive Caucuses may be combined with the School Board's presentation late in October or November.

Solid Waste: Large Waste and Metal collection day is October 3.

Poultney River Walk Update: The Town has been awarded a Agency of Transportation grant of \$38,500 to conduct the scoping study for possible trail design. The steering committee will meet next week to determine next steps.

Correspondence: We have received a letter of settlement from Town's attorney with regards to the Ventrella and Riedinger dispute at the end of Garron Road. We have also received our insurance renewal forms from VLCT PACIF, and will complete application by October 9.

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

Legal: see correspondence.

Adjourn: T. Redfield moved to adjourn; H. Childress 2nd [all in favor, motion carried].
Meeting adjourned 9:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk