



The

Middletown Magnet

"News that sticks in Middletown Springs"



NeighborWorks Awards Town \$5,000



Congratulations Middletown Springs!

As you may have heard, MTS participated in the Rutland County Energy Competition, sponsored by the NeighborWorks H.E.A.T. Squad, for \$10,000 — and it was a close contest!

We were neck-in-neck with Mount Holly, competing for the title of "Most Home Energy Improvements Completed Per Capita." In the final months and days of the Competition it was anyone's game. One week Mount Holly was ahead, then, as another home energy project in Middletown was completed, we'd take the lead.

The Competition ended May 31, 2012. It came down to one house. Mount Holly won by two percentage points (completed improvements were calculated as percentages based on population).

Middletown was a fierce competitor, and because Middletown worked so hard to win NeighborWorks is awarding the Town \$5,000 to be used for an energy-related project in town to be determined by the MTS Energy Committee.

Thank you to everyone who completed home energy improvements, had a lawn sign in their yard, talked to their neighbors, and contributed to Middletown's success. Also, thank you to those who participated in the Energy Committee phonation, and to those who volunteer on the MTS Energy Committee. It could not have been done without you.

It makes a difference

Twenty-one households in Middletown Springs have completed energy improvements since 2010. Combined, those households are savings:

- ☞ 7,563 gallons of heating fuel and 7 cords of wood every year (equals over \$30,000 that families in town will save annually!)
- ☞ 4,293 kWh saved annually
- ☞ 93,837 lbs of CO₂ prevented from entering the atmosphere every year
- ☞ 882.7 mmBTU's saved annually

Vermont Primary
August 28th
Polls Open 7 am to 7 pm

Cadet Firefighter Training

All four of Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Department junior members attended the Vermont Fire Training School last month in Pittsford, Vermont. Participating in the week-long course were junior firefighters John Blanchard, Roger Brown, Danielle Gourlay, and Tyler Manning (left to right).



Almost every aspect of firefighting is practiced under the supervision of experienced, professional trainers. Students get to combine classroom instruction with hands-on exercises with hoses, ladders, pumps, air packs, and other firefighting equipment. As part of the graduation ceremony, students then get to put on an exciting demonstration of their new skills for their parents and friends.

Every one of our juniors performed admirably, with Roger Brown receiving the coveted Cadet of the Year award. This is the third year MSVFD has sent members to the Cadet Training School. We plan to continue this program next year with the aid of a grant from the Senator Bernie Sanders' sponsored Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Program.

Town Website to Launch September 1

The long awaited Town Website for the Town of Middletown Springs will "go live" September 1.

<http://www.middletownsprings.vt.gov/>

Please log on then and check out it out. This ambitious project is intended to serve the town officials, residents, taxpayers, visitors, and prospective residents of this town. Please look for the information you would want to access about Middletown Springs. Let us know what you find and what is missing. Your input during this next phase of site construction will be extremely valuable.

Thank you,
*Kimberly Mathewson, on behalf of
the Website Committee*



Vermont State Primary August 28

There are several contested races for state offices this year. The most highly publicized is the democratic one between T.J. Donovan and William Sorrell for Attorney General. So be sure to VOTE!

Schedule for the primary:

Last day to register to vote	August 22nd, 5 pm
Last day for absentee ballot	August 27th, 5 pm
Date of Primary	August 28th
Polls open	7 am to 7 pm

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Treasurer's News

– *Jenny Talke Munyak, Town and School Treasurer*

Property Tax Bills for the new fiscal year 2012/2013 have been mailed. Please take the time to review the enclosed notices.

FYI:

- Your Property Tax bill is based on the tax rates for the Town and Highway budgets as well as the School tax rate.
- The tax rate for the Town & Highway is calculated based on the Grand List and the budgets for the Town & Highway.
- Your property and homestead value is a component of the Grand List.
- Your town voted on the 2012/2013 budget.
- A straightforward calculation of those factors produces our rate.
- The School tax rate is based on similar components and is set by the State.
- Your Property Tax is then calculated by multiplying your Property/Homestead value by the tax rates for the Town, Highway, and School to produce your share of taxes due.

Mark your calendars now — the first of four quarterly installments of your Property Tax is due and payable by September 15th!

If you have any questions you can contact me at 235-3256 or mtstreasurer@vermontel.net



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Library News

Town Challenge 2012: Keep reading and recording your books [Fiction, non-fiction, picture books, and graphic novels Audiobooks, e-Books, Books read aloud to others (count the book, not the number of listeners) through September 3. Final numbers are due in the library by Sept 5; stop in, email, or call them in. Upon submission of your total:

1. Receive a coupon for free ice cream at Grant's Village Store.
2. Register to win one of several Prizes, which so far include:
 - Wizard's Wand (direct from Olivander's)
 - Fabulous Pink Poodle Purse
 - Middletown Springs Public Library Book Bag
 - Sissy's Kitchen Gift Certificate

Celebration of Reading: *Celebrate All the Reading in 1 Summer by 1 Town* Library Open House, Thursday, September 13, from 3-6 pm. Prize winners and summer program achievement awards announced.

Special Bedtime Story Hour with Frank Asch: Join us Saturday, September 15 at 6:30 pm for milk & cookies and stories told by Frank Asch, Middletown Springs resident and author of the Moon Bear series and many other wonderful books for children. Wear your pjs, bring your teddy bear, and settle in for a quiet evening of fun. This is the last event in our Summer Program, Dream Big...READ.

New & Notable Books in the Library:

Fiction

- Where We Belong* by Emily Giffin,
- Shadow of Night* by Deborah Harkness,
- The Innocent* by David Baldacci,
- The Litigators* by John Grisham,
- Beautiful Ruins* by Jess Walter,
- A Blaze of Glory: A Novel of the Battle of Shiloh* by Jeff Shaara,
- Canada* by Richard Ford,
- The Red House* by Mark Haddon,
- The Language of Flowers: A Novel* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh,
- Calico Joe* by John Grisham,



Non-Fiction

- Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain,
- The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris* by David McCullough,
- Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* by Jeanette Winterson,
- Are You My Mother?: A Comic Drama* by Alison Bechdel,
- Zoobiquity: What Animals Can Teach Us About Health and the Science of Healing* by Barbara Natterson-Horowitz M.D. & Kathryn Bowers

Magazines: The Library subscribes to a number to magazines. All issues circulate for two-weeks (same as books). New Subscriptions include: Family Fun and Car & Driver.

FLIP Cameras: The library now has 6 FLIP Cameras for loan to patrons. Borrow this easy-to-use Video camera for your next family event, soccer game, or vacation. Record the action and download it onto your computer and/or up to the web. One button recording puts you into the director's chair. Stop in the library and check one out.

Seeking Regular Volunteers to cover one (or more) 2- or 3-hour during library open hours. Duties include checking books in & out, assisting patrons, and keeping the library neat. Perks include spending time in a building full of books, seeing the NEW books first, and visiting with neighbors & friends, old & new. These shifts are open:

- 4th Monday 5-7pm
- 1st, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays 5-7pm
- Fridays 10-Noon & Noon 2pm
- Saturdays 10-Noon.

If you are interested in getting involved and donating a little time at the library, please let Kimberly know: kimberly@mtslibrary.comcastbiz.net or 235-2435 – or by stopping in during open hours.

RSVP Bone Builders at the Community Church

Monday & Wednesday at 8:30am



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News from the School

by Principal Rick Beal

An Invitation....

To all students, parent, friends, and community members:

Middletown Springs Elementary School invites you to join us at our First Day Celebration to be held in the school multipurpose room on Wednesday, August 29th. A free breakfast will be served from 7:15 through 8:15; followed by fun activities and a welcome address by Principal, Rick Beal. First Day Folders for parents of our students will be distributed at the event. We look forward to seeing you there!



Milestones

Deaths

Robert Joseph Carter – July 15, 2012

Donald E. Smith, Sr. – July 22, 2012

Steven Paul Mahoney – August 1, 2012

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast

Saturday at 8 am // August 25

Middletown Springs School

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NAWCC MEMBER

Block Party & Free Store



Just in time for "back to school", the Middletown Springs Community Church invites everyone to a family fun community afternoon on the Green. Combining two successful past happenings, The Block Party and The Free Indeed Store will both take place on Sunday, August 26 from 1-4pm. The Block Party is a social event with free food, drinks, snow-cones, games, music and inflatables for the kids. The Free Indeed Store is a great opportunity for anyone in the community interested in some no-money shopping for clothes, school supplies, and gift items (no dealers please). For anyone wishing to donate items to Free Indeed, we are accepting clean, new or gently-used clothing of all sizes, games, toys, decorative/crafty items, books, DVD's or other media. We cannot accept big furniture, computers, TVs, large electronics, or anything else we'd have to pay to get rid of. Drop off times at the church are Sunday, Aug. 19 12-1pm; Friday, Aug. 23, 5-7pm; Saturday Aug. 24, 10-12 am. Questions? Sally Achey 235-2434.

Advance Health Care Planning Help Available



In life we prepare for everything... college, i ge, children, and retirement. Despite the conversations we have for these important milestones, rarely do we have conversations about how we want to be cared for at the end of our lives. It's a good idea to talk with your doctor and family members about what you would want for yourself. Then, complete an advance directive, a legal document that allows you to leave written instructions for your care if you become unable to speak for yourself. This makes it easier for you, your doctor and your loved ones if, in the future, decisions about treatment need to be made.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) has produced a Conversation Starter Guide, a toolkit that contains a variety of easy-to-use self-help worksheets, suggestions and information to help you think about your values as they relate to medical care decisions. We also have advance directive forms for you to complete. The toolkit is free from RAVNAH, please call 770.1520 or visit www.starttheconversationvt.org.

To arrange a presentation on this important topic for your community, civic or church group, call RAVNAH or email lvien@ravnah.org.

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Fountain of Youth

Join Middletown and Ira seniors for a delicious meal.

Chicken & Biscuit, Cranberry, Squash and Banana Cream Pie will be served August 29 at the Young At Heart Senior Center in Poultney. The Center opens at 11 am after which homemade soup and coffee is served. Dinner is served at 12 noon. Suggested price is \$3.25 for seniors 60 years and older. The cost for others is \$4.25. Come and enjoy a delicious meal with good company. Reservations are made by calling Mary Thomas at 287-9200.

The Young At Heart Senior Center is sponsoring a bus trip September 8-16 to Savannah, Jekyll Island, and Beaufort. There are still a few seats left, and you don't have to be a senior to join the trip. If you may be interested, please call Barb at 287-9200 ASAP!

Message from the Listers

From now through the fall, the listers will be continuing their project of photographing every property in town. Only the exterior of buildings will be photographed, and whenever possible, the photographs will be taken from the road.

There will be no appointments scheduled.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Board of Listers at the town office 235-2220.



Middletown Springs Building Committee

The regular meeting times for the Building Committee are 7 pm at the Town Office on the **first Wednesday** and the **third Thursday** of each month.

All meetings are open to the public.

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Building Committee Approved Minutes July 3, 2012

Public Present: Nan Gilmour, Martha Heitcamp, and Jenny Munyak

Members Present: D. Munyak, D. Wright, T. Hurcomb, F. Bradley, M. McCormack, P. McWilliams, and M. Beattie.

Call to Order: 7: 15 PM

Minutes: Approve minutes from 6/21/2012: Moved and with a second and one addition. All in favor.

Property Acquisition:

A. *Survey Status:* David M. presented the SB with the letter urged by the BC at the last meeting for the SB to expedite needed survey work. He asked for an update yesterday but has not had a response. Mike B. had a conversation with Mark Courcelle hired by the SB to do the survey. Courcelle said that few dimensional records are available as the property description was based on buildings that are no longer present. The BC will continue to pursue this issue with the SB.

B. *BRELLA Application:* The SB reviewed the application and questioned why tanks were to be pulled prior to purchase. Dave M. explained that there is a need to see what soil is under the tanks. They agree it makes sense but the SB does not want to spend town money to do it. The SB did approve the schedule as composed. Trish Coppolino said the schedule is fine.

C. *Tank Removal:* Trish spoke with Ed Bove and Trish believes they RRPC can pay for tank removal. Dave called Ed and he said he couldn't pay for it. Technically he can, but he won't, as he has no precedent for doing that for any other town. Tom H. will call John Diego, of LBG, to inquire whether there is anything else that can be done. David M. emailed Trish about these discussions.

III. Scheduling:

IV. Building & Site Design:

A. *Library Board Update:* The Library Board had been invited to attend so we could hear directly from them of their concerns and needs. Three of the five-member board did attend: Nan Gilmour, Martha Heitcamp and Jenny Munyak. Dave M. welcomed the LB representatives and reviewed some understanding we had about funding, coordination of the design and other issues including the benefits to both the library and the town office for combining. He urged them if they were interested in combining with the town office to move quickly on details of their space and design needs and if not to move quickly to determine if their present site is a viable site for their needs or not. The narrow driveway and the possibility that the site

continued on page 6...



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continued from page 5...

cannot hold a large enough septic for an expansion should be assessed as soon as possible. David W. will contact a contractor and inquire about an estimate for doing a septic assessment. The BC asked to hear their concerns and any questions they had about getting involved with the BC. One major concern is the fact they enjoy a lot of independence and they would not want to give that up. Another concern was on the safety of the water to serve the Parker site. Dave M. informed them of the technical assessment that a) septic appears approvable and b) that any water at the town office would have to meet safety standards. A second major concern is that many users of the library do not want to give up the charm of the present library and are concerned about what would happen to the old chapel if it were not used as the library.

Could a larger building be built to "fit" with the quality of the town? Mike B. and David W. spoke to this issue. Another issue was the safety for children using this site. This issue was discussed at length with many examples on the use of this large site with its drop off area to the south with reference to both aesthetics and safety. Nan G. said the LB knows it present lot is too small and that the consensus from the last LB meeting was that the LB would like to continue working with the BC.

David W. explained the purpose of the VT Preservation Trust Grant we just received was to assess the surrounding area of the green for its historic quality, as well as how our town heritage might continue with any new structure. The LB also relayed several comments relayed to them about concerns some folks have about moving to the corner, and for not building at all. Some have suggested we purchase portable trailers, or add on to the elementary school. The BC welcomes all who have concerns and ideas to come forward, and the BC will continue to be as transparent in their work as possible. One concern of the BC members present is the continued lack of attendance of some BC members, and how the work required of the members then falls on only those same who attend regularly.

B. *Other library/town office field trips*: No trips completed at this time.

C. *Historic Study on Town Green*: Tom Keefe, the VT Preservation architect, agreed to send us a report that would enable us to post parts of it for town information. We should receive it in the next two weeks.

D. *Design Team*: Dave M. gave a disc to Michael B. to share with Mark M. on which he had scanned the historic photos of prior buildings facing the green. Next design work will be to get the site plan completed. The engineer, Frank Parent, has been told by the SB to explore the well placement on the green. Once this is done and the survey completed a site

design can be sketched out.

V. Funding Opportunities:

A. *Brownfield funding*: Dave M. asked Tom H. if he would go through the LBG reports and identify what needs to be addressed as part of the clean out process and determine if we have the proper documentation; also using our reports to get some estimates for digging out the soil and carting it away.

B. *Historic Preservation Funding*: Tom H. suggested we meet with the Vermont Dept. of Economic, Housing and Community Development office staff and tell them what we are trying to do. Also, we should send the Rutland County legislative delegation a summary of our narrative history and then invite them to a BC meeting. We would do the same for our Washington delegation. These folks should be aware of what we are trying to do so they could direct us to sources for funding. Let them tour our town office, Parker Property, and possibly the library. We should work up the summary for the next meeting. It was suggested we send the summary to the VT Dept of Economic, Housing and Community Development, as well.

C. *Capital Campaign*: Reminder to BC members to send in \$34, as matching grant money to the Historic Society.

VI. Community Support:

A. *Neighbors*: status on contact by Carl: No report. David Wright was asked to talk to Joe Teer.

B. *Informational meeting*: Not discussed at this time.

C. *Public Relations*: Not discussed at this time.

VII. **Other Business**: Tom H. said it looks like the town planning commission is evaluating the benefits of applying for a Village Center Designation. All BC members should read through the list of state funding sources and notify others what sites you have researched. Other ideas for possible funding were discussed.

Next meeting July 19, 2012Adjourn: 9:54 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen McCormack, Clerk



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Six States In Six Days: My Adventures in a Jeep

by *The Vermont Jeepgirl [aka Sue Miller-Norton]*

I am always up for a good trail ride and love sharing my adventures with others. So when Brian LaVoie asked me to be the Vermont Trail guide 6 months ago, I



had no idea this adventure would bring me so much satisfaction. Brian is the founder for Wheeling for The Lost and raises funds to help support the work of the National Center For Missing And Exploited Children. Brian uses his hobby of Off-roading to hold events that will promote Child Safety. Brian wanted to do a first of its kind, Jeep thru all six New England States in six days. Plus raise money and awareness along the way. This trip was to include five Jeeps, as the event neared 3 dropped out, which left Brian's JK, and my YJ, JT Croteau from New Hampshire was able to join us with his TJ. This trip wouldn't be complete without a navigator, so I asked my amazing friend Opal Justice to join us. Opal Justice is a singer/songwriter from Nashville, and her first CD which was released in 2010 which included "Good Girls," and "Dirty Jeeps." I knew with her amazing voice and experience we could include a benefit performance. She was on board right away with raising money and awareness for WFTL.

On June 2 we began the trail ride here in Vermont. It had stormed the night before and was still sprinkling as we met up. We headed out with the three Jeeps and my husband in his CJ5, as we drove up the town road towards the class 4 trail, we were met by fallen trees that came down in the storm the night before. We cut the trees out of the town road, and further up we had a few more to cut out. Once on the trail, it was still wet and damp from the storm which made trail conditions a little more challenging. We wandered through the back woods of my beloved Vermont Green Mountains, I shared stories of previous adventures and discussed different lines along the trail. We arrived at a rock ledge that had a steep incline, one of my favorite spots to climb. The rock was damp from the weather and I proceeded up the face, with Opal Justice in the passenger seat. She had never been on a trail ride and this was

her first, at one point because of the steep grade all that was visible was the sky. We climbed up in 2nd low gear and made it to the top. Brian in his JK decided to try it, he approached the ledge and wasn't finding a grab, with wheels a spinning. He attempted a couple times and wanted to give up. I told him his Jeep was perfectly capable of this obstacle, and with a little less skinny pedal let the tires grab while staying steady on the gas. With that he crept up this ledge and was able to experience the upward climb. We finished the trail ride in about 2½ hours.

The rain had started again so we decided to skip the camping at the state park and camped out on the floor of my living room. That evening was Opal's performance at The Granville Forum in Granville, NY. We all arrived in our Jeeps and there were already a few Jeeps in the parking lot. We set up the stage and table for the donations for the money we were raising for The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Friends from The Mettowee Extreme Off-road Park and Extreme Buggys were on hand.

On June 3, we woke to dry weather in Vermont, and loaded the Jeeps and headed for Connecticut, while passing through Massachusetts the rain began to fall, very heavy at times. We made it to Connecticut where we set up the booth for Wheeling for The Lost, and handed out child safety and ID kits. When we were done we headed to a trail which began in Connecticut and ended in Rhode Island. It was different terrain than Vermont, slightly sandy and few rocks. The skies opened up and poured rain, thunder, and lightening, but we continued plowing through the deluge. At times, with my jeep's bikini top and half doors, the rain was blowing in sideways, covering my windshield. I would use my sweatshirt to try and wipe it. We stopped in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and stayed the night, hoping the rain would calm down.

June 4: Although was still raining, we decided to visit the beach in Plymouth, Plymouth Rock, and the Mayflower. The waves were crashing in over the bulkheads. Then we made our way north, driving through the tunnel that goes under Boston on our way to Maine, hoping the rain would let up soon.

June 5: We had arrived at the New Hampshire/Maine border where we were able to hit the trails. The rain was calming down with only a spritz here and there. We drove on about five or six trails throughout New Hampshire and Maine. On one trail we had a rock ledge to climb up, Brian went first in his JK, I went second, and JT had turned the wheel of his TJ over to Opal Justice. JT spotted Opal over the rocks, and up the ledge as she climbed for the first time behind the wheel. I will never forget as she stepped out the Jeep, and said, "JEEP. I UNDERSTAND!" Now she was hooked on the freedom a

continued on page 8...



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continued from page 7...
Jeep offered.

We continued up the trail to a spot Brian referred to as Suicide Hill. He said he witnessed an XJ that had tried to climb the hill and failed. So of course on that note, I walked up the hill and surveyed that terrain, which at the base was loose flowing mud, then changing to steep dirt, and two thirds the way up changed to very large rock and washout. The top had a small spot to turn around. No one in our group wanted to attempt it. I had come too far not too, so I picked my line and began my ascent up this Suicide Hill. I was thinking the bottom slick stuff would slow me up, but my YJ climbed with grace and valor as she brought me to the top of the hill. I turned around and began my descent down, very proud of my Jeep. We continued on through creek beds that were flowing pretty well with all the rain fall. We went through a logging header and headed out of the woods. This was an awesome day.

June 6: We set up at The Scarborough Police Station, with the child ID kits. A woman who was following our trip through New England, on Facebook stopped by. She was as excited to meet us as we were to meet her. She had asked about our journey, and looked over my Jeep as I explained all that I had done to build her. It was time to clean up and everyone head home. We all knew the adventure was over and we didn't want it to end.

Opal and I began our trek back to Vermont, finally the weather was on our side. With blue sky and sun we wandered through the little back towns of New Hampshire and Vermont. We arrived home around 6 pm and found out Opal had an invitation to come to open mic night at the Center Street Alley Bar. Opal took the stage and sang a cover and three of her own songs: "Good Girls & Dirty Jeeps," "My Country," and "Dumbass." This was a great end to our journey. If you were unable to make it out to any of the events and want to contribute to Wheeling for the Lost, please contact Brian LaVoie: wheelingforthelost@gmail.com. If you are interested a copy of Opal Justice's CD please contact Opal: opaljustice777@gmail.com

Please continue to follow The Vermont Jeepgirl on Facebook and her Adventures, in wrenching, building, and trail riding.

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Select Board Meeting June 14, 2012 Approved

Call to Order: C. Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Board Present: Shirley Moyer, Jim Webber, Chris Larson, Mike Lamson

Public Present: Bill Reed, Larry Moyer, Nancy Edmunds, John Thrasher, Richard Ventrella, David Wright, Michael Beattie, David Munyak

Approval of Minutes of 5/24 and 5/27: J. Webber moves to approve the 5/24 regular meeting as presented. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, motion carried]

S. Moyer moves to approve the 5/27 Special Meeting as presented. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, M. Lamson – abstain, motion carried]

Garron Road/Ventrella Lawsuit: John Thrasher – informs that he was accused of removing Volume 2 of the town records from the town office by John Gillies. J. Thrasher called the town clerk and confirmed that Vol. 2 was in the office and was never removed and has since received an apology from Gillies.

J. Thrasher inquires if the town is ready to hear the application submitted for work in right of way. C. Larson summarizes the application. J. Thrasher indicates the board determined there is a highway there and the application has been submitted and the board should act on the application. Acknowledges the application has been contested in court (by Ventrella) however will file cross-claim against the town for violating the Riedinger request for work in right of way/right to hearing.

J. Thrasher feels Statute Title 19 Section 111 limits what can be conditioned (safety of travelling public, maintaining travelled right of way, work not damage infrastructure). Feels conditions required by the board are outside of the scope of Title 19. According to John, the town will be named as additional insured on the liability policy for anyone completing work on the road.

In regards to the condition for indemnification as to the loca-
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tion of the road required by the board, J. Thrasher does not feel the Riedinger's should have to ensure indemnification.

C. Larson concerned that if one of the measurements is off and the implications in regards to taking. J Thrasher feels all of the measurements are off and the roadway should go where the physical evidence lies.

M. Lamson - the town attorney has recommended we defer decision on the application while the case is being contested. Feels the board is within rights to speak with the attorney prior to offering a decision on the application.

R. Ventrella feels that a modern day survey needs to be presented and that the public right of way is unclear.

J. Thrasher says there are 3 recorded modern day surveys which show the road.

L. Moyer feels the old survey is not accurate and many variables could have impacted the road since that time.

J. Thrasher expresses his frustration with the board not acting on the application. C. Larson points out the litigation/opposition to the application and the town will proceed with caution by consulting the attorney.

J. Webber moves to throw up the road from the Ventrella driveway. No second.

C. Larson will schedule a special meeting with Gary Kupferer.

Other Public Comments: Tim Poole inquires if his hours are on the board orders for this week.

Charles Delpha inquires about the grader cutting into his yard. The board requests a Service Request Form be completed and the issue will be resolved through this process. Mr. Delpha is not willing to complete the form.

Parker Property: Building Committee (M. Beattie, D. Muniyak, D. Wright) – Brella application submitted 6/7. Phone conference 6/5 clarifying LBG management plan is not sufficient to serve as a corrective action plan (CAP). Matt Becker will prepare the CAP.

\$500 grant from Preservation Trust of VT/\$500 matching funds – Mike Beattie/Mark McManus have offered to donate time to design the building.

D. Wright details the grant and purpose. National Register of Historic Places – joined in 1985. Grant monies may be available. There are no restrictions on what can be built however the study will present the historical context and how a new building may be integrated.

C. Larson moves to accept the Historical Society offer to contribute matching funds and engage Keefe and Wessner to prepare the historical study. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Selectboard agrees to personally contribute to put toward the matching funds.

M. Beattie presents a letter on behalf of himself and Mark McManus to the Selectboard offering architectural services (design, permitting, construction documents, and construction administration) when and if necessary.

C. Larson moves to accept the offer from the Michael Beattie and Mark McManus to provide architectural services. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

D. Muniyak requests the Selectboard continue to offer involvement in the Building Committee.

M. Beattie inquires if he should be getting estimates for tank removal or if the board is pursuing. M. Lamson will contact the contractors for quotes for UST removal.

West Street Project – payment, reimbursement: Chris Larson presents from N. D'Agostino – "Change Order 4" for total contract price of \$276,410.80 – balance due of \$57,934.10. Bill Reed will contact Tom Roberts to determine if additional money is available to cover the overrun.

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster: Hubbard Brothers accepted the town's offer of \$7,000 for the 2 yard compacting dumpster (were asking \$9,000).

J. Webber was in contact with the winning bidder of the storage trailers who is now coordinating with Jim Dudley to schedule removal.

Salt Shed Replacement: M. Lamson will get quotes to construct a 30' x 42' pole barn to replace the falling down salt shed.

West Street Property Disposition: S. Moyer spoke with Bill Johnson regarding the work done on at the West Street property who indicated he had delivered what he was contracted to do. Shirley will contact Bill to attend a meeting to discuss.

Road Commissioner Report: Flat tire on the grader on Dudley Road. Has been repaired.

New one ton is having an electrical issue and won't start – Bill has placed a call to Alderman's.

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Bill feels the grader should be inspected this winter and a determination made as to what is necessary to prolong it's use or whether it should be replaced. When purchased it was on a 10 year cycle which is now up.

Discussion of hiring part time help as needed. C. Larson moves to authorize Bill to hire part time help up to 30 hours per week inclusive of Joe Castles time provided their work file is up to date. J. Webber 2nd. [S. Moyer – nay, M. Lamson – nay, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, motion defeated]

Estimate to repair dent in door and replace pin on driver's door and remove old lettering for \$904.85.

Financials/Board Orders: C. Larson moves to approve the Selectboard orders as presented M. Lamson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, J. Webber - aye, C. Larson – aye, motion carried]

Correspondence: Invoice from G. Kupferer for legal council \$1,347

Service Request from Ambleside Farm – request to lower speed limit. Bill will speak with Tom Roberts as this is a state road.

High Risk Rural Road letter – request to cut brush around new road signs.

Keefe/Wesner proposal.

Letter from League discussing coverage – advise that they do not cover.

Resignation letter from Beth Miller, Town Lister. M. Lamson moves to accept the resignation of Beth Miller and thank her for her service. C. Larson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Letter of interest from Patricia Hemenway for Lister. Patricia Hemenway appointed in the interim by consensus. Notice will be posted within 10 days advertising vacancy.

Nancy Edmund request that sign for Haley Road be faced in the right direction.

Check from Cassella \$89.78

Service request to grade Garron Road, which has already been done.

Other Business: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 10:35 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk



Select Board Meeting June 28, 2012 Approved

Call to Order: C. Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Board Present: Shirley Moyer, Jim Webber, Chris Larson, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

Public Present: Larry Moyer, Nancy Edmunds, John Thrasher, Laura Castle, Tim Poole, David Munyak, Bill Reed, Gary Kupferer

Approval of Minutes of 6/14: C. Larson moves to approve the 6/14 regular meeting as amended. S. Moyer 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, C. Haynes - abstain motion carried]

Garron Road/Ventrella Lawsuit: J. Thrasher urges the board to act on the application to work in the right of way.

C. Larson moves to enter into executive session to discuss Garron Road and the permit to work in the right of way and invite Gary Kupferer. C. Haynes 2nd. Enter in executive session – 7:07.

Move out of executive session 8:02

On the advice of town legal counsel, M. Lamson moves to table the decision on the permit to work in the right of way made by the Riedingers until a decision is received on Docket 361-5-12Rdcv being heard by Superior Court Rutland Unit (Ventrella lawsuit). Carl Haynes 2nd. J. Thrasher encourages the board not to pass the motion. He feels the board already decided there is a road, cites previous case, town's best interest to act on the permit. Gary Kupferer discusses implications of acting on the permit prior to resolution of the lawsuit. Larry Moyer feels that the request for permit differs from previous road extensions referenced by John Thrasher. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – abstain, C. Haynes – aye, motion carried]

Request from John Thrasher for all right of way work applications submitted to the town as well as a copy of permit applications approved since 5/24/99, and most recent changes to the road policy.

Other Public Comments:

Tim Poole attends to discuss stipend which he feels was previously approved as \$250/year. Has over 31-32 hours unbilled and

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9 hours for Town Meeting and Memorial Day. General consensus that the \$250 stipend was not originally approved when Tim was hired. C. Haynes moves to offer the \$250 stipend to Tim Poole for the year ending June 30, 2012. M. Lamson 2nd. [S. Moyer – nay, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, C. Haynes – aye, motion carried]

Tim Poole incurred \$168 for medical exam to take constable class which he will consider as part of the stipend.

C. Larson moves that for the year beginning 07/01/2012 constable pay will be \$12/hour with no stipend and extraordinary expenses should be preapproved by the Selectboard. S. Moyer 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, C. Haynes – aye, motion carried]

Tim Poole inquires about a calling card for the constable as he does not have long distance. Tim will purchase and invoice the town. **Parker Property:** C. Larson spoke with Mark Courcelle who will complete the title work next week. There is concern that Mark may rely on the work of Bill Johnson who is completing an adjoining survey. Chris will contact Mark to attend the next meeting with hopefully the completed survey.

David Munyak presents letter from the building committee concerned about the length of time it is taking to receive the survey.

C Larson moves to approve submitting the project implementation plan completed by the building committee to the Brownfields Response Program. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

West Street Project – payment, reimbursement: Stantec invoice. Bill attempted to contact Tom Roberts to determine if additional costs/overage can be covered under the grant.

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster: C. Larson / S. Moyer and Earl / Jackie Parker met with Dennis Fekert of Waste Management Division to discuss the proposed changes necessary for single stream implementation. Dennis indicated a permit is now required to amend the transfer station footprint to make way for the compactor and he will put a notice in the Rutland Herald requesting comments within 2 weeks at which point he will act on the permit amendment request.

Dennis had previously indicated a permit is not required.

Salt Shed Replacement: M. Lamson is preparing a bid packet to distribute to contractors to bid on the construction of a new pole barn to replace the current pole barn which is in danger of falling down. Discussion of moving the electrical/diesel tank which is currently near/attached to the old shed.

West Street Property Disposition: Shirley spoke with Bill Johnson who would not recommend completing a study to determine if the property is in a flood zone if the property is planned to be sold.

C. Larson will contact Speith Engineering to determine the process to remove the property from the flood zone if applicable and inquire if they have experience in this process.

Town Auditors: There are currently no auditors. S. Moyer will post notice on Front Porch Forum seeking volunteers for the 3 positions.

Carl Haynes points out that \$15,000 budgeted for equipment financing should have been depleted with the truck purchase and is not on the financial report.

Road Commissioner Report: Bill Reed presents suggested pay rates for hiring additional highway help as needed.

Has been grading and will be completing additional roads not yet graded.

Daisy Hollow will need some topcoating – 175 yards of bank run gravel estimated. The gravel will be sourced from the Parker pit.

Bill has been logging hours which he has been working with VTel on the fiber project which is to be reimbursed by VTel.

Bill will purchase calcium to replenish supply.

Bill met with VT Water Resources and received informal permit to repair washed out area on the Poultney River near Fox Bridge.

Financials/Board Orders: J. Webber moves to approve the Selectboard orders as presented. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, J. Webber - aye, C. Larson – aye, motion carried]

Correspondence: 3 letters from Bob Zorn.

Package from Town Health Officer (Rita Hansen) detailing a rental complaint/inspection she was asked perform.

Fleet permit from Goulds well drilling with check for \$10. S. Moyer moves to approve the fleet permit request from Goulds. J. Webber 2nd [all in favor, motion carried]

Keefe & Wesner Architects – request for authorization to proceed with the Historical Context report not to exceed \$1,000. M. Lamson moves to sign the authorization to proceed from Keefe & Wesner. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, J. Webber – aye, C. Haynes – abstain: motion carried]

VLCT – description of new law affecting the qualifications of existing law enforcement authority. Liability coverage remains unchanged.

Letter from Paul Gillies re. Garron Road.

Service Request – Tom Tyrell – 80 Fitzgerald – request to place sign “Big Meadow Lane.”

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Other Business: J. Webber presents proposal from Emmet Francois to reset the stones and add drainage around the monument on the green. Bill will speak with the Church Board and Emmet Francois.

C. Haynes moves to enter into executive session to discuss possible legal issues concerning the Parker land purchase. S. Moyer 2nd. C. Larson is concerned with entering into executive session to discuss a topic not allowed by statute. [S. Moyer – nay, M. Lamson – abstain, C. Larson – nay, J. Webber – nay, C. Haynes – aye, motion defeated]

Carl spoke with Joe Teer. Mr Teer feels the proposed septic plan for any development on the Parker property would be in violation due to proximity to a shallow well on his property which is still being used and is not abandoned as previously indicated. C. Larson would like to have the completed survey prior to submittal of the septic design and will contact the engineer completing the design (Frank Parent).

Mr. Teer requested a copy of the SRTS plan to determine how it affects his property. Chris recommends Mr. Teer review the plans at the town office or with the School Board.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 10:50 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk



Select Board Meeting

July 12, 2012 Approved

Call to Order: C. Larson called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

Board Present: Shirley Moyer, Chris Larson, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes (arrives 8:02)

Public Present: Chris Smid, Bill Reed, David Munyak

Approval of Minutes of 6/28: C. Larson moves to approve the 6/28 regular meeting as presented. S. Moyer 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, motion carried]

Public Comments:

Chris Smid attends on behalf of Fire Association to discuss the pending Solid Waste permit to allow for single stream conversion. Inquires where the concrete pad will be installed for single stream. The current structure which houses the recycling gaylords will be taken down and will be replaced by the concrete pad/single stream compacting dumpster.

David Munyak – presents lease renewal from Historical Society for town office. M. Lamson moves to sign the lease from the Historical Society for the town office. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, motion carried]

Parker Property: C. Larson spoke with George Stannard, surveyor about potentially completing the Parker property survey due to no response from Mark Courcelle who was supposed to have completed already. Fred Bradley also spoke with Mr. Stannard. Mr. Stannard doesn't have time to complete the research however recommended Sherry Slack, Title Searcher/Real Estate Paralegal complete the research and he could then complete the survey. He is not available for at least 2 weeks. David spoke with Sherry who could begin next week. Estimate of \$75 per hour 4-8 hours depending on complexity.

Discussion of whether to hire George Stannard/Sherry Slack to complete the survey. George is booked out for 2 weeks. S. Moyer moves to hire George Stannard/Sherry Slack to complete the Parker property survey and relieve Mark Courcelle. C. Larson 2nd the motion. [C. Larson – aye, S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – nay – motion defeated] M. Lamson would like to hear back from Mark Courcelle prior to reassigning the work due to the work he has already completed.

David Munyak spoke with Tom Keefe who is nearly done with the historic survey on buildings surrounding the Town Green.

David spoke with Ed Bove regarding potential funding to remove the underground storage tanks. Ed indicated the RRPC has no funding available for tank removal. David is in talks with Trish Coppolino with the state about other sources of funding.

David inquires if the energy committee is exploring the pos-
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sibility of converting street lights to LED as he spoke with a CVPS representative who stated funding is limited

M. Lamson spoke with 4 companies who will be submitting quotes to remove the underground storage tanks on the property

West Street Project – payment, reimbursement: A new grant application form is being sent for the West Street project. The actual figures as well as the \$53,000 overrun will be able to be added to the grant application.

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster: The permit to amend the transfer station footprint is in process. The state contact is out of office this week however the 2 week comment period is in process.

Salt Shed Replacement: M. Lamson prepared a bid packet for salt shed replacement. C. Larson would like to add “the Selectboard reserves the right to not accept any bid” verbiage.

C. Haynes does not feel a pole barn should be constructed and the money should be used for a salt shed or new garage.

Discussion of potentially siting the new pole barn where the storage trailers were adjacent to the transfer station and using the old pole barn for salt storage until a more permanent solution can be found

There may be a right of way issue with this location. M. Lamson will follow up on this.

West Street Property Disposition: C. Larson will contact Speith Engineering to determine the process to remove the property from the flood zone if applicable and inquire if they have experience in this process.

Town Auditors: Letter of interest from Juanita Burch-Clay regarding one of the available Auditor positions. Requests job description, estimate of time commitment, if training is available.

Jim Gilmour has also expressed interest.

S. Moyer moves to appoint Juanita Burch-Clay to one of the 3 year town auditor positions until town meeting. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, C. Haynes - aye: motion carried]

S. Moyer will follow up with Jim Gilmour.

Road Commissioner Report: Bill presents “Employee Weekly Time Report” form from Jenny Talke-Munyak and inquires if the board would like him to complete this form in place of the current time card form. Bill will complete this form moving forward.

The tailgate on the new one ton was damaged while dumping and striking the pintle hitch. Earles can replace the tailgate for \$800. C. Larson moves to initiate an insurance claim and have Earles replace the tailgate and have the recommended stops installed to prevent the tailgate from being damaged in the future. M. Lamson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, C. Haynes - nay: motion carried]

This is the last year Fred will be doing roadside mowing as he is selling his equipment. Fred let Bill know the town of Killington is selling a tractor with roadside mower. Bill will inquire whether there is any interest among neighboring towns to purchase.

Bill spoke with Joe Castle about his availability to work for the

town as he will taking a new position doing police work. Joe will be getting his schedule and will speak with Bill.

Discussion of part time help as needed for the highway department and the process/procedures and what is needed on file to enable a pool of available workers for work such as mowing cemetery, general labor, etc. Examples include application filled out, certifications, copy of license, etc. A list of requirements for each position/ labor could be created and Bill could select as needed. Discussion of the 3rd employee hired for 30 hours and how those hours are not being used as needed. C. Haynes feels there is a scheduling issue and there should be set hours for the third employee. M. Lamson agrees that we need to investigate whether the third employee can work a set schedule. C. Haynes will contact Joe to see if he is able to work as scheduled.

C. Larson inquires about overhead trimming. Chris will speak with Bill and have him get bids to complete overhead tree trimming to the specifications as they were bid last year.

Invoice for tire repair

Financials/Board Orders: M. Lamson moves to approve the Selectboard orders as presented. C. Larson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, C. Haynes – aye: motion carried]

Correspondence:

Copy of Transfer Station public notice

C. Larson moves to approve the fleet permit requests for Dale Perry and Reed Cover. M. Lamson 2nd. [S. Moyer – aye, M. Lamson – aye, C. Larson – aye, C. Haynes – aye: motion carried]

Vermont Center on Independent Living expresses thanks for \$100.

Casellas check for \$70.80.

Grant program for municipal park and ride from the state.

Notice from VTRANS regarding bicycle/pedestrian grant availability.

Invoice from Gary Kupferer for \$2,309.20.

Wright Construction interest in culvert projects.

Vermont Dept of Taxes: Education Tax Rate FY13 notice: Homestead Tax Rate \$1.6361, Non-residential \$1.5132

Copy of final plans for the SRTS project

Other Business: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 10:11 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk

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Board of School Directors
Regular Meeting — July 18, 2012
 UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Present: Clarence Haynes, Steven Letendre, Kendra Larson (Board Members). Also present: Joan Paustian (Supt.), Louis Milazzo (Business Mgr.), Richard Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary). Karen Mach (Board Member) arrived at 6:17PM. Public Present: MSES Teacher Julia Chamberlain arrived at 6:08PM.

Call to Order: Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes – Unofficial Minutes from: June 7, 2012 (Regular), June 20, 2012 (Special). Change to June 7 minutes: Under #7, “Old Business”: the Principal (not Kendra Larson) will ensure that board meeting agendas are distributed to teachers. Steven Letendre moved to approve the minutes of June 7 (with correction) and June 20, 2012 (as presented), Clarence Haynes seconded; motion carried.

Superintendent’s Report: Supt. Paustian reported that the Board Negotiating Council has begun meeting and will continue to meet regarding upcoming merged support staff negotiations. Sean Leach will be representing the support staff in negotiations; he will be available in August. Peter Mello will be the new part-time RSWSU Director of Educational Advancement. Dr. Betsy Sherman will be here in August for Science in-service training; an area of focus which the teachers requested.

Principal’s Report: Mr. Beal reported that we have twenty-two MSES students and three Tinmouth students attending the summer program. Both morning academics and afternoon activities are going very well. We are working on transitioning “Foundations” into our classrooms to improve our reading program. At the end of year staff meeting, Everyday Math and the Common Core standards were discussed. Another area discussed was the need to address keyboarding skills for our students so they are ready to type their papers when they reach the upper grades. Math for 3/4 will take place in the morning and 5/6 in the afternoon; freeing staff to concentrate on reading assistance. There is a need for a part-time special education assistant. Regarding building projects, it was discovered that we need to ventilate the attic/roof. Grades 5/6 and 3/4 will be switching classrooms to give more room to the younger students. Pre-K class has outgrown the small classroom downstairs. Mrs. Chamberlain has been doing the program for five years—the class size has grown from eight to eighteen. Mr. Beal would like to move classes around to allow more room for the Pre-K kids. Water system improvements –we need to get a permit. Community garden use continues and the Fire Dept. will be using the building for a practice drill. Discussion took place on the best way to utilize the extra fifteen minutes that teachers will be required to work beginning next year. Discussion ensued about the purchase of textbooks or other supplemental materials for the coming year. Mr. Beal received the final papers on the loan forgiveness. Kendra Larson moved to have the Board sign the loan forgiveness forms for the water system. Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

Business Manager’s Report: Financial Statements: Mr. Milazzo is still working on year-end closing. He anticipates MSES finishing the 11-12 year with a surplus of \$51,154. The town overpaid the school according to the statewide adjustments, so the school needs to reimburse the town for the amount the state will be sending. The check is in this A/P run. Mr. Milazzo states that there is a new law to ensure school districts are not subsidizing paid school lunches with free/reduced price meals reimbursements. Consequently, we will need to increase our lunch prices for students to \$2.15 and adults to \$3.15. Clarence Haynes moved to increase student price to \$2.15 and adult price to \$3.15, Steven Letendre seconded; motion carried.

Steven Letendre moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Kendra Larson seconded; motion carried.

Approve Warrants:

Warrant #133 in the amount of \$20,774.90 dated 6/1/2012

Warrant #134 in the amount of \$13,119.62 dated 6/15/2012

Warrant #135 in the amount of \$71,308.38 dated 6/29/12

Kendra Larson moved to approve Warrant #133 in the amount of \$20,774.90 dated 6/1/2012, Warrant #134 in the amount of \$13,119.62 dated 6/15/2012, and Warrant #135 in the amount of \$71,308.38 dated 6/29/12, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

General Public Comments: None

New Business: Board to ratify Support Staff Collective Bargaining Agreement: By consensus, the Board agreed to table signing the agreement until the next meeting when the board members have had a chance to review it. Kendra Larson moved that as soon as the Association ratifies the agreement, the Administrative Assistant receives the step increase for 2011-2012, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

Old Business: The water system project was discussed.

Policies: None this month.

Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b) if warranted: Kendra Larson moved that the Board enter Executive Session at 7:36PM for legal issues, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried. Kendra Larson moved the Board out of Executive Session at 7:52. Karen Mach seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Steven Letendre moved to request that the Chair of the Board prepare a decision letter communicating the Board’s Stage 3 Grievance decision, and to forward the letter to the Support Staff Association. Karen Mach seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Action on Personnel Contract:

New Hires:

1. April Simpson, Summer School Tchr.
2. Sara Brzezinski, Summer School Tchr.
3. Sara Brzezinski, Summer School Asst.
4. Netta Austin, Summer School Tchr.

Resignations: None

Terminations: None

Other: None

Steven Letendre moved to approve the hires listed above, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried.

Other Lawful Business: None

Set Next Board Meeting (Regular) & Agenda Building: It was agreed by consensus that the next board meeting will take place on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 6:00PM at MSES.

Adjournment: Kendra Larson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM, Karen Mach seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
 Susan Rosso, Board Recording Secretary





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Legislative Update

The Vermont Legislature has recently concluded this year's session and the two year term. It was a very productive session and many difficult issues were addressed including rebuilding after the damage of tropical storm Irene, legislative redistricting, a new mental health system and a new office complex for the state, and new incentives for agricultural and wood products development. Here is a review of some of the topics we discussed.

The Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. Increased state revenues from an improving economy as well as savings and efficiencies from past investments along with declining growth in Medicaid expenses helped build next year's budget. Although the approved budget did increase 6.4%, one half of the increase will come from the use of disaster relief funds and continuing appropriations for recovery from Irene. Many state and local roads and bridges need follow up repairs beyond the temporary fixes of last fall and the state is committed to continuing progress on upgrading all our state roads, including RT 133, and with increased funding aid for local town highways and structures.

The budget also includes funds for a new mental health care system in the state that involves more community level care for our most vulnerable citizens in addition to new facilities in Rutland, Brattleboro, and central Vermont to replace the former state hospital. There is additional funding for new models of services for medical addiction recovery and support is continued for our local area agencies on aging and visiting nurse associations. Part of the flooded state office complex will be rebuilt in Waterbury in conjunction with office sites in Montpelier and Barre. The budget increases funding for the Fish and Wildlife department, allows for full staffing of the State Police and for the state court system to operate at full schedule.

Economic Development. The Vermont economy and the tradition of forests and farms got a boost with the establishment of the Working Lands Enterprise Board. This board

will facilitate business planning, start-up and tech assistance and financial packaging for agricultural and wood products enterprises, including capital grants for business growth and infrastructure improvement.

Energy and the Environment. The Legislature passed several bills to continue incentives for renewable energy projects. These bills involved net metering, creating a uniform and predictable method of taxing solar installations larger than residential size, and increasing the cap on the standard offer program. After much discussion, the Legislature chose not to intervene in the deliberations of the VT Public Service Board in the proposed merger between the electrical utilities, CVPS and Green Mountain Power and a bill was also passed that would prohibit utilities from charging customers a fee if they chose to opt out of the installation of smart meters at their sites.

To protect our state's clean water, the Legislature voted to ban the oil and gas deep well drilling technique known as hydraulic fracking. Legislation was also passed to protect Vermont from future flood damage by facilitating Vermonters' ability to continue to have access to federal flood disaster assistance. And a bill was passed to require recycling across the state, implemented over a number of years.

Public Health and Safety. A bill was passed that would require better coordination between the State Police and local entities in cases of search and rescue, to avoid the tragedy of last winter when a young hiker died of hypothermia in Addison county. More funds were allocated to address crime situations such as internet child pornography and the increasing presence of gangs in some areas of the state. The Legislature voted to continue to allow parents to chose not to vaccinate their children before attending school, with an annual declaration of philosophical exemption, and to increase educational outreach and data collection of vaccination rates

Please contact me about these and the many other legislative issues that may be of interest to you. I can be reached at 325-3424, JMalcolm@leg.state.vt.us , and at 1822 Rupert Mountain Road, Pawlet, VT 05761. It is an honor to serve Middletown Springs and this district.

Thank You! *Representative, John Malcolm*



“BINGO”

Every Monday Night

7:00 p.m.

at the Firehouse

Proceeds to support the

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tlamberton@vermontel.net
www.cforesters.com

Calendar

August

BINGO!	Mon. 20	7 pm	Fire House
Fire Dept. Drill	Tues. 21	6:30 pm	Fire House
Select Board	Thurs. 23	7 pm	Town Office
Men's Breakfast	Sat. 25	8 am	School
Block Party & Free Store	Sun. 26	1-4 pm	Comm. Church
BINGO!	Mon. 27	7 pm	Fire House
Vermont Primary	Tues. 28	7am - 7pm	Fire House
Fire Dept. Meeting	Tues. 28	7:30 pm	Fire House
First Day Celebration	Wed. 29	7:15 am	School
Fountain of Youth	Wed. 29	11 am	Poultney Center

September

Magnet Deadline	Sat. 1		
Town Website Launch	Sat. 1		
Town Reading Challenge	Mon. 3		Library
BINGO!	Mon. 3	7 pm	Fire House
Planning Commission	Mon. 3	7 pm	Town Office
Building Commission	Wed. 5	7 pm	Town Office
Metal Collection Day	Sat. 8	6am - noon	West St.
BINGO!	Mon. 10	7 pm	Fire House
Conservation Commission	Tues. 11	7 pm	Library
Select Board	Thurs. 13	7 pm	Town Office
1st Quarter Property Tax Due	Sat. 15		Town Office
Household Hazardous Waste	Sat. 15	8-9:30 am	Tinmouth
Bedtime Story Hour	Sat. 15	6:30 pm	Library



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Printed Monthly by

RU Printing

Wallingford, VT

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