



The Middletown Magnet

"News that sticks in Middletown Springs"



Directory Deadline is February 5! For real this time

After a very false start last year we are at it again. It is time to revise and reprint the Town Directory. This is a purely volunteer effort with the printing paid for by the advertisers in the back of each issue. Please send us your updates, changes, deletions, new business info, etc. **DEADLINE is FEBRUARY 5, 2014.** Please look at an old directory to make sure what info we have for you and yours.

If you are new to town or do not have a directory in front of you:

- "white pages" list adult residents of MTS by first & last name, street name (no #s), home phone number. We don't list you until you tell us it is okay.
- "business listings" list MTS businesses by category with Business name, owner's name, phone number, and a short descriptive phrase.
- Paid Advertisements are approx. business card size [\$25] or double card size [\$50] and need to "camera-ready" high resolution pdf or jpeg.

Minor changes to existing ads and/or ads to be scanned in (clear B&W photocopy) – add \$5.

New Ads / Logos which entail layout by Maria – add \$25.

Ad payments received last year are still being held in preparation for this issue. New and renewing advertisers should contact Leslie to reserve space. For technical questions: call Maria (235-2624).

These paid ads make the Directory possible. Thank you for your support.

Contact Information:

- ▶ Free Business Listing (new & changes): Leslie Silver 235-2335 or lsilver@vermontel.net
- ▶ Residential Listing (new & changes): Kimberly Mathewson 235-2561 or kbm@vermontel.net



The Magnet Needs Your Financial Support!



As you read in last month's issue, Bob Underwood at RU Printing in Wallingford has decided to retire and close his business. Bob had printed The Magnet since the very first issue in his one-man shop and his prices reflected the low overhead that comes with a micro business. We feel very lucky to have gotten our start with him.

This month will be the first month that we will experience doing business with a larger printing house. We expect the same high quality service at Quickprint, but the cost will be significantly higher - \$100 per month higher, in fact.

We have requested increased funding from the town in the next budgeting cycle to cover the increased costs. But that funding will not begin until July. Meanwhile, we have to find a way to fill the financial gap. So we ask you, our faithful readers, to consider a donation to The Magnet to help keep us going. If you are an out of town recipient, now would be a good time to send us some money to cover the additional costs of mailing the newsletter out of town. If you are an advertiser, we ask that you consider sending in payment for future issues now – a year of business card sized ads is \$66 (11 months). To those of you who can, please show your support with a donation. Every little bit will help.

The Magnet is organized, assembled and mailed by volunteers – your neighbors. We hope you can help us keep this important town resource going. Thank so much for your support!

Patty Kenyon, Patty McWilliams,
Kimberly Mathewson, and Pat Hemenway





Elementary School News

The students and staff would like to thank all the parents and community members who attended the Winter Concert in December. The performance by the students was amazing; even more so when considering the limited amount of time that Ms Barron had to devote to preparing for the concert. As was evident by the selection of songs, there were many ways for the students to musically express themselves. Besides choral singing, the students had movements and songs that included instruments played by the students. The school would like to thank Ms. Baron for all that she has brought to our music program.

Middletown Springs and Tinmouth are collaborating on sponsoring the 'Learning Kitchen' for parents and students. There will be two "Learning Kitchen" program offerings where parents and students will learn about nutritious snacks and meals. Each week, the attendees will cook some recipes, sample foods, and discuss a health and nutrition topic. The student "Learning Kitchen" will be happening at Tinmouth and the parent program at Middletown Springs. There will be childcare provided. I hope as many as possible take advantage of this learning opportunity.

On Fridays, students in 1st-4th grade have been learning about the engineering design process. Engineering is included as a component of the Next Generation Science Standards. The students have been incorporating their science knowledge in developing solutions for challenges, using the engineering design process of asking questions, imagining possible solutions, planning, creating, and improving their solutions. Besides learning about the engineering design process, the students are also developing collaboration skills as they work through the process together. It has been very enjoyable to watch the students talking and working together to develop and test their designs. The work that the students are doing will help them see the connections between math, reading, and science. Also, the ultimate goal is to have the students' work spark an interest in an in-demand career in the fields of science or engineering as they move on to higher education.

Rick Beal, Principal



George's Trash & Recyclable Pickup

Weekly - Monthly - Occasionally
Call for your free Quote
802-235-1064

Town Meeting 2014 Deadlines

January 23, 2014 Last day to file petitions
signed by 5% of the voters

January 24, 2014 - Nominating petitions for
town offices must be filed no later than 5 PM

Town Meeting Positions to be Filled

- Town Moderator - 1 Year
- Town Agent - 1 Year
- Tax Collector - 1 Year
- Town Constable - 1 Year
- Selectmen - 3 Years
- Selectmen - 2 Years
- Selectmen - 1 Year
- Lister - 3 Years
- Auditor - 1 Year
- Planning Commission - 2 Years
- Planning Commission - 3 Years
- Planning Commission - 4 Years
- Library Trustee - 3 Years
- Library Trustee - 3 Years
- Town Grand Juror - 1 Year
- Trustee of Copeland Church Fund - 1 Year
- Trustee of Copeland Cemetery Fund - 1 Year
- Trustee of Louis Fund & Other Public Monies - 2 Years
- School Treasurer - 1 Year
- School District Clerk - 1 Year
- School Moderator - 1 Year
- School Director - 2 Years
- School Director - 3 Years



To have your name included on the 2014 Town Meeting ballot and run for any of the above positions, you must request a petition at the Town Clerk's Office, have it signed by 5% of the Town's legal voters and submit said petition to the Town Clerk by Friday, January 24 at 5pm.

Note of Thanks -

Many thanks to all the folks who sent me get well wishes. I appreciate all of them. I am home now and wish you all a Happy New Year!



Jeanette Marcy



PRECISION AUTO BODY

Steve Betit
Owner

1529 Main Street
P.O. Box 477
Castleton, VT 05735
(802) 468-0327
Fax # (802) 468-0328





News from the Library

Story Hour: Designed with children 3-6 years old. Younger children are welcome with a responsible adult. Join Martha Heitkamp for stories, songs, activities, crafts and a snack. Monthly. Saturdays at 10am: Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 22, Apr 26, May 17, June 21

Book Group: Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 7pm for discussion. The library book group is open to all; come to one or come to all. Books are available for loan 4 - weeks prior to the discussion.

February – *The Language of Flowers*
by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

March – *Known World* by Edward P. Jones

April – *Nothing to envy: ordinary lives in North Korea*
by Barbara Demick

New to the Collection: some of the new titles waiting for you...

Books

Salinger by David Shields & Shane Salerno,

Longbourn by Jo Baker,

The Cold Dish by Craig Johnson (& others in series),

The Girl You Left Behind by Jojo Moyes,

This is the Story of a Happy Marriage by Ann Patchett,

Sycamore Row by John Grisham,

Far from the Tree by Andrew Solomon,

Five Days at Memorial by Sheri Fink,

Writing on the Wall: Social Media, the first 2,000 years

by Tom Standage,

Teen

Fan Girl by Rainbow Rowell,

Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell,

The Rules of Survival by Nancy Werlin,

Openly Straight by Bill Konigsberg,

Code name Verity by Elizabeth Wein,

Children - And more than 100 new titles in the children's section: Through CLiF [Children's Literacy Foundation grant] we received new books for all level of readers – picture books through middle school chapter books.

NEW MOVIES: donated by the Friends of the Library
42 – the Jackie Robinson Story, When Harry Met Sally, The Departed, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Shutter Island, Chicago, GoodFellas, Moulin Rouge!, Red, No Country for Old Men, The Hurt Locker, Harold and Maude, Casablanca, Through Deaf Eyes, Silver Linings Playbook, The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, Zero Dark Thirty, ...and more to come!!

Men's Community Prayer Breakfast

**Saturday, January 25, at 8 am
Middletown Springs School**

*Come join us if you are able
for this informal monthly event*

The Library is open 21 hours a week.

Mon, Tues, Wed 2-7pm

Fri 10am-2pm

Sat 10am-Noon

See you at the library...



Bottle Drive February 6!



It is that time of year...
The Annual 5th & 6th Grade
Bottle Drive

Saturday, February 6, 2014

(Always the Saturday after the Super Bowl)

9AM-1PM at the school.

The students (and parents!) will drive around town knocking on doors requesting returnable cans and bottles. Would you please gather a few together to help make this annual event successful once again? If you will not be around, please leave them in a noticeable location with an indication that they are for the students. Dropping them off at the school is also an option.

Thank you so much for your generous support throughout the many years!

In the News...

Local Author Publishes Book

Michael J. Rutenberg just published his first novel, titled *A DAY IN A LIFE - A LIFE IN A DAY*. It is a novel set in his native Philadelphia and is now available at the Northshire Bookstores in Manchester, VT and Saratoga Springs, NY and on amazon.com.

Local Artist Exhibits Work

Brigitte Rutenberg, who has studios in Middletown Springs, VT and Philadelphia, PA will be showing her collages, "PAPER QUILTS AND GLASS BOOKS", at the CHAFFEE DOWNTOWN GALLERY, 75 Merchant's Row in Rutland. The official opening took place on Friday, January 10. The exhibit will continue until February 28. Brigitte graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and has been exhibiting her work for almost 40 years, regionally and nationally.

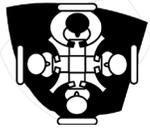
Michael and Brigitte have lived in Middletown Springs as active part-time residents for nearly twenty years.



Walt & Annie Pepperman
Innkeepers

Twin Mountains Farm, Inc.
549 Coy Hill Road
P.O. Box 1234
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Tel. 802-235-3700
Fax. 802-235-3701
email. tmfbb@vermontel.net
www.twinmountainsfarmbb.com



Select Board Regular Meeting November 14, 2013 Approved

CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Jim Webber, Shirley Moyer, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Bill Reed, David Munyak

Approval of Minutes of October 24 and November 7

J. Webber moves to approve the October 24 regular meeting minutes as amended. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

J. Webber moves to approve the November 7 special meeting minutes as presented. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Public Comments:

Bill Reed inquires if Carl Haynes has been appointed as chairman. The decision was deferred until we had a full board.

Building Committee Report:

Brownfields cleanup – UST Closure Form must be completed/signed/recorded in town land records.

J. Webber moves to sign the VT DEC/ANR letter dated 10/28/2013 Vermont UST Closure Form and recorded in the town land records. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] J. Webber moves to allow C. Haynes to sign on behalf of the board. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

SWCRPC – sent checks for reimbursement (\$32,390.01). Checks were made out directly to contractor. David would like to see the checks signed over to the town and separate checks issued from the town. C. Haynes moves to issue checks to the contractors in exchange for the returned signed checks. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] David Munyak will coordinate the hand delivery of the checks for signature in exchange for the town issued checks.

Agency of Commerce (AOC) grant agreement (which has been signed) – needs various items to process reimbursement requests. Request town council to complete 3 items to submit to AOC

Provides copy of AOC insurance requirements – would like our insurance carrier to verify/provide proof of insurance to be presented to AOC

Received ACCD contract amendment reflecting increased award and extension time. M. Lamson moves to sign the contract amendment and allow C. Haynes to sign on behalf of the board. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

M. Lamson moves to sign the Resolution presented by the Building Committee authorizing the grantee to accept Project Grant Funds. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Met with Todd Hobson of Clay Point Associates on 11/13 to review the white building on the corner property in preparation for request for proposal (RFP) for removal.

Clay Point Associates outlined the scope of work and estimates a higher cost (\$1,700) than what was previously approved (\$700-\$800). David believes this is well worth it as the town is not prepared or qualified to manage the process. C. Haynes moves to authorize the additional \$1,000 expense for additional work proposed by Clay Point Associates to prepare request for proposal (RFP) and bidding assistance toward removal of building. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Pre-bid conference for building removal expected next week. Building will be removed down to floor level. Slab will remain until excavation is undertaken.

WIFI Hotspot - VTel completed fiber optic installation. WIFI will be installed tomorrow by Vermont Council on Rural Development.

Auditors Report: None

Road Commissioner Report:

Bill Reed presents list of work done in past 2 weeks and things to do

Bill inquires if letters have been sent to property owners on Brown Rd regarding notice of not plowing. Carl has not yet sent the letter however will do so.

Larry Moledeski - Service Request Form – culvert before his property was clogging. Bill repaired however feels it will need a longer culvert to hold shoulder.

Service Request Form – Wescott Road – request for winter maintenance as new camp has been built

Bill states Margaret Fowler had requested downgrading Fox Bridge Lane at one point in time. Bill also believes Moyer Acres and White's Road may be candidates for downgrade. S. Moyer feels that this may no longer be the case (request to downgrade). Bill would like to clarify if the request is active for future grants for culverts. C. Haynes will contact M. Fowler.

200 yards of sand screening left to do. Discussion of whether to cover the sand pile with plastic. Bill doesn't recommend it as it doesn't allow loading of trucks on dump days and doesn't allow moisture to escape.

T. Redfield presents objective of improving safety and visibility by cutting back/raising up encroaching vegetation from roadside shoulders. Fox Bridge side of Coy Hill to Mountain Road and Fitzgerald Rd would be good candidates for cutting. Terry is willing to gather bids and manage the process over the next few weeks.

VOSHA - Carl spoke with VOSHA contact who has not yet assessed the fine.

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East Poultney
Vermont 05741

Dave

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PUMPS
COMPLETE
WATER SYSTEMS
HYDRO FRACKING

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Jerry

Agricultural Commercial Residential

Concrete Professionals, Inc.

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Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Owner
(802) 235-2765 Tony Genier

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SRTS – change order reducing price paid to contractor from \$175,826 to \$170,248. J. Webber moves to allow C. Haynes to sign the change order reducing the amount to be paid to contractor and the Release and Waiver of Lien form. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Other: Next Selectboard meeting will be rescheduled as a Special Meeting for Monday November 25 @ 6:30 due to Thanksgiving Holiday.

Lawsuits – Legal: G. Kupferer spoke with Carl regarding forwarding Zorn letter to insurance carrier.

Solid Waste/Fort Dumpster: Transfer station certification will expire 12/31/2013. A renewal application was due 07/31/2013. Pam Clapp contacted M. Lamson and recommended a consultant to prepare the application. M. Lamson will contact the consultant for guidance/fee quote.

T. Redfield moves to have M. Lamson contact/hire Kevin Camara as recommended by Pam Clapp to complete the application. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Regarding gate repair, J. Webber spoke with Mac Steel who recommended Eric Schamback (builder) who was interested and will provide quote.

Correspondence:

Historical Society – request for lease amendment regarding WIFI equipment to be installed on the building. J. Webber moves to refer the amendment to G. Kupferer for review prior to any decision. M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Service Request - Larry Moledeski. Culvert plugged on Haley Rd.

Receipt from Dept of Environment Conservation – regarding UST removal

Insurance Company – claim for broken truck window does not meet deductible – no payment will be made

American Rock Salt salt request/proposal

Greenup Day Coordinator – M. Lamson moves Hillary Solomon as Greenup Day Coordinator pending acceptance. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Vermont League of Cities and Towns – letter regarding 2015 VLCT dues (\$1,688).

Letter from B. Zorn

New Town Highway Maps received from State of Vermont

Financials/Board Orders: M. Lamson moves to approve the financial board orders as presented. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Other Business: J. Webber moves to appoint Carl Haynes as Selectboard Chairman. T. Redfield 2nd. [All in favor (C. Haynes

– abstain) – motion carried]

J. Webber inquires about how the town would acquire a road – Marcy Lane is not a town road and has been maintained by private individuals. Jim is concerned that those individuals may no longer be able to maintain the road.

T. Redfield inquires if we need a vice chair. S. Moyer moves to appoint T. Redfield as vice chair. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Adjourn: M. Lamson moves to adjourn, J. Webber 2nd. Meeting adjourned 9:55 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk



Select Board Regular Meeting November 25, 2013 Approved

CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Jim Webber, Shirley Moyer, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Bill Reed, David Munyak, Nora Rubenstein, Patty Kenyon, David Munyak, Jenny Talke Munyak, Robert Gould, Maureen McCormack

Employee Review: M. Lamson moves to enter in to Executive Session to discuss employee review and invite Bill Reed. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] J. Webber moves to exit Executive Session. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Move out of Executive Session 7:26.

No action taken.

Approval of Minutes of November 14: S. Moyer moves to table the minutes of November 14. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] November 14 minutes tabled.

Public Comments: None

WiFi Proposal: Carl provided G. Kupferer with a copy of the lease addendum requested by the Historical Society and submitted to our insurance carrier for feedback. The addendum requested the town hold harmless the Historical Society for any liability relating to the operation of any and all WIFI equipment. To date there has been no feedback received.

Lengthy discussion of the lease addendum and what needs to happen for the process to continue. Robert Gould, President of the Historical Society Board, attends to discuss. Any feedback from the attorney/insurance carrier will be forwarded to Robert who is open to amending the lease addendum per any concerns.

Building Committee Report: November 23 visioning workshop – The Building Committee held a visioning workshop in which

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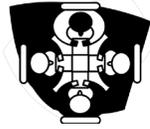
For things you can't do yourself
Yard work – Light Housework - Shopping
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You name it – We'll see if we can do it
Call Ellen Secord 235-2340

Organized through the Community Church
Any donations go to Church Camp Fund

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16 people attended and provided input/suggestions in a day long workshop session. They felt there was a good cross section of folks in town and the process was constructive. The Building Committee will be analyzing the data/input and disseminating results to the participants/town.



Brownfield Cleanup – David will confirm with Laura Castle that the underground storage tank (UST) form has been filed in land records.

David Munyak met with Bob Ross who endorsed the 2 party check per discussion last meeting. LBG agreed to endorse via certified mail and is in process.

Building removal – Claypoint Associates held prebid meeting with 3 contractors. Intent was to have the 3 contractors bid. D. Munyak was unsure if AOC was OK with the process – it was inquired with AOC if a full bid process was needed and are still waiting to hear back. Question on who would plow during deconstruction. The road crew can handle the plowing.

Friends in Adoption Building – Building Committee updated the Selectboard regarding the emails from Dawn Smith Pliner regarding the FIA building. She was invited but was not able to attend the Building Committee Meeting but may attend one in the future.

Highway – Road Commissioner Report: Bill Reed presents written report of work completed and to complete

Bill did breakdown of winter sand costs. Points out that the current invoice from Sheldon for sand screening was above the original quote from Chet McCullen. Bill feels that there was a \$1,870 overrun by using Sheldon instead of Chet McCullen. An extra charge for transporting the equipment was incurred which was not on the original bid. Carl will contact Sheldon regarding the transport fees/costs above estimate.

Inquires about school sidewalk maintenance and if the school is on top of maintenance.

Brush/overhead tree cutting – T. Redfield will be meeting with 1 contractor tomorrow and will be meeting 2 or more others. Inquires about what specs to have quoted (i.e. flatcut vs. overhead/danger trees).

Lawsuits/Legal: G. Kupferer forwarded Zorn documents to insurance carrier

No discussion on Garron Road or Pepperman.

Tax sale notices have been posted/printed

Fort Dumpster: Jim Webber spoke with Erik Schamback – VT Building Solutions about repairing the gate. Erik provided an estimate of \$2,400 to repair the gate which was higher than the original quote from Middlebury Fence. M. Lamson moves to hire

Middlebury Fence per the original quote which was \$2,200. No second, motion lost. Bill suggests burying a concrete block and fastening a metal pole by hilti to the block. Carl recommends Lyle welding who could weld/supply the post and install. Carl will contact for a price.

Correspondence:

State of Vermont – Agency of Transportation – reminder of obligations to report special weight limits for roads and bridges

Susan Schreiber – request to verify/document adoption of 2013 Road and Bridge Standards.

BCBS – letter discussing deadlines/health care options regarding VT Health Connect. Lengthy discussion of health care options. Option to extend coverage for 3 months with existing plan.

Act 250 Permit from Gerald Parker regarding addition to the Parker Water Wells building

Financials/Board Orders: T. Redfield moves to approve the financial board orders as presented. M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Carl will contact Sheldon to discuss moving fee.

Other Business: Budget Meeting – Special Meeting will be scheduled December 5 from 6-8PM to prepare FY14 .

Adjourn: M. Lamson moves to adjourn, T. Redfield 2nd. Meeting adjourned 10:16 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk

Select Board Special Meeting December 5, 2013 Approved

CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Jim Webber, Shirley Moyer, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jenny Talke Munyak

WiFi Proposal: G. Kupferer reviewed the lease addendum requested by the Historical Society and provided an amended lease addendum. The amended document removes the liability statement. S. Moyer feels the lease amendment is already covered in the rental agreement. The addendum will be forwarded to the Historical Society for their feedback.

Tax Sales: Carl Haynes spoke with G. Kupferer regarding some concerns which Gary had regarding one of the tax sale properties. Gary spoke with Town Clerk L. Castle and Treasurer J. Munyak to square it away.

2014-2015 Budget: The board worked on the Fiscal Year 2015 budget.

Parker Grant: G. Kupferer provided certification requests

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BRILEYA'S
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ALAN L. GRACE
41 SOUTH STREET
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS, VT 05757
NAWCC MEMBER

TELEPHONE
BUSINESS 235-2440

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regarding tank removal on the Parker property and asks the Selectboard to ratify previous actions taken November 14th, 2013 in applying for the grant. J. Webber moves to sign the certification document relating to the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Grant Agreement as recommended by town counsel and ratify previous actions taken by the Selectboard signed by Chris Larson June 20, 2013 and actions dated November 14th, 2013. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Adjourn: J. Webber moves to adjourn, T. Redfield 2nd. Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk

Select Board Special Meeting December 12, 2013 Approved

CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Shirley Moyer, Carl Haynes, Jim Webber, Terry Redfield, Mike Lamson

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jenny Talke Munyak

FY 2014/2015 Budget: The board worked on the 2014/2015 budget.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk

Friends of the Middletown Springs Public Library

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm
at the library.
All are welcome.

www.friendsinadoption.org



Friends in Adoption



PROVIDING ADOPTION SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Dawn Smith-Pliner
Founder and Director
44 South Street, P.O. Box 1228
Middletown Springs, VT 05757
1-800-982-3678
dawn@friendsinadoption.org

*Our Compassion,
Your Decision*

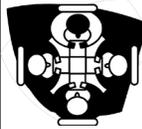
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Middletown Springs, VT
(802) 235-1233



Select Board Regular Meeting December 12, 2013 Approved

CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Jim Webber, Shirley Moyer, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Bill Reed, David Munyak, Jenny Talke Munyak, Juanita Burch Clay, Patty Kenyon, Patty McWilliams
Approval of Minutes of November 14, November 25, December 5

J. Webber moves to approve the minutes of the November 14 as presented. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

J. Webber moves to approve the minutes of the November 25 as presented. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

J. Webber moves to approve the minutes of the December 5 Special Meeting as presented. T. Redfield 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Public Comments: Patty Kenyon/Patty McWilliams – representing the Magnet – RU Printing will be closing which will affect next year budgeting. Printing costs are forecasted to be \$100 additional per month based on 3 quotes. Patty will check with additional printing source (Staples) and will be discussed at next budget meeting.

Building Committee Report: D. Munyak inquires if there was any word back from the Historical Society regarding the lease amendment. Carl states that they have not yet had a meeting and may not meet until January. Carl does not feel they have the amendment – Laura Castle can forward to Historical Society Chair.

Discussion of the UST Closure Form and if it has been filed in the land records.

Building Removal – public announcement /open bid process is required. Invitation to bid published 12/6 – pre-bid conference will be held 12/16. Bids due 12/23. Work scheduled to begin 1/6/14 (completed in spring after ground thaw).

Terry Redfield moves to reschedule the 12/26 Selectboard meeting to 12/23 @ 7:00 due to the holiday. C. Haynes 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

D. Munyak presents Floodplain maps showing FIA building is located just outside of the flood zone as well as Floodplain maps showing Wilmington Town Office is also just outside of the Floodplain and was heavily flooded during Hurricane Irene.

Highway – Road Commissioner Report: Road and Bridge Standards – motion was made 2/14/13 to approve. Carl will look for the signed document and will revisit at 12/23 meeting

Schoolhouse Road – School Board is meeting tonight and has cited a 7/14/11 joint meeting where the town agreed to

continued on page 8.

Morningside Meadows

“Converting solar energy into nutritious food”

Grass-fed, Grass-finished Angus beef
Fresh Raw Jersey Milk
Free-Range Eggs

Rich and Cynthia Larson CynthiaL@myfairpoint.net
69 South Street, Wells 645-1957

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maintain the sidewalk in winter. The Selectboard cites minutes from the School Board Meeting 8/22/2013 stating the town is responsible for plowing the road and the school is responsible for plowing and de-icing the sidewalk. The Selectboard will invite the School Board to discuss at next possible meeting however general consensus that the sidewalk needs winter maintenance regardless of who is responsible.

Road Commissioner Report: Bill inquires if letters have been sent to Brown Road residents about discontinuing regarding plowing due to Class IV status. Carl measured and does not think the distance measurements on the map make sense. Jim Webber moves to continue to maintain Brown Road through this winter and notify land owner as of 04/15/2013 plowing will be discontinued. S. Moyer 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Moyer Acres – Bob Parker spoke with Margaret Fowler who requested that no plowing occur on Moyer Acres however it is a Class III road receiving state aid and needs to be maintained

Duties/Responsibilities for highway employees – Bill would like to see job descriptions/capabilities required for road crew positions. Bill will research if there are other towns with descriptions which could be reviewed/leveraged.

Winter Road policy. Bill provides updated Winter Road policy.

Emergency Response – Bill would like to establish better communication lines between first response/police in case certain roads need attention in emergency situations. Bill had received a call from state police regarding road conditions on Coy Hill during an emergency and did not receive until after the road was sanded. Bill will speak with Tara; Carl will check on frequencies for radios/availability.

Trucking price for grader – Markowski \$113/hour. Tom Pritchards \$250 each way. Jack Bowen – hasn't returned call. Carl suggests Ray Duquette. Bill will get the lowest price and ensure insurance coverage.

Signs for turn-arounds on dead end roads. Bill will find signs.

Health Insurance – M. Lamson spoke with Vermont Health Connect regarding health coverage and Tom Donahue, Rutland Chamber of Commerce, who is a navigator for VHC. Tom is willing to meet with the board to present health care options so that we can make an informed decision.

Jim moves to dissolve providing insurance for town employees. No second, motion lost.

Terry Redfield moves to hold a Special Meeting 12/16 from 6-8 to meet with Tom Donahue (Vermont Health Connect Navi-

gator) and discuss FY15 budget. M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Solid Waste: Kevin Camara is working on the Transfer Station plan and should deliver by 12/17. This will be added to the 12/23 Special Meeting

Carl spoke with Bill Lyle who can make a metal post for the gates. Bill suggests setting the gates at least a foot off the ground and adding a wheel support.

Correspondence: Service Request Form – Robert Parker – requests evaluation results. The Selectboard will take up the matter after next week's insurance meeting.

Letter from Bob Zorn

County of Rutland – Rutland County Tax - proposed county rate .00679/grand list

VLCT - Unemployment Insurance Trust annual renewal assessment and breakdown

Letter from Weber Chapman & Kupferer – notice regarding material sent to Town's insurance carrier.

Financials/Board Orders: T. Redfield moves to approve the financial board orders as presented. M. Lamson 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried]

Legal – Tax Sales: Carl Haynes moves to enter executive session to discuss legal matter. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Enter in Executive Session 9:47. T. Redfield moves to exit executive session. J. Webber 2nd. [all in favor, motion carried] Exit Executive Session 10:06. C. Haynes will contact town counsel to draft letter regarding no negotiation regarding tax sales to be signed next meeting.

Other Business: None

Adjourn: M. Lamson moves to adjourn, T. Redfield 2nd. Meeting adjourned 10:07 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk



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Select Board Special Meeting December 19, 2013 Approved



CALL TO ORDER: C. Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Jim Webber, Shirley Moyer, Mike Lamson, Carl Haynes

PUBLIC PRESENT: Tom Donahue, Arrive 7:30: Chris Smid, Clarence Haynes, Meredith Morgan, Karen Mack, Robin Chestnut-Tangerman

Health Care: Tom Donahue of Rutland Chamber of Commerce attends as Navigator for Vermont Health Connect. He has helped Proctor, N. Clarendon, and Killington.

Businesses/municipalities – policies automatically renew until April 1, can sign up any time. Recommending registering 60 days ahead of anticipated start date.

9 BCBS and 9 MVP plans available (6 each are standard plans, 6 are “wellness” plans)

High deductible plans generally used with HSA plans (businesses/municipalities who want to still help employees but can't afford health care typically due to those employees who previously were considered part time and are now full time (30 hours minimum). Our 2 “part-time” employees will now be considered as full time.

BCBS has tool on Website to compare current plan with future plan

Can pick BCBS, MVP or “open menu” which would allow employee to choose.

Question as to if a municipality could offer a lesser percentage to employees than 100% which we offer now. Tom states that if there are no preexisting labor agreements it is up to the municipality – but recommends legal opinion.

Carl inquires if there is a penalty/assessment if a municipality does not offer insurance. There is no penalty (assessment) if there is less than 4 employees.

J. Webber inquires if we decide to stop offering insurance will the employees be eligible for subsidy based on their income. Tom states if employee is under modified adjusted gross income threshold they are eligible for subsidy.

Potential for some employees, depending on income, to receive premium assistance in addition to advanced tax credit

Tom is willing to meet with eligible town employees to determine if/amount of subsidy. Documentation needed – W2s, pay stubs (from any job), social security numbers for everyone in family, birth dates.

HSA plan – employer contributes up to \$3,300 per individual, and \$6,550 per family. Money is tax free and can be used

by employee to pay any health cost except premium. Money rolls over annually and can be taken by employee. Has to be a high deductible (silver or bronze) plan

If employer offers a percentage of plan cost, employee percent is pre-tax.

Budget: None

School Board/Sidewalk Maintenance: School Board attends and calls their meeting to order 7:37.

Clarence cites the 7/14/11 minutes submitted which discuss the town maintaining the sidewalk. M. Lamson believes that the school had committed to maintaining the sidewalk however it is a matter of semantics and it needs to be completed regardless.

J. Webber moves that the town assume responsibility for maintaining the sidewalk on Schoolhouse Hill Road. C. Haynes 2nd. S. Moyer feels that the town did not agree to maintain the sidewalk per the Aug. 22, 2013 School Board minutes and this should be clarified. [S. Moyer – aye, J. Webber – aye, C. Haynes – aye, T. Redfield – nay, M. Lamson – aye, motion carried] Clarence Haynes states that the School Board will assume responsibility for sanding/salting the sidewalk and that they will clarify Aug. 22, 2013 minutes.

Clarence inquires on behalf of the School Board if Town Meeting could be held at the school in the multipurpose room instead of the firehouse. Cite benefits such as no fumes as in the firehouse, better heating, setting up booths earlier.

Discussion of maintaining the sidewalk, purchasing equipment vs. contracting snowplowing.

Adjourn: M. Lamson moves to adjourn, J. Webber 2nd. Meeting adjourned 8:26 pm.

Mike Lamson, Clerk



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Planning Commission November 4, 2013



Members Present: John Arsenault, Tom Hurcomb and Maureen McCormack

Public Comments: None

Call to Order: 7:18PM

Agenda Approval: Approval given

1) Approval of October minutes: Tom moved acceptance and John gave a second. Motion Passed.

2) Correspondence: Received a post card from Vermont Natural Resources Commission (VNRC) inviting us to a meeting in Brandon on preserving our forests. Also from VNRC a letter telling about their publication that is available as a resource; also from Vermont League of Cities and Towns a fall forum on planning and zoning to be held on Nov. 19.

3) Old Business:

a. Village Center Designation: Our next action is to forward our application for Village Center Designation and completed map to the state. John will do that.

b. Economic Development: We continued our discussion on the ideas brought up at last month's meeting with plans to go forward. Maureen will continue to work on the list of independent entrepreneurs in town.

4) Building Committee: Tom and Maureen briefly reviewed the recent business of the committee.

5) RRPC: Tom emailed Kris Hughes from Rutland Regional Planning Commission a thank you for coming to meet with us, and gave him an update on our meeting with some local artisans.

Tom reported on some of the business of the full RRPC board on conducting public meetings.

6) New Business: John will warn our December meeting change to December 9.

Next meeting: December 9, 2013

Adjourn: 8 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McCormack, Secretary

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Building Committee December 4, 2013 - Approved Minutes

Present: David Munyak, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Patty McWilliams, Maureen McCormack, Nora Rubinstein, Patty Kenyon, Kimberly Mathewson, Tom Hurcomb, and Michael Beattie.

Call to Order: D Munyak called the meeting to order at 7:12pm.

I. Minutes:

A. Approval of 11/21/13 Minutes: P McWilliams moved to approve the minutes of 11/21/2013 as presented. N Rubinstein seconded and the motion carried.

II. Public Comments: None

III. Community Support

IV. Visioning Meeting Recap: K Mathewson thanked the committee for their help and support before during and after the visioning session. She also reported that the session went really well. We had 16 participants who stayed through the entire day. The process worked, the participants were engaged and thoughtful and the results of their work have been mailed to each participant with a letter from the Building Committee Chair thanking them for taking part. The facilitators fielded questions from the committee about the process, their impressions of the day, and the resulting 22 statements. The next step for the committee is to take these statements and perform an affinity grouping with them in order to consolidate ideas and capture commonalities to create a shorter list of bullet points. The committee will then share these points along with the original statements and processes that generated them at a town wide informational meeting. At that time we'll take feedback on the results as well as ask folks to weigh in on things they think we are missing or should be looking at as we continue to move ahead.

V. Public WiFi Initiative: D Munyak reported that he, P Kenyon, N Rubinstein, M McCormack and Robert Gould, President of the Historical Society's board, attended the last Select Board meeting to talk about the WiFi Initiative. The Select Board has sent the lease agreement addendum to their lawyer and their insurance company for review. The board re-iterated that they are in full support of the public WiFi hot spot but that they were uncomfortable with some of the language in the addendum. Therefore, they will not sign the addendum until they get feedback from their lawyer and insurance company. Robert Gould explained the Historical Society's intent in creating the addendum and indicated that he would be happy to rework the language of the addendum based on the input from the insurance company and the town's lawyer. It is hoped that these things might happen at the next

continued on page 11...

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continued from page 10...

Select Board meeting. Building Committee members are urged to attend the next Select Board meeting on December 12 to provide support for this initiative and to ensure that this item is not lost or forgotten.

VI. Project Scheduling:

A. Building Removal: D Muniyak reported that he had been in touch with the EPA regarding the bid process for the building removal and learned that the process needs to be done through an open public bid. The RFP notice has been sent to the Rutland Herald, the pre-bid conference is scheduled for 12/16, the bids are due by 12/23 and the projected project start date is now 1/6/2014.

VII. Building & Site Design:

A. Town Office Programming: M Beattie met with Laura and reported that he had a productive conversation and things are moving forward on that front.

B. Library Programming: K Mathewson reported that the Library Board met earlier in the day, they have renewed their commitment to her as a librarian and continue to be committed to expanding and improving library services for Middletown Springs.

C. Well: M Beattie reported that he had a positive conversation with Jerry Parker about possible help with drilling a well. But that drilling the well is still in the distant future because the building and foundation need to be removed before any well work can be started.

VIII. Funding

A. SWCRPC Grant Closeout: D Muniyak reported that this process finally appears to be complete.

B. ACCD Grant:

1. Required Items for ACCD Grant: D Muniyak reported that the Select Board is working on the list of required items to complete this grant process. He is hoping that the items will be assembled and ready to submit after the next Select Board meeting on 12/12.

IX. Sub-Committee Tasks:

A. Public Relations: D Muniyak asked if anyone had considered stepping up to the plate to help with PR, writing press releases and articles and getting them distributed. T Hurcomb and P McWilliams agreed to work on this together. D Muniyak and P Kenyon offered to help with writing support.

X. Other Business: P Kenyon reported on a phone call she received from Todd Nebraska of Breadloaf Construction. His wife works at the elementary school and so he heard about our visioning session and wanted to put his name in for consideration

in the capacity of construction management when we are ready. P Kenyon gave Todd's contact information to D Muniyak for future reference.

P Kenyon then brought up the need for the Building Committee to think about Town Meeting and any requests for funds that we'd like to add to the 2014 ballot or budget. The committee discussed how best to approach this and agreed that we have lots of work to do before Town Meeting and should devote some time to this subject at the next committee meeting. The goals will be to determine the amount to ask for, to set a town wide informational meeting date and plan, and to begin planning for a town meeting food sale and information event similar to last year. The committee also discussed the need to submit an official report from the committee for inclusion in the 2013 Town Report.

Adjourn: M Beattie moved to adjourn at 9:16pm, N Rubinstein seconded, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting date is Thursday, December 19 at 7pm to be held at the Historical Society Dining Room or the Library depending on availability and weather conditions.

Respectfully submitted by,
Patty Kenyon, Building Committee Clerk



Community Church News

We are in the depths of winter, but the days are getting longer! This is the time of year that the Community Church Sunday worship service is followed by a bountiful potluck of soups, breads and other delectables - a great opportunity to hang out and get to know each other better.

The New Year starts off with a new sermon series from the very beginnings of the Bible, the book of Genesis. Not only does this book tell us about creation and the exploits of some of the Bible's most famous figures, it also relates what God plans for the future of people and the world we live in. And there in the Bible's first book, Jesus stands between the lines, telling us about himself and the good news of salvation from the shadows of every page.

Did you know that the Community Church puts all of Pastor Jared's sermons on its website? You can listen to current and past sermons at www.middletownchurch.org. Click on 'Audio' at the top of the page. And you can always listen live at 10 am, any Sunday morning - the new church pews are really comfy.

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School Directors Regular Meeting December 12, 2013 - UnOfficial

Present: Clarence Haynes (Chair), Meredith Morgan (Vice-Chair), Christopher Smid (Member). **Also Present:** Joan Paustian (Superintendent), Louis Milazzo (Business Mgr.), Rick Beal (Principal), Susan Rosso (Recording Secretary).

1. Call to Order: Clarence Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

2. Presentation: None.

3. Consent Agenda: Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2013 (regular), November 25, 2013 (special)

Chris Smid moved to approve the minutes of November 14 and November 25, 2013, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent's Report: A School Nurse has been hired to replace Terri Nebraska who has resigned. The new nurse has a BS and an MS in Nursing and is an RN, so she can also work as a health educator for students. She will be shadowing Mrs. Nebraska one day next week and will start working after the December break. This is an SU position shared between Middletown, Tinmouth, and Wells. The Tinmouth SU Switch Study has been completed. The study results will be shared with the boards in January. Then, each individual school board and the SU board will vote on the proposed move of Tinmouth to another SU. If the vote is no, a reason must be given. Due to a new contract being settled, support staff members received a letter informing them of the amount of their retroactive pay from 2012-2013 and the beginning of 2013-2014. They have received this retroactive pay. Due to a new state labor law, pay for hourly employees can no longer be spread equally over 26 weeks, but must reflect actual hours worked in the past fourteen days. The Business Office will work with the Association to try to mitigate the effect of the change by allowing support staff members to set aside some of their pay to be held by the district and distributed back to the employee over the summer. Teacher negotiations will take place on Dec. 18 from 3:30-5:30PM. The boards have offered to move their board meetings around to make more negotiations meetings possible. As a result, the March 13 meeting has been moved to March 6. Two board seats are up this March. Chris Smid asked a question about 504 vs. special education. 504 relates to the American Disabilities Act. Special education is federally and state mandated; while Section 504 states that we must provide eligible students access to a school's regular curriculum and programs.

Principal's Report: Mr. Beal shared that staff recently received Collins Writing training over two days; divided by grade levels (K-2 and 3-6). It's a great program and the staff is excited

about it. The trainer will be at MSES on Dec. 13 to model lessons and debrief with teachers. Grades 3-6 teachers also received training in fractions (OGAP) with Jean Ward. Fraction understanding is critical to math performance. Laurie Silver specializes in K-2 math/fractions training. Mr. Beal is working to set up training with her for the K-2 teachers. We received \$10,000 in a Farm to School grant and will be having a community luncheon next week to celebrate. 3rd-6th grade students went to the VT International Festival at the Champlain Valley Expo Center on Dec. 6. It was a good opportunity to experience crafts and foods from different cultures and the students had some great comments. Approximately forty students in grades 1-6 have signed up for the Pico ski/snowboard program. We will have around ten students who will stay at the school for on-site snow shoeing and cross country skiing. The annual Winter Concert will take place on Wednesday Dec. 18 at 6:30PM. The Action Plan was distributed in the packet and is really a continuation of last year's plan. There is still work to be done on the goals that have been set. The Board will review the Action Plan and revisit it at next month's meeting for possible approval. Mr. Beal and Mr. Milazzo have been looking over the budget to find ways to reduce the projected deficit of \$70,000 (due to unexpected increases in secondary tuition costs; in both regular and special education).

Business Manager's Report: Financial Statements - Financial statements are included in the packet. Mr. Milazzo and Mr. Beal reviewed the current year's budget with an eye on areas where they could find savings without making serious cuts to programs or personnel. This will continue in an effort to finish the year without a deficit. Some building projects and technology items/improvements will need to wait until next year. Mr. Milazzo explained the state funding system regarding the equalized pupil count and announced/allowable tuition rates. A new rule caps tuition increases at 10%; this takes place beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.

Meredith Morgan moved that Middletown Springs District bill-back for tuition students attending MSES at the allowable tuition rate. Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0.

Meredith Morgan moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0.

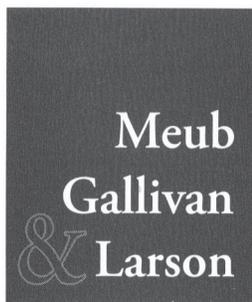
4. Approve Warrants: a. Warrant #172 in the amount of \$209,389.63 dated 11/06/13

b. Warrant #173 in the amount of \$32,133.90 dated 11/20/13
Chris Smid moved to approve Warrant #172 in the amount of \$209,389.63 dated 11/06/13 and Warrant #173 in the amount of \$32,133.90 dated 11/20/13, Meredith Morgan seconded; motion carried 3-0.

5. General Public Comments: None.

6. Old Business: a. FY15 Budget: Since the last meeting, Mr. Milazzo and Mr. Beal looked at next year's budget to find ways to reduce costs. They found a few areas where they could make

continued on page 13...



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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.

continued from page 12...

reductions. Mr. Milazzo has gotten some revenue info on the small schools grant, the block grant, the EEE grant, etc. Mr. Milazzo handed out the tax rate sheet and explained how to interpret the data. The state tax rate is estimated to increase from .94 to .99. Last year, the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) increased—this helped lower the tax rate. We do not yet know what the CLA for the town of Middletown Springs will be for this year. This information should be available soon. The 10% federal sequestration cuts still negatively affect Federal/Title I funds available to our school. The board will need to schedule additional meetings to brainstorm ways to get budget information to community members.

Clarence Haynes moved to adopt the proposed budget for 2014-2015 at \$2,280,679.34, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0.

b. Sign Water Project Forms: The loan documents are available for signature.

Meredith Morgan moved to have the Board approve the loan documents and sign them, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0. Loan documents were signed by board members.

c. Action Plan: By consensus, this item will be tabled until the next board meeting.

7. New Business: a. Approve Announced Tuition FY15: The Board discussed setting the tuition rate for MSES for 2014-2015. The current announced tuition rate is \$14,000; the allowable rate is \$14,201. Mr. Milazzo recommends that tuition remain at \$14,000.

Clarence Haynes moves that we set the announced tuition rate for next year at \$14,000, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0.

b. Discuss Warning for March Vote: The Board discussed the scheduling of town meeting and voting. Town meeting will take place on March 3 with voting on March 4. The warning must be signed between January 23 and February 1. The School District Treasurer will be elected for three years; not one year. We want to have the District Treasurer's term run concurrently with the terms of the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer.

c. Budget Strategies and Communication: Budget/Communication Committee will meet at 5:00PM on January 9; immediately before the next School Board Meeting (6:00PM).

d. Review After School Program enrollment and costs
By consensus, this item will be tabled until the next meeting when more information will be available.

e. Clarence Haynes shared information from recent VSBA Meetings: Mr. Haynes asked if board members prefer receiving a paper copy of "The Board Room," a publication from the VT School Boards Association (VSBA) or if they like to access it online. The consensus is that the online version is hard to read; the formatting could be improved. If it were more user-friendly, more board members would refer to it. He spoke about S-91; a bill to change how independent schools would be able to bill

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districts for 504 and special education services. They would not be able to bill at a flat rate per student; instead they would be required to bill for actual costs incurred. There is a movement in Vermont (and other states) that all employees should be entitled to paid sick leave from their employers. This would affect businesses of all sizes and all categories of employees. If board members would like to express an opinion on this issue, they should contact their legislators. Clarence Haynes was offered an opportunity to meet with the Chairman of the VT Finance Committee to talk about concerns of local school boards on Monday, Dec. 16 in Rutland. He asked if board members had any specific questions they would like him to ask. Mr. Smid said his concern is the complexity of the school funding system. It is very complicated and convoluted and extremely difficult to explain and to understand. He also talked about the real drivers of increasing costs; many of which cannot be controlled at the local level.

8. Policies: None.

9. Action on Personnel Contract: None.

10. Set Next Board Meeting & Agenda Building: Next Board Meeting set for January 9, 2014 at 6:00PM at MSES.

11. Executive Session 1 VSA § 313 (1-9) (a) (b): None.

12. Other Lawful Business: a. School Sidewalk Maintenance: The board discussed winter maintenance of the sidewalk and the responsibility for this. Temporarily, Mr. Beal has ordered some approved liquid ice melt product since salt cannot be used on the new sidewalk.

13. Adjournment: Meredith Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59PM, Chris Smid seconded; motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Rosso, Recording Secretary



To the Lola Sommers Family
Our Best to all our
Florida Family for a very
Happy & Healthy
New Year!
From the Marcy Family



Legislative Update

Rep John Malcolm

The Vermont Legislature will start the second year of its two-year session in early January. New bills are being introduced in both the Senate and the House and bills from 2013 are carried over and still active. The Legislative website, www.leg.state.vt.us, is available for anyone to access the text and status of bills as well as other information and reports from summer study hearings and commissions on a variety of topics.

The Legislature this year is again facing increased state budget pressures as Federal funding decreases, along with increases in Medicaid costs and the need for increased pension funding. State revenue for this fiscal year has been close to forecasts until November 2013 and a good early ski season and gains in the stock market bode well for later month's receipts. Adjustments to this year's budget will need to address unexpected costs at the Vermont Veterans Home, increased level of prison detainees, mental health costs and emergency housing.

I serve on the House Natural Resources and Energy committee and our early concerns will include the very successful renewable energy net metering program that in some local electrical service areas of the state has hit statutory caps and not allowed more installations. Thermal efficiency, home weatherization and funding Low Income Heating Assistance(LIHEAP) are also topics we will address as well as issues with solid waste and expanded recycling.

Please contact me with your concerns, questions, and ideas at JMalcolm@leg.state.vt.us, 325-3424(Home), 800 322-5616(State House), and 1822 Rupert Mountain Road, Pawlet, VT05761. Thank You! Rep John Malcolm

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The Gables – Residents only 3:15 pm

Thursday 1/16/14 - Maple Village 10:00 am

Monday 1/20/14 - The Meadows- SCU 10:30 am

Wednesday 1/29/14

Godnick Center 12:30 pm
N Clarendon Cmmnty Cntr 12:30pm

We also offer Cholesterol Screenings for \$30 every month. Clinics held at the Rutland Office are the 1st Monday - call 775-0568 for an appointment.

Clinics held at the Dorset Office are the 3rd Wednesday - call for an appointment.

Winter Grief Support Group

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) will be conducting a six session support group and educational program for those who have lost a loved one. This support group is free and open to the public. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences of loss, as well as gain an understanding of the process of grief and its impact on life emotionally, socially, physically, and spiritually. The group will meet from noon to 1:30 p.m. on January 16 and 30, February 13 and 27, and March 13 and 27, 2014 at RAVNAH, 7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland. To register, please call Ann LaRocque, at 802-770-1516.

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Tinmouth Contra Dance Friday, January 17 at 8:00 Tinmouth Community Center



Come to an exuberant contra dance with Alden Robinson on fiddle, Brendan Taaffe on guitar and with Rebecca Lay calling at the Tinmouth Community Center on January 17 from 8 – 11 pm. Special “First-Timer” deal –if you have never been to a Tinmouth Contra Dance, the cost is reduced to \$5! Please tell us that you are a first timer when you are paying your admission.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center, generally on the third Friday of the month. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$9, \$7 for teens and free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be available. Mark your calendars for our third Friday series: February 21, March 21, April 18 and May 16.

New Beginning Yoga Class

**Mondays at 9:00 AM
starting January 20th**

Contact Leslie Silver

@235-2335

No experience necessary.

Get the year off to a good start!



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Calendar

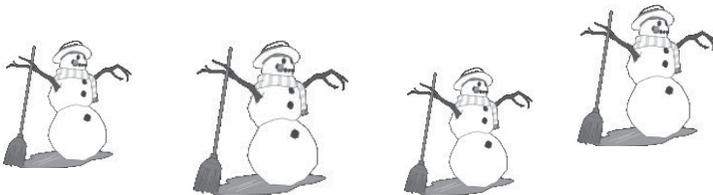
January

Building Committee	Thurs. 16	7 pm	Town Office
Fire Dept. Training	Tues. 21	6:30 pm	Fire House
Friends of the Library	Tues. 21	7 pm	Library
Deadline for Ballot Petitions	Thurs. 23	5 pm	Town Office
Select Board Meeting	Thurs. 23	7 pm	Town Office
Deadline to run for Office	Fri. 24	5 pm	Town Office
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Sat. 25	8 am	School
Story Hour	Sat. 25	10 am	Library
Conservation Commission	Mon. 27	7 pm	Library
Fire Dept. Meeting	Tues. 28	7:30 pm	Firehouse

February

Planning Commission	Mon. 3	7:30 pm	Town Office
Library Trustees Meeting	Wed. 5	10:30 am	Library
Building Committee	Wed. 5	7 pm	Town Office
First Response Meeting	Thurs. 6	6:30 pm	Fire House
MSHS Trustees Meeting	Thurs. 6	7:30 pm	Hist. Society Bldg.
Energy Committee	Mon. 10	7 pm	Town Office
School Board Meeting	Thurs. 13	6 pm	School
Select Board Meeting	Thurs. 13	7 pm	Town Office

*Calendar Events – subject to change.
When in doubt, please check with the organization for details.*



Messages to The Magnet:

Mailing Address: *The Magnet*, PO Box 1134,
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

Deadline for Copy: 1st of every month

Deadline for Ads: 1st of every month

For ad info call Pat Hemenway @ 235-2421
or email middletownnews@yahoogroups.com

Ad Prices:

Business Card - \$6.00
Double Business Card - \$12.00
Classified Ad up to 20 words - \$2.00
10 cents per word after 20 words.

**Items to Give Away, Trade, or Recycle
are listed for FREE!**

ALL Messages to *The Magnet*: Articles, news,
items of interest, ad copy, good quotes and
such should be directed to the above address or
emailed to middletownnews@yahoogroups.com

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