

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Thursday, December 27, 2018
Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Fenton, C. Haynes, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

TOWN OFFICERS: Sarah Grimm, Auditor

PUBLIC AND GUESTS: None

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:04 p.m. for budget preparation, 7:00 for regular business

Budget Preparation: we spent the hour focused mostly on the Highway budget.

Minutes: T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the December 13 meeting; P. Kenyon 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. P. Kenyon moved to approve the minutes of the December 20 meeting; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Town Officers: The auditors have met with the Town Clerk in preparation for the audit.

Beth Miller has volunteered to serve the remainder of this service year as a Trustee of Public Monies. H. Childress moved to ask Beth Miller to serve the remainder of Patty McWilliams' term; C. Haynes noted that we have not received a formal resignation, nor have we posted for interest for that position; [*motion failed for lack of a second*]. The 2018 town report shows that Patty McWilliams isn't a trustee, and Beth Miller already is a trustee, so we needn't take any action.

Upon further investigation, we discovered that Patty McWilliams was indeed elected as a trustee last year, so we do need her to resign, and to post the position.

Highway: The mud and frozen roads have been tough to keep up with, and the warm temperatures this weekend won't help. We have stone delivered to a few sites around town that are likely to need mud recovery in warm weather.

We will receive a quote from Pike Paving for the various components of the possible VT 140 work next year.

The loader has a blown tire; Bill has ordered four new tires from Pete's. T. Redfield moved to accept the quoted price for the tires from Pete's; C. Haynes 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]. He'll also be replacing the two front tires on the 7600. He will develop an itemized list of repairs needed before the 7600's next inspection.

Town Lands: The building committee will be working on scheduling for a spring bond vote, and beginning the process of information collection that we need for each of the proposed projects. We still haven't received information from the fire company about their project; the annual meeting of the fire association is January 9th, and that's when we'll need to press for solid answers.

We are considering holding a special Town Meeting on Tuesday May 21 to ask the voters for construction funding; in order to have a project be part of that request, the Selectboard will need to have a certain array of information on hand for each project by February 28, or that project will not be included in the bundled funding request. This is not a firm plan yet, but we'll continue to work through the planning for a vote in the next few weeks.

Correspondence:

- One proposal from Sullivan, Powers & Co. to perform the financial audit (see Other Business for discussion)
- Notice from Fothergill Segale & Valley CPAs that they would not be bidding on the audit
- another scam billing from PV Business Solutions
- Bill from Paul Giuliani for bond election phone conference and materials
- Bill from VLCT for attendance at a training of some sort
- December 2018 VLCT News
- 2018 report and 2019 request from Neighborworks of Western VT (\$400)
- Notice of public hearing regarding Rutland County budget, Thursday 1/19 at noon, Rutland County Courthouse
- VT Dept of Taxes notification of 2018 Equalization Study: CLA 100.98%, COD 8.35%
- Bill from Long Trail Engineering originally submitted in February 2017 that just arrived in the Treasurer's folder this week
- Comcast community outreach notice

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

Other Business: We received one proposal for an audit in response to our distributed RFP, from Sullivan Powers & Co. of Montpelier, for a projected cost of \$24,000. C. Haynes moved to contract with Sullivan Powers to conduct the audit for a fee up to the proposed ceiling; H. Childress 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. C. Haynes proposed that half of the audit fee be paid from the highway reserve fund; after discussion, C. Haynes rescinded his motion, and C. Fenton will contact VLCT to see whether the highway reserve can legally be used for this purpose.

Town Meeting 2019 will be Monday March 4 and Tuesday March 5, 2019. All petitions for items to be on the ballot must be received by Thursday, January 17; candidates for public office must declare their candidacy by Monday, January 28. The voter checklist and warning must be posted by February 3. The Town Report must be distributed by Saturday, February 23.

We'll have another budget meeting at 6pm on January 3.

Adjourn: H. Childress moved to adjourn; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].
Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk