

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Thursday, February 14, 2019
Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

BOARD PRESENT: H. Childress, C. Haynes (8:00 pm), P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

TOWN OFFICERS: Kimberly Bushnell, Moderator; Sarah Grimm, Auditor; Bill Reed, Road Foreman

PUBLIC AND GUESTS:

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

Happy Valentine's Day to all of those who had to skip it to come to a board meeting...

Minutes: P. Kenyon moved to approve the minutes of the January 24 regular meeting and January 31 special meeting; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Town Officers: Moderator Kimberly Bushnell came to discuss Town Meeting of March 4; we discussed ballot items that are likely to have questions, the role of the building projects in the general budget, the batching of discussion on the non-profit request articles, and the ability to have conversations about school issues even though the Wells Springs school district is having their warned meeting on February 27th.

Laura has ordered ballots, which should be arriving early next week.

Highway: Every possible form of winter weather known to humankind has happened in Vermont this year, and it's stretching the equipment and the crew's time to the limit. We've replenished the sand pile, and almost by accident got some better material than normal; Chet McLellan added some crushed rock to the mix, and it's held up very well.

The one-ton has received significant brake and wheel work, and is back in service. The 7600 will go in to Earle's for brake work and an exhaust leak.

When Winmill has their used grader finished with service, Bill will try to lease it for a trial period.

Brent has been an invaluable member of the team this winter, able to make good independent decisions in Bill's absence. We're grateful to have him.

Town Lands: We discussed the lease of the firehouse with Gary Kupferer, whose opinion is that it is a Town-owned facility that we can revamp or replace at our discretion. He also believes that the lease should be re-written, and that the lease period should be shorter so that the fire company and town can regularly agree on needs and terms. In addition, he indicated that a number of volunteer fire associations have written contracts with the towns they serve, and he recommended that we investigate doing the same.

Solid Waste: The Town has reported its expenses and receipts for solid waste to SWAC.

Glen continues to report issues with the recycling compactor motor in cold weather, but it has been working sufficiently for operation.

Correspondence:

- Notice of dues for RRPC set at \$975 for Fiscal Year 2020
- Copy of Town's signed and approved 2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage from VT Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development
- Copy of letter sent to riverside property owners by Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District, encouraging riverside planting for erosion control
- Fleet permit request from Cardinal Logistics, with \$10 payment. H. Childress moved to grant the fleet permit to Cardinal Logistics; P. Kenyon 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]
- Fleet permit request from Duquette Forestry Transportation, with \$10 payment. H. Childress moved to grant the fleet permit to Duquette Forestry Transportation; P. Kenyon 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]
- Survey from VT Rural Fire Protection Program
- Request for funding pinwheels at \$1 per for a commemorative display in Montpelier on April 2nd, by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont
- VLCT News
- Ads

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

Legal: The audit self-study has been completed, and has been provided to Sullivan & Powers, the audit accounting firm. They will schedule a site visit in early to mid March, and then will produce their findings by April 19.

Executive Session: T. Redfield moved that we enter executive session, inviting Bill Reed to join that session; H. Childress 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Executive session begun 8:45 pm.

T. Redfield moved to close executive session, P. Kenyon; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Regular session was rejoined at 9:12 pm. Bill apologized to the Board for conduct outside the professional expectations of our personnel policy in his interactions with a citizen. H. Childress will draft a letter for personnel records that will be reviewed by the whole Board at its February 28th meeting.

Adjourn: H. Childress moved to adjourn; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk