

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Thursday, July 12, 2018
Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

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

TOWN OFFICERS: Laura Castle, Town Clerk; Bill Reed, Road Foreman

PUBLIC AND GUESTS: Ed Cleveland

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:01 p.m.

Minutes: T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the June 28 meeting; P. Kenyon [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Public Comment: Ed Cleveland from Pawlet, the Republican candidate for state representative, stopped in to introduce himself.

Town Officers: Town Clerk Laura Castle is beginning preparations for the August 14 election. We will order two new voting station assemblies for use in August and beyond.

The Board of Civil Authority will need to meet to hear a tax assessment grievance; we will hold that meeting at 6pm on Thursday, July 26, in advance of our next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting.

Highway: We have received the paperwork from Contech for the Spruce Knob culvert manufacturing; Board Chair Fenton signed the purchase request form. Ashley Waite has requested a formal contract for the Norton Road job; we will request the Treasurer to look for the last contract to use as a template.

The VTEL technician has been on site to look at fiber optic placement, but their work was incorrect and project excavation broke the fiber optic line today. VTEL arrived to install a temporary cable at the top, and is accepting Bill's recommendation to install two pedestals as future distribution points.

Liftech conducted the 500-hour service on the backhoe today. They found nothing surprising; the maintenance was all warranty-eligible.

Town Lands: Building Committee didn't have a full quorum last meeting, so they held a working session to discuss fundraising planning. Michael Beattie is working with an elevator contractor to get pricing, specifications and regulations.

We've received a request to limit postings at the town property at the corner. We will remind townspeople that there is no posting of any kind at the town property. We will complete a service request form.

Solid Waste: Pam Clapp has asked who our vendor was for refrigerant removal (Mid-State Appliance, Clarendon).

Correspondence:

- First invoice from Ashley Waite, for Norton Road mobilization fee: \$12,500, forwarded to Treasurer.
- Ad for employment solicitation service related to road crew; junk mail.
- Copy of the contract from Sheriff's Department
- Thank you letter for annual donation to Mentor Connector
- Campaign material from Bernie Sanders
- VT Department of Taxes announcement of new tax rates:
 - Homestead, \$1.3592
 - Non-residential, \$1.4593
- Letter from Pepper & Cynthia Clayton re: request for action related to bear control. We will complete a service request form.
- Innovative Service Solutions ad for dust control service; forwarded to Road Foreman
- Note from VT Emergency Management inviting town officials to the State's Emergency Preparedness conference.
- Employment application for road crew

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

Legal: We are nearing the end of the 30-day period for comment and petition in response to the Town's proposed sale of the school property to the new Wells Springs school district. Any comments must be received by the end of business on Friday, July 20.

Other Business: The Board received a letter from Delinquent Tax Collector Laura Castle, resigning as the Town's Delinquent Tax Collector, effective today. The Board accepted her resignation, and will appoint someone to serve until Town Meeting in March 2019.

Financial Review: The Board received a financial reconciliation, and will have a full 2017-18 end-of-year report from the Treasurer at our July 26 meeting.

C. Fenton moved to enter executive session; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Executive session begun at 9:00 pm.

H. Childress moved to exit executive session; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Regular session rejoined 9:47 pm, with no action taken.

Adjourn: H. Childress moved to adjourn; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk