

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Thursday, March 28, 2019
Regular Meeting Approved Minutes

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

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

PUBLIC AND GUESTS: Karen Svenningson, North Street

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:03 p.m. by vice chair T. Redfield

Saw a cardinal! We're gonna make it to spring!

Minutes: P. Kenyon moved to approve the minutes of the March 14 meeting; T. Redfield 2nd; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Public: Karen Svenningson asked if we can re-vote the allocation for the sheriff's department. She feels that the money would be better spent on highway maintenance. We had a conversation about the most appropriate uses of Sheriff's time and functions. A representative of the Sheriff's department will be at the April 11th meeting, and the public is welcome to attend.

Town Officers: We had our rabies clinic for the year last Saturday. Laura is developing a list of registered dogs so that we can reach out to owners of known but non-registered animals.

The financial audit continues, with a second visit coming in a week or so. The Library will be included in the audit, as will the Copeland Milk, Copeland Cemetery, Louis, Henderson, and Mathews/Bigelow funds. The audit firm anticipates an on-time report.

Highway: A small amount of spilled diesel fuel has been cleaned from the containment vessel around the fuel tank. That containment device should be replaced, and Bill has been working with Lyle Welding to get a design; the quoted price is \$1400. T. Redfield moved to contract with Bill Lyle to fabricate a fuel storage containment; H. Childress 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]

The rock rake is worn to unusability, and needs about \$2000 in repairs. We might be able to lower the carriage, which would be a lower cost because it wouldn't require new teeth. We may be able to barter old backhoe buckets for a further reduction in cost.

Bill and Brent have investigated bulk purchases of motor oils, diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), transmission fluids and so on. The cost savings would be substantial, and would cut down on waste of smaller containers that are not easily disposable.

The worst of mud season is now behind us. Bill and Brent have worked on an inventory of needed road rebuilding. He has a plan for doing one lane at a time to dig out down to

base, fill with slate rubble and coarse material, road fabric, and topcoat gravel. His prioritizations are for sections of Spruce Knob, North Street, and Dudley Road. Bill is also working on grant funding for a significant reconstruction of sections of Daisy Hollow Road.

We're starting to get quotes for the replacement of the one-ton, with a goal of having the new vehicle before winter 2019.

The grader has taken a huge amount of use this year, and it's likely to need to be replaced this year as well. The board will examine financing options that might allow us to replace both the grader and the one-ton this year without depleting our reserve fund.

Town Lands: the Building Committee has received a new proposed consulting contract with CPG for the fundraising feasibility study, and recommends Selectboard approval. H. Childress moved that the Selectboard approve the proposed consulting contract with CPG for the fundraising feasibility study; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*].

We received the formal approval of our West Street study grant, and will review and vote on the RFP for engineering services at our 4/11 meeting.

Solid Waste:

Correspondence:

- RRPC comment perio on VTRANS updates for road & bridge standards
- VT AOT notice of VT133 speed limit change
- VT State Police contact list
- BROCC appropriation confirmation
- Invoice from Sullivan Powers & Co.
- Insurance certification for Hutch Crane & Pump
- Three fleet overweight permit applications: for United Natural Foods, Champlain Valley Plumbing & Heating, and Camp Precast Concrete. T. Redfield moved to approve all three overweight fleet applications; P. Kenyon 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*]

Animal Control Officer T. Redfield issued a warning letter to a West Street dog owner.

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

Executive Session. H. Childress moved to enter executive session; T. Redfield 2nd [*all in favor, motion carried*] Executive session begun at 9:18 pm.

H. Childress moved to exit executive session; T. Redfield 2nd [all in favor, motion carried] Regular session rejoined 10:11 p.m. No action taken as a result of executive session.

Adjourn: C. Fenton moved to adjourn; T. Redfield 2nd [all in favor, motion carried]. Meeting adjourned 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk