

**Middletown Springs Selectboard • Thursday, May 9, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting Approved Minutes**

**BOARD PRESENT:** H. Childress, C. Fenton, C. Haynes, P. Kenyon, T. Redfield  
**TOWN OFFICERS:** Sally Achey, Lister; Sarah Grimm, Auditor; Bill Reed, Highway Foreman  
**PUBLIC AND GUESTS:** Chuck Delpha, Dayton Hill Road  
**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:00 p.m.

Alas, poor grader, we knew it well...

**Minutes:** T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the April 25 meeting as amended by Treasurer recommendation; P. Kenyon 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Public:** Chuck Delpha asked a question about road maintenance on private property within highway right of way. He believes that the road-edge maintenance conducted on his property has changed the run-off patterns, and that the material dug from the new ditch has been taken away rather than left for his use. He believes that his discussion with Terry and Brent made it clear that the property would be accessible, and that the access has shifted away from the cut that he had been accustomed to using, instead of the more established roadway further uphill. C. Fenton committed that we would try to do a better job of notifying property owners of work within the highway rights-of-way, but that the road crew has broad latitude for decisionmaking within that right of way for the safe and reliable travel of all.

**Town Officers:** Sally Achey presented the certificate of non-appeal to close to year's grand list (April 1 2018 through March 31 2019). T. Redfield moved to approve the closure of the grand list pursuant to 32 VSA §4157; P. Kenyon 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

The audit firm will be here for their final working day on Friday May 17.

P. Kenyon moved to pay the registration fee for auditor Juanita Burch-Clay to attend the VLCT auditing symposium on May 29 [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Highway:** We have received the lease agreement from HP Fairfield for renting a roadside mower July 1 through 5, for \$3,200 including mobilization. H. Childress moved to approve the lease agreement for the roadside mower; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

Bill is attempting to catch up with both road work and paperwork. He has been dealing with Digsafe on a number of culvert replacements; has met with FEMA and VTRANS about reimbursements and road repairs. The flood emergency has not officially been declared, but once (if) it is, they believe that our bookkeeping has been productive and

sufficient for reimbursement. Bill is hoping to have most of the substantial flood repairs done in the next week to ten days, but those repairs will still need to be graveled and graded.

We will be putting out a bid-spec package for repaving two sections of West Street/Rt. 140, with proposals due for review at our 5/23 board meeting.

The drive coupler has failed on the grader, which is at Winmill. It's possible that we might be able to repair it, but we continue to look for a replacement.

**Town Lands:** The building committee requests approval to spend up to \$2500 to hire Kathy Letendre to coordinate and schedule feasibility study interviews. H. Childress moved to approve hiring Kathy Letendre for this work, not to exceed \$2,500; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*Aye—Childress, Fenton, Kenyon, Redfield; Nay—Haynes; motion carried*].

The Town received three responses to our West Street call for proposals, from:

- Otter Creek Engineering, Middlebury & Rutland: \$14,945
- Enman-Kesselring, Rutland: \$24,500
- Dubois & King, eight offices in VT/NH/ME/NY: \$17,200

After significant discussion of qualifications, costs and timing, T. Redfield moved to award the contract for this project to Otter Creek Engineering for their proposed price of \$14,945; C. Haynes 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. H. Childress will call to confirm, and to encourage an earlier completion date than they note, so that we can move forward with construction and financial planning.

**Solid Waste:** Large waste day went well, but with a smaller turnout than in past years. We had one container three-quarters full with metal, and two and a half containers of trash. C. Fenton will contact Hubbard to determine their interest in and price for collecting waste tires, and we may hold a tire collection event if the cost is reasonable.

**Correspondence:**

- Three proposals for the engineering and surveying study for the West Street property
- E-mail correspondence from Kathleen & Tim Cronin requesting that the Town repair Endless Brook Road. H. Childress will reach out to them to schedule a site review.
- Second notice of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation request for annual report of erosion control practices for their annual municipal roads general permit program; forwarded to Bill Reed for completion.

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

**Other Business:** First Response is sending a letter to Poultney Rescue, to resolve next steps around insurance and continued affiliation.

**Adjourn:** H. Childress moved to adjourn; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned 10:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk