

## **Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes Regular Meeting • June 11, 2020**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Patty Kenyon and Heather Grier via Zoom, at the town office, Terry Redfield, Neil Russell, Carl Haynes arrived at 7:20pm

**TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT:** via Zoom - Sarah Grimm - Auditor, at the town office; Bill Reed - Road Commissioner/Road Foreman

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** via Zoom - Peter and Aileen Stevenson, Steve Harrington, at the town office Kevin Eaton, Art Castle, Ron Masleh

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry Redfield called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 5/28/2020 Regular; 5/30/2020 Fence Viewer

Neil moved to approve the minutes of 5/28/2020 regular meeting and 5/30/2020 fence viewer meeting as presented, Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor (Neil, Terry, Heather, Patty), motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE:** Herb not able to join tonight but provided the board with an email update. The board discussed the current conditions including the outbreak in Winooski. Testing is still happening, with events in Rutland on Wednesday June 17 and Wednesday June 24. Registration is required and time slots are filling up. Also, the Governor announced that schools will be opening up this fall. Specific guidelines still to come.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS:**

**Speeding Traffic Issues - South Street** - Steve Harrington joined to share his experiences on South Street. He has noticed a lot of traffic going well above the speed limits going by his property. Speeders are coming from both directions. He wants to know if there is anything the board can do to help get people to obey posted limits.

Terry has reserved the digital speed cart to be placed at the former South Street Deli in hopes that might help. There was discussion about placing the sheriff in the area to do some radar patrols. Bill offered to connect with the AOT district manager and ask him to come take a look at signage placement and conditions to see if there's something they might be able to do to help with the issues.

**TOWN OFFICERS:** Terry will leave the tally sheet for Big Dump Day with Sarah as well as make a copy for Patty to scan into the digital record.

### **TOWN HIGHWAY:**

#### **Road Commissioner Report:**

- Working on Spruce Knob Grant which has been officially extended to December 31, 2020. Road crew can now begin working on that project.
- Bill is still working on truck information for the 1-ton replacement
- The road crew has been ditching and grading

**Other Highway:**

- Roadside mowing on 140 - Jim Hathaway needs to fill out his paperwork in order to begin mowing. This will be happening in the next few days.
- Rental mower is coming July 13 for a week to do the rest of the roadways.
- Bill has asked Dubois & King for a proposal on option 2 for Daisy Hollow Road work so we can continue working towards that project.

**TOWN LANDS:**

- Peter Stevenson responded to questions on the emails he recently sent the board regarding the vault and the septic research he's done. There was some discussion on the site limitations of designing around a mound system. Peter has sent preliminary drawings with his ideas to Terry who will redistribute to the full board and the facilities group for consideration at the next meeting.
- Kevin Eaton - Representing Fire Association - Kevin reported that at the last Fire Association meeting, which Bill attended, the association and the road foreman discussed the suggestion of a combined Fire Department & Highway garage building. The consensus was that combination would not work for a multitude of reasons. He also reported that the Fire Association is working on a formal presentation to be given to the Selectboard and Facilities group outlining their current situation, including their most recent quotes, drawings, etc.
- Neil brought up the firehouse roof situation and what might be done to keep the roof from leaking onto the trucks. Neil would like to see some temporary measure to repair the roof to stop the leaks. After some discussion, the next step is to have a discussion with the Fire Association about getting some estimates for a decent but temporary roof fix and using the Fire Department building reserve to pay for the repairs.

**SOLID WASTE:**

- Big Dumpster Day - Critiques - There was a discussion about the continued poor service from Hubbard Brothers, namely not having the dumpsters we need on site when we need them. There was talk about why we use Hubbards for our trash and not Casella. Institutional memory was that the hauler was dictated by SWAC. Terry will email Pam at SWAC to find out what our options might be and what leverage we might actually have when it comes to trash hauling and special trash days. Terry will also connect with Casella to see if they are able to provide the dumpsters and service we need for large trash days.
- There was also a brief discussion on pricing and procedures and a recap of the day. Beyond the issues with Hubbards, the day went well. Creating and keeping a list of people who came through was helpful and will give us some good information moving forward.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Poultney Rescue Squad Subscription Letter
- Newport Sand & Gravel/ Carroll Concrete - Certificate of Insurance for overweight permit.

**BOARD ORDERS:**

Patty moved to approve the board orders with one change to Bill Reed's hours for the week of 5/30/20 to 6/5/20, requesting the treasurer pay for 40 hours and add 6.5 regular hours from that week to the following pay period 6/6/20 to 6/12/20. Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carl, Neil, Terry - Aye. Patty, Heather abstain due to remote attendance.

**LEGAL:** none

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- **MSFR/Poultney Rescue Squad status** - The current situation is that as of June 30 First Response will no longer be associated with Poultney Rescue Squad. To continue service to Middletown, First Response wants to operate under the town's Tax ID #
  - There was a discussion on what the protocols are for the town to do this and what the legal parameters might be. The board needs to have a better understanding of how this partnership should be set up and what it entails beyond adding the First Response members to our worker's comp insurance, vehicle insurance, and letting First Response open a bank account using the towns ID#.
  - Currently their vehicle is registered jointly with Poultney Rescue. Would the town need to be on a new vehicle registration as well?
  - Carl will connect with the town's attorney to get legal advice on what we need to have in place to put this agreement together.
  - Terry will email Auditors and Town Treasurer to get their input on how this agreement should be structured and maintained.
  
- **Food Project Discussion - future direction** - The ongoing food project meal services are ramping down, but the food pantry plans to continue. Funds collected so far will continue to be held by Friends of the Library in reserve for potential future need. If no need arises by the end of this year, there will need to be a determination on how to disburse the accumulated excess funds.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Terry moved to enter executive session for discussion on the corner property at 9:40pm inviting Bill Reed. 2<sup>nd</sup> Neil. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry moved to exit executive session at 10:05pm. Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Carl moved to have the board and any interested members of the facilities group meet on the corner on Thursday, June 18 at 7pm. Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting - Town lands site visit - June 18, 7pm at the corner property.

**ADJOURN:** Carl moved to adjourn at 10:15pm, Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Kenyon, Clerk