

## **Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes Regular Meeting • August 13, 2020**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Patty Kenyon, Heather Grier via Zoom. At the town office, Terry Redfield, Neil Russell, Buddy Russell SB Therapy Dog.

**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.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry Redfield called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 7/23/2020 Regular; 8/6/2020 Special Facilities

Neil moved to approve the minutes of 7/23/2020 regular and 8/6/2020 facilities meetings as presented, Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE:** (if any) nothing from Herb today - short discussion about the state of affairs statewide including volume of out of state traffic.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS:** (if any) nothing

### **TOWN OFFICERS:**

**Primary Election - Critique** - What worked well, what didn't, improvements?

The logistics of the set up worked well from poll worker's perspectives. Discussion in general about voting and voter turnout. Small things to think about prior to November in terms of possible improvements. This will also be a discussion item for the next BCA meeting.

**Town Clerk / Treasurer / Auditors / Listers** - nothing

### **TOWN HIGHWAY:**

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

- Graveling, ditching, and grading
- Trucks are getting undercoated next week - Tuesday
- Bill still trying to line up chipper rental for Spruce Knob project
- VLCT - hasn't received info on the claim for the Dump Day truck damage - Terry sent info previously they say they don't have it. VLCT Rep will connect with Terry
- Met with Hilary and Devin at RRPC regarding rain garden on Dot Reed's property that is mitigating runoff onto the town and church property. Bill is doing the work on his own time but using the town equipment as previously agreed to. There is a grant involved from RRPC. Bill feels he's relieved a good amount of runoff coming from above the town's property and what he's done so far has provided a good amount of relief.

## **Other Town Highway**

- Excavator Rental - discussion about rental for month vs 2 weeks for Spruce Knob - additional time could be used to fix up problem issue on Dudley Road. Members concerned about spending money that we may not have later in the budget and due to concerns that we may continue to have shortfalls in revenue due to COVID-19. Prevailing consensus was that getting problems fixed will ultimately result in savings down the road. Additionally, we discussed that any unspent highway money is required to go into a highway surplus account and cannot be used directly to relieve the town's tax burden.

Heather moved to rent the excavator from We Dig It Excavation LLC for a month for \$4500 plus mobilization fee. 2<sup>nd</sup> Terry. All in favor, motion carried.

Bill will work on estimating an anticipated project cost for fixing Dudley Road for our next meeting.

**TOWN LANDS: Facilities:** Storage Tank, yes; Basement, no; 2500 +/- Sq. ft. footprint. Vault no less than 18 x 20; E/W orientation. Progress!!

Peter and Aileen talked about the footprint and square footage given Michael's new drawing of 2040 sf which seems like it could work with a few tweaks, like adding an air lock and spending some time on exterior presentation. The board agreed that 2300 sf should be adequate for a building and we'd like to move forward using that as the new parameter for maximum square footage. There was also discussion about interior spacing i.e. looking at an open floor plan vs. individual offices. Most board members thought that offices made more sense at the present time, but were open to exploring the possibility later in the designing process of a more open design if there was a consensus among the folks that would be using the space that open would work for them.

**SOLID WASTE:** Compost Hauler - Wheaton Squier is going to be ending his compost pick up at the end of August, he has agreed to continue picking up until we can find a new hauler. He reported that we've been generating about 32 gallons (one large trash can full) per week since the new composting law went into effect. Terry will investigate new haulers and bring information back to the next meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Flyers from VLCT for Virtual Town Fair
- Mentor Connector Thank you note
- American Red Cross Thank you note
- VT Association for the Blind Thank you note
- VT Dept of Taxes Withholding Tax assessment invoice (2<sup>nd</sup> request) - should go to Jenny
- VLCT / PACIF WC Payroll Audit - amount due \$1929 - Should go to Jenny
- Thank you note from Martha Parker-Dunn regarding Gold Headed Cane Award for Mary Parker
- Kinney Pike Insurance - Notice of Cancellation for Champlain Valley Plumbing &

Heating (re: overweight permit?)

- Crash Palace Estimate for damage at Big Dump Day May 2020 - still lingering, talked about it earlier under highway.

**BOARD ORDERS:** Terry moved to approve board orders as presented, Patty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ayes - Terry, Neil, Patty (reviewed earlier in the day and will sign in the morning to make the majority), Abstain - Heather (not physically present at the meeting).

**LEGAL:** Brief discussion about status with MSFR - no contact with them since the last meeting so no forward movement.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Gold headed cane discussion - There was a brief discussion on the possible qualified recipients of the award. Members will confirm the ages of the short list and we'll hope to be able to award the cane at our next regular meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel Evaluations** and more

Heather moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel at 9:55pm Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Patty moved to exit Executive Session at 10:53pm, Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

The board completed personnel evaluations for Bill and Glen. Board members to sign personnel evaluations at the office. Terry will meet with Bill and Glen to review this year's evaluations.

Next Meeting on Facilities set for 7pm Thursday, Aug 20, 2020.

**ADJOURN:** Patty moved to adjourn at 10:54pm, Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 10:54pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Kenyon, Clerk