

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes Regular Meeting • January 14, 2021

BOARD PRESENT: via Zoom; Patty Kenyon, Heather Grier. At the town office; Terry Redfield, Carl Haynes, Neil Russell at 7pm.

TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT: via Zoom: Laura Castle - Town Clerk at 6:12pm; Sarah Grimm - Auditor at 6:14pm; At the town office; Bill Reed - Road Commissioner at 7pm.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Via Zoom: Peter & Aileen Stevenson, Art Castle at 6:12pm. At the town office: Ron Masleh, Geoff Metcalfe - Architect

CALL TO ORDER: Terry called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

TOWN LANDS 6PM - The Board will meet with Geoff Metcalfe, Keefe and Wesner Architects, to review and discuss thoughts and questions 'where we are at' with the current design direction for a new Town Office structure on the Corner Property.

Geoff brought a general guide with his perspective on the topics we should touch on tonight:

- Building design
- Site layout
- Site concerns - Geo Tech report - we expect to encounter issues with the presence of disturbed soils so there will need to be some soil removal, testing, and compaction. Something to be aware of in terms of possible added cost.
- Scope of work and next steps
- Estimate - plans to contract with Naylor & Breen to create the estimate.

Discussion about the overall design and next steps as above. Talk of siding - Geoff recommends "Lifespan" siding. He likes it more than cedar and it's cheaper. For the roof, he recommends metal.

We talked about the process for communications as we go forward. Patty volunteered to be the contact person for Geoff and will work as the conduit between the board and Geoff.

Neil asked Geoff if he had considered a masonry building vs typical construction? - Geoff's experience is that masonry buildings are generally more costly to construct than traditional stick framed buildings.

There was considerable discussion on questions we'll face as we move ahead. Truss structures, materials, windows, flooring, color palettes, and the like. All these things will be explored in more detail as we move forward with our best options outlined by Geoff for us to research and make decisions on the plans progress.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 12/22/2020 Regular, 12/29/2020 Special, 1/7/2021 Special

Terry moved to approve the minutes of the 12/22/2020 regular meeting, the 12/29/2020 special meeting and the 1/7/2021 special meeting as presented, Neil 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Nothing substantive to note at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS:

Sarah asked whether Terry and Carl planned to run for reelection. Neither were ready to commit.

TOWN OFFICERS:

2021 Town Meeting Preparations - Patty gave a report regarding BCA sub-committee that met earlier in the day. The group is working on a document to post on FPF and around town that contains the offices up for election this year and the deadline and instructions on how to run for a seat. They are also working on a special edition of the town newsletter with Kimberly that will include the open offices and more information about town meeting. The group also began the planning process for how to conduct a virtual town meeting.

Patty also requested that a BCA meeting be scheduled for the first week in February to go over virtual town meeting plans and determine the next steps needed to make sure everything runs as smoothly as possible.

Terry reported that he talked to Poultney Rescue Squad and their appropriation request for FY2022 remains the same as last year - \$7450.

Town Clerk / Treasurer / Auditors / Listers - None

TOWN HIGHWAY:

Road Commissioner Report -

- New truck - 2021 Freightliner arrived today and fits in the garage with inches to spare. They tried it out this afternoon and feel they are ready for the storm predicted for this weekend. We are back at full steam.
- We are still waiting on the final determination for the 2016 Freightliner - is it a total loss or is it repairable. TBD
- Bill and Brent will be working a short day tomorrow in anticipation of a long weekend of storm cleanup.
- The furnace is back running - that's a good thing. The burner was not shot, it was a mismatched pump that was the culprit. There is heat again in the town garage!

SOLID WASTE: Nothing at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Comcast postcard for the EMD
- New Year Card from Doran Brothers
- Efficiency Vermont Better Building By Design flyer
- Carroll Concrete - Overweight Permit / Cert of Insurance / \$10 check
- VT Dept of Taxes - 2021 Equalization Study Results -
 - Education Grand List (411) \$89,161,020
 - Equalized Grand List (EEGL) \$90,288,516
 - Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) 98.75%
 - Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) 12.92%
- Certificate of Insurance from James P. Mars
- Comcast Flyer
- State Highway Certificate of Highway Mileage - Notice Due. No Changes. Patty has downloaded the certificate, Bill has reviewed it and there are no changes. It can be signed and returned to the state. Due date is February 10, 2021.
 - Terry moved to have the board sign and Town Clerk attest the 2021 Certificate of Highway Mileage. Carl 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Patty will bring a copy to the town office for board members and the town clerk to sign and will get it back to the state prior to the deadline.

BOARD ORDERS:

Carl moved to approve orders as presented. Terry, 2nd. Ayes: Terry, Carl, Neil. Abstain: Patty, Heather.

LEGAL: none

OTHER BUSINESS: MSFR Organization Status / MSVFD Lease Study Committee

Meeting set for Monday evening 1/19/21 at 6pm. They anticipate needing zoom capabilities for at least one participant. Patty will set up the zoom portion for them and Heather will be the zoom host.

Terry reminded us that Jenny had inquired of the board if anyone knew what the \$93 in an envelope in her lockbox was for? Terry was aware of what the money was intended for and made the following motion.

Terry moved that the \$93 anonymously left in the lock box should be applied to the ten outstanding items on the Delinquent Tax List from December 2020 and instructs Delinquent Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply it to the delinquent taxes as stated above. Neil 2nd. Ayes: Neil, Terry, Carl. Oppose: Heather, Patty. Motion carried.

There was discussion about why the board is making a motion about this. It's not our function. If an anonymous donor wants to confirm what the money was intended for, then they should do that outside of the board as a whole.

Motion stood and passed despite the concerns. The money, with further instructions, was put in the treasurer's lockbox.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

Next meeting Thursday, January 21 at 7pm to work on the budget
Regular meeting Thursday, January 28 at 7pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary) None

ADJOURN: Carl moved to adjourn at 9:25pm, Terry 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Kenyon, Clerk