

Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes Regular Meeting • December 22, 2020

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

TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT: via Zoom; Sarah Grimm - Auditor. At the town office; Bill Reed - Road Commissioner.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Via Zoom: Art Castle (7:12pm), Peter & Aileen Stevenson (7:15pm); At the town office; Brent Clark - Road Crew (6:00 to 7:20pm)

CALL TO ORDER: Terry called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

FY2022 BUDGET 6pm - 7pm: Highway budget discussions - Bill talked about the difficulty in estimating pricing for the coming year due to the pandemic. He and Brent have been working on gathering prices for replacing the 7600 - it's overdue for replacement. Brent has done most of this research.

Brent reviewed the information he has regarding pricing on new plow trucks and his recommendations for configurations. They believe that getting a tandem instead of a single axle makes the most sense for us right now. Also they would keep the old truck to use for a utility truck for road maintenance during the summer months (applying calcium) - the trade in value is so small that it makes sense to keep it.

The truck they recommend is a Freightliner which would come from Charlebois. Price for Freightliner all set up \$171,000 - others cost up to \$200,000. Originally looked at a Mack - but it costs \$30,000 more. If we go for an 84-month lease, the payment will be just about the same as the current backhoe payment - our last payment on that is September 1, 2021. They estimate the lifespan of this new truck at about 11 years.

The big hiccup is that the truck body has a waiting list of a year, so we will need to get in line now on this in order to be ready to put a new truck in service in 2022.

The board instructed Brent to put us on the list for the truck bed and asked him to clarify a few logistical questions about truck delivery and coordinating the truck with the timing of getting the truck body. Brent will get back to us with answers at the next meeting.

At this point, the board went through the Road Maintenance portion of the budget line by line. Will pick up the remainder of highway expenditures during the next meeting.

Budget meeting next week - 12/29/2020 at 7pm

Start of Regular Meeting at 7:16pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 12/10/2020 Regular

Heather moved to approve the minutes of the 12/10/2020 regular meeting as presented,

Neil 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Vermont is doing OK. Governor relaxed some of the guidelines for the Christmas/New Year holiday weeks. Families from two trusted households can gather over the next two weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS:

Art Castle noted that the Fire Association voted to level fund their budget for the 2021 appropriation request. Budget line item updated by Patty.

TOWN OFFICERS:

2021 Town Meeting Preparations - Patty requested to schedule a BCA Meeting to talk about the logistics of Town Meeting. Board agreed and tentatively scheduled a BCA meeting for Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 6pm. Inviting the Town Moderator - Kimberly Bushnell - to attend.

Terry will work with Laura to get this scheduled and to get email notifications out to the group. It's worth noting that the BCA is in transition with new members taking office on February 1. Incoming JP's will also be on the list of invited attendees.

Town Clerk / Treasurer / Auditors / Listers - nothing right now.

TOWN HIGHWAY:

Road Commissioner Report -

- Survived the Storm pretty well
- Had to get a new wiper motor for the 7600
- Air Dryer replaced on the Freightliner
- Bill ordered 3 loads of $\frac{3}{4}$ minus stone today for the anticipated ice storm
- Brent worked to get the roads ready for rain with the next storm then the deep freeze.
- Would like a post on FPF for Christmas Day storm
- There were a few complaints about mailboxes after the storm clean up
- Bill would also like a FPF post about the hazards of homeowners blowing or plowing snow into the roadways. One homeowner will be getting a ticket from the Sheriff for creating a hazard in the road. There is a State law against plowing into the roadway
- Bill would like us to look at revising the winter maintenance ordinance for future
- Bill reported that we almost ran out of fuel oil in the garage, because Irving would not deliver without a tank inspection - which we had replaced. Marcell's ended up bailing us out. Might be a smart decision to look at using Marcell's for fuel oil as well as our off-road diesel since they are more responsive in times of need.
- Terry will write up the FPF posts regarding the issues of the day - ice

storm; highway help, snow removal practices.

TOWN LANDS: Geoff Metcalfe is available on January 14 to discuss next steps for moving the corner property design forward. Board is good with that as well.

Peter reported on a few things in regard to us being ready for the next steps. Main take-away is he is looking for some information regarding the soils at the site.

- He would like to find any information on site borings that were done as part of the preliminary engineering for the previous project design. Patty will look for those and send them over to Peter.

SOLID WASTE: SWAC budget is in but we don't have it in front of us right now.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Holiday Card - Doran Brothers
- Efficiency Vermont - Better Buildings by Design Virtual Conference Flyer - Feb 2 -4 2021
- Casella Recycling Invoice - goes to Jenny
- VT Agency of Transportation - Letter re: Highway Mileage Certificate - Online completion this year, they have our email as middletown@vermontel.net - We might want to have Bill's email here so that we are sure to get this! Someone needs to reach out to them and make a change. Patty to take care of this.
- Appropriation Request & Report
 - Rutland County Restorative Justice Center - \$250
 - Mentor Connector - \$200
- In Town Report folder -
 - VT Center for Independent Living \$100
 - VNA and Hospice \$1500
 - Rutland Regional Planning Commission \$975

BOARD ORDERS:

Need a handwritten order for Glen's pay - his timesheet was put in folder after Jenny did checks - she will write him a check tomorrow if she has that order. Terry could not find the time sheets. But added the order to the handwritten funds transfer order, hoping that Jenny can find the timesheets and make it happen.

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

LEGAL: none

OTHER BUSINESS: MSFR Organization Status / MSVFD Lease Study Committee

There was discussion and some options on possible dates for the initial meeting to take place. Art will connect with George to try to nail down something.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary) Delinquent Tax Discussion and Tax Sale Preparations - None

ADJOURN: Carl moved to adjourn at 9:00pm, Neil 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Kenyon, Clerk