

## **Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes Regular Meeting • September 23, 2021**

**BOARD PRESENT:** At the town office: Terry Redfield, Patty Kenyon, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Neil Russell at 8:06pm. Via Zoom: Heather Grier.

**TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT:** At the town office: Bill Reed - Road Commissioner/Foreman. Via Zoom: None

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** At the town office: Ron Masleh, Jim Mars, Brent Clark. via Zoom: Art Castle - MSVFD, Peter & Aileen Stevenson.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Terry called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 9/9/2021 Regular Meeting

Robin moved to approve the minutes of 9/9/2021 Regular Meeting as presented, Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE:** Herb Childress - nothing tonight.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS:** Nothing right now.

**TOWN OFFICERS:**

**Town Clerk / Treasurer / Delinquent Tax Collector / Auditors / Listers - Patty** reported that she has begun to digitize land records and will be sharing more information as she moves through the process.

**Adoption of proposed Financial Accounting Policy - (revisions by treasurer/selectboard)** - There were a couple of requested changes for clarity and grammar. Adoption put on hold until our next meeting in order to make the changes and give others time to weigh in on those changes between meetings. Patty will send updated version out to the board, the treasurer, and the auditors for final comment.

**Discussion of (Model) Grievance Procedures** - a brief review of the model procedures document provided by VLCT. Members will review and digest then come back with suggested modifications to be considered at the next meeting.

**Social Service Agency request policy revision; Language revisions to Personnel Policy re: Comp Time** – Tabled until Additional Analysis

**TOWN HIGHWAY:**

**Road Commissioner Report –**

- Bill reported that he is working on the Dudley Road grant project - replacing and expanding an existing culvert to new standards. Hoping to do the hydroseeding next Tuesday.

- This week Brent added gravel to Garron Road.
- Also cut in a driveway culvert at Bertsche's (service request).
- Bill advises he will need more stone for the Dudley Road project and is hoping to meet with Josh Carvahal from RRPC to go over some questions he needs to get resolved before finishing the project.
- Bill and Herb are planning to work on a 2022 VT Transportation Alternatives grant in the hopes of securing funding for a new salt shed at the West St property.
- The new tandem is ready to be picked up after recall and warranty repairs. Bill may be able to pick it up tomorrow.

### **Other Town Highway - Winter Sand Proposals / Processed Gravel Status -**

Winter salt bids are not out yet at the state level. Do we feel we have what we need for sand put up already? Bill is not sure. Brent says based on estimates of what we had on hand and what we bought recently we should have just over 1500 yards. The consensus was that this was in the range of normal practices to begin the winter season.

There was discussion about stockpiling some ¾" stone to add to the sand and salt in the event of ice storms.

Terry moved to authorize the highway department to get 100 yards of ¾" stone at Casella's to have on hand for use as needed, Robin 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

There was a discussion about the need to replace the tines on the york rake and that if we had the tines in-house we could replace them between storms over the course of the winter.

Terry moved to authorize the highway department to order new tines for the york rake - estimated total cost just north of \$1100, Robin 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Jim Mars reported to the board his new system for keeping track of materials picked up at his gravel pit. There was consensus that this new process will improve tracking.

## **TOWN LANDS -**

### **Proposed New Building Informational Mailer & Informational Meeting**

**Develop Warning Language and Choose Voting Date** - Ron brought a mock-up layout of the proposed mailer. The board suggested some edits. Patty can make those changes and send out for review to the building group.

There was further discussion about when this piece should go into the mail and a schedule for informational meetings/sessions as well as the date for the vote. The preferred day for voting amongst those present was Tuesday, November 9.

The board agreed to meet next Thursday to finalize the mailer, the warning and the steps ahead (September 30 at 7pm).

Terry reported that he has done some research on financing options. So far, he's heard back from one bank with loan details and an interest rate. He is waiting to hear back from a few others who are putting together some information for him. Robin agreed to reach out to the Bank of Bennington to see if they might be interested in putting a proposal together for us.

The hope is that this information will be in our hands for next week's meeting.

**Other Building Projects: MSVFD, MTS Library, 577 West Street multi-use site** - No discussion on other projects tonight.

**SOLID WASTE: Big Dump Day Preparations** - Terry reported that he has ordered 4 containers from Hubbard's - 3 trash - 1 metal. He's currently trying to schedule workers. Robin can work from 6am to 10am. Patty can come in to relieve Robin at 9:30am and work until close. Neil can come in later in the morning to help as well. Brent is willing to come in to run the backhoe. Terry will ask Herb to cover the transfer station for Glen and try to get Richie Miller to work.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 9/14 Certified Letter from MSVFA – formally requesting the town transfer the town land on Firehouse Lane to the Middletown Springs Volunteer Fire Association.
- 9/23 VT DEC – Draft Source Water Permit Renewal. Final approval is subject to results of the Public Comment period – 9/21 to 10/21/2021
- 9/23 Mediated Agreement from Family Mediators LLC
- 9/16 Request for 2022 Appropriation – American Red Cross - \$250 – Patty has started a spreadsheet for these.
- 9/17 VLCT Town Fair Flyers for board members
- 9/17 VLCT News – Sept / Oct 2021 issue

**BOARD ORDERS:**

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

**LEGAL:** None.

**OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS:**

**Upcoming Meeting Schedule:**

Special Facilities Meeting - Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 7pm  
Regular Meeting - Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7pm

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary)**

Terry moved to enter Executive Session at 9:03pm to discuss real estate, Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry moved to exit Executive Session at 9:29pm, Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry will draft a reply to the Fire Association's request for board members to review.

**ADJOURN:** Heather moved to adjourn at 9:30pm, Neil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Patty Kenyon, Clerk