

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

Tis the Season...

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

TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT: At the town office: Bill Reed – Road Foreman/Commissioner. Via Zoom: Sarah Grimm – Auditor.

PUBLIC PRESENT: At the town office: Lyle Jepson from Chamber of Economic Development of the Rutland Region. via Zoom: Peter & Aileen Stevenson, Ron Masleh.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 9, 2021 Regular Meeting & December 16, 2021 Special Budget Meeting.

Robin moved to approve the minutes of 12/9/2021 Regular Meeting as presented, Neil 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Robin moved to approve the minutes of 12/16/2021 Special Meeting as presented, Terry 2nd. Ayes: Terry, Robin, Patty, Heather. Abstain: Neil. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Herb Childress – none.

Regional Emergency Management Committee progress – none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS: Lyle Jepson, Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region – Attended the meeting to talk about the funding request for the Regional Marketing initiative. He gave an overview of the programs they have run in the past as well as the programs planned for the upcoming year. Lyle also gave us information on Middletown Springs businesses who have taken advantage of their programs (grants and technical services) in the past year.

TOWN OFFICERS: Town Clerk / Treasurer / Delinquent Tax Collector / Auditors / Listers – Patty reported that she is currently working on getting information to Beth for Town Report.

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

TOWN HIGHWAY: Road Commissioner Report –

- Prepping for Christmas storm – looks like it's going to ice.
- Put stone out in places that started breaking up in the warm weather last week. (there were three different places that the roads had significant problems)
- Plowed with the grader during the last snowstorm to level out the ruts, so we should be in decent shape going forward.

- Has help lined up for winter plowing – Richie Miller & Joe Castle they are working out well so far.
- Will need call and order another two loads of salt next week.
- They have been using more sand because of the fluctuating temperatures.

There was a brief discussion about Beavers. There is an offer to have someone from fish & wildlife come and talk to us about beavers. Bill reported that in his discussion with the local game warden he learned that it's up to the property owners as to what they want to do about them if anything. The town has no jurisdiction unless there is actual road damage or the imminent threat of road damage.

OTHER HIGHWAY:

Winter Plowing Status – see above

Winter Sand/Salt usage thus far – see above

TOWN LANDS - New Building Project – Next Steps:

Site Prep Work & Other – Robin sent out some basic calculations about water use per occupancy for the new building. These numbers are used to determine the size and category for a wastewater system design and permit. Numbers were put together by Frank Parent at Long Trail Engineering. Currently, with these numbers the new building should be considered in the category of a non-transient community water system. This category should translate to less monitoring. A good thing for saving money.

Frank Parent is comfortable with this estimate, the architect is comfortable with it as well. Therefore, the board approved the outline presented for water usage by consensus. Peter will connect with Frank and let him know we are ready for the next steps. Frank will fine-tune a budget number for design of the project, once the board approves that expenditure, he is ready to begin the work on a new permit.

Peter reported that we will need to continue to have the stormwater system and a VTRANS permit for a curb cut on our radar for the near future. These things can get into the pipeline once we have more information from Frank.

Peter also reported that he had a conversation with Randy Rhodes from M&W Soils Engineering, the firm who did the 2017 Geotechnical report on the site. They would like to update that report based on the new building footprint. The estimate to do that work is \$800.

Patty moved to authorize Robin to approve up to \$800 for a soils engineering update when those firm numbers come in. Terry 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Patty moved to authorize Robin to approve up to \$7500 for civil engineering fees from Frank Parent Long Trail engineering, when that estimate comes in. Terry, 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

This will help us stay a step ahead to get the ball moving asap.

Financing Options – Terry sent board members a draft letter seeking financing proposals and intended to go to local banks and lending institutions. Comments and

suggestions for information should be sent to Terry and Patty by early next week. At that time, they will fine tune and assemble the information packets to send these letters out.

Other Building Projects: MSVFD, MTS Library, 577 West Street site – nothing tonight.

SOLID WASTE: Transfer station will be closed on Saturday, December 25 - Christmas but will be OPEN as usual on New Year's Day – January 1, 2022

Next week transfer station will be open on Wednesday in place of the missed Saturday.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Appropriation Requests –
 - Mentor Connector - \$200
 - Pleasant View Cemetery - \$1500
 - BROC - \$200
 - RC Humane Society - \$125
 - RC Restorative Justice Ctr - \$250
- RRPC – Membership letter & budget request
- VT State Treasurer – Notice of VMERS contributions FY2023
- Family Mediators LLC – Plan of Action Report

BOARD ORDERS:

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

LEGAL: none

OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS:

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

Budget meeting – Thursday, December 30 at 6pm.

Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 7pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary – Personnel Issues) –

Terry moved to enter Executive Session at 8:32pm for personnel issues, inviting Bill to join, Patty 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry moved to exit Executive Session at 8:42pm, Robin 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Action taken: Terry will work on securing emails and redacting identifying information and get copies to Bill for his review.

ADJOURN: Robin moved to adjourn at 8:46pm, Heather 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Patty Kenyon, Clerk