

**Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes
Regular Meeting • March 10, 2022
All via Zoom**

BOARD PRESENT: Terry Redfield, Patty Kenyon, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Heather Grier, Neil Russell.

TOWN OFFICERS PRESENT: Bill Reed – Road Commissioner/Foreman, Sarah Grimm – Auditor, Jenny Talke Munyak - Treasurer.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Peter & Aileen Stevenson, Ron Masleh.

CALL TO ORDER: Heather called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 24, 2022 Regular Meeting, February 25, 2022 Emergency Meeting, and March 3, 2022 Reorganization Meeting.

Terry moved to approve the minutes of 2/24/2022, 2/25/2022, 3/3/2022 meetings as presented, Robin 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE: Herb Childress – Nothing this time.

LEMP plan & Rutland Region Mutual Aid Agreement (May 1) – Still to come. Heather will check in with Herb this week to see if this is ready for our approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS: Nothing tonight.

TOWN OFFICERS: Town Clerk / Treasurer / Delinquent Tax Collector / Auditors / Listers –

Patty reported that Hilary Solomon had enough write-in votes (10) for a seat on the Planning Commission. Patty has emailed Hilary to see if she will accept the position and is waiting to hear back.

Patty also reported that the Planning Commission has asked the board to reduce the Planning Commission to a 3-member board from a 5-member board.

Terry moved to reduce the Planning Commission to 3 members from the current 5-member contingent, Heather 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry asked if the board would like him to post the election results at the store as he has done in the past. The board thinks it's a good idea and thanked Terry for taking on this task.

Town Policy Manual updates - Personnel and CMV Drug & Alcohol Policy – Board members were not prepared to discuss this tonight in depth. Patty will send out the personnel policy and the CMV Drug & Alcohol Policy to board members for review before the next meeting with the expectation that it will be taken up at that time.

Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement (biennial review) and LEMP adoption (Local Emergency Management Plan) – discussed above.

TOWN HIGHWAY: Road Commissioner Report – Bill reported:

- Repair work on the shoulders damaged in the last storm has been completed.
- Work has been done to clear a couple of frozen culverts and he will be working on getting more cleared out as time allows.
- New pressure washer is no good. Came in damaged. He is going to return it to Gilmore's. Do not pay that invoice on the board orders tonight. Patty will cross that payment off the orders and Jenny will not cut that check.
- Given the cost of fuel and materials – Bill is going to be working on getting updated pricing from contractors for grant projects so we have accurate data.
- Prepping for the Saturday storm - guys will be on hand to work.
- Bill remarked that Saturday morning storms result in delays and safety issues because of transfer station traffic. After a brief discussion the board decided to close the transfer station this Saturday. A quick call to Glen allowed us to add Wednesday morning to next week's open hours. The board will work on getting the word out first thing tomorrow. Heather will put signs at the store, Terry will put up a sign at the Post Office, Patty will post on FPF.

Robin asked about the two invoices from Cargill (salt) and if we did get two deliveries and whether it was mixed into sand when it arrived or stockpiled. Bill answered that yes, we did get two deliveries – ice storms cause us to use more salt – and that it's put into the salt pile and mixed in as needed.

Neil asked how far we are plowing on Route 140 west? Bill responded that depending on timing, either we plow and sand to Morse Hollow Road where we can safely turn around, or Poultney plows through to McIntyre Road. It's an agreement that we've had with Poultney since we can no longer turn around at the old snack bar. Bill also noted that Poultney takes care of our portion of McIntyre Road in every storm as part of this agreement.

OTHER HIGHWAY:

Winter Plowing & Winter Sand/Salt Status – See above.

TOWN LANDS - New Building Project – In progress: Site Prep Work & Other, Commitment letter: We received a commitment letter from the National Bank of Middlebury. If we agree we need to sign and return that letter. As part of the agreement, we need an opinion letter from an attorney that the loan agreement will be a valid, enforceable, general obligation of the town.

Robin moved to approve and follow through with the National Bank of Middlebury on the loan commitment letter - borrowing limit \$800K, at 2.98% interest rate for a term of 22 years. Neil 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Terry will notify the other potential lenders of our final decision.

Robin moved to ask town attorney, Gary Kupferer, to write the opinion letter for the National Bank of Middlebury, Terry 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

Robin reported to the board his conversation and email exchange with VT DEC. The email outlines the standards we need to work under when excavating the site.

Peter would like the building committee to meet with Geoff and Naylor & Breen to talk about soils and pre-construction planning sometime next week now that we have this information.

Geoff has asked to meet with folks about interior finishes so that he can move the drawings forward.

Peter also reported that Frank Parent is working on the site drawings currently as well.

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

SOLID WASTE: Bounced checks at the transfer station – Glen has collected \$60 of the \$87 owed. He's going to continue to try to get the remaining balance and then will submit it to the treasurer.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NEMRC – Letter offering financial reports education
- Overweight Permits
 - HOP Energy dba Keyser – w/ck & COI (\$10)
 - Steve Newton Forestry – w/ck & COI (\$5)
 - Fuller Sand & Gravel – w/ck & COI (\$10)

Terry moved to approve the overweight permits for HOP Energy, Steve Newton Forestry and Fuller Sand & Gravel, Heather 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

BOARD ORDERS: Act 78 and processing Payroll / Municipal Bills –

Patty reported that she noticed what appeared to be a missed time entry on Joe's time sheet, Bill will check the order and advise. Jenny will address as needed.

Terry moved to approve the board orders as presented, excluding the payment to Gilmore Home Center, Heather 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

LEGAL: Nothing tonight.

OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS: None.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: (All via Zoom)

Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 7pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary – Personnel Issues) – None

ADJOURN: Terry moved to adjourn at 8:09pm, Robin 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Patty Kenyon, Clerk