

**Middletown Springs Selectboard • Approved Minutes
Regular Meeting • October 27, 2022
Start time 7pm**

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: No one. Via Zoom: Sarah Grimm – Auditor, Bill Reed - Road Commissioner/Foreman.

PUBLIC PRESENT: At the town office: Lyle Jepson & Olivia Lyons - CEDRR. Via Zoom: Peter & Aileen Stevenson.

CALL TO ORDER: Heather called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 13, 2022 Regular Meeting

Terry moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022 regular meeting as presented, Robin 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE: - Heat Annex Adoption –

Patty moved to adopt the Heat Annex as presented, Terry 2nd. All in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS: Lyle Jepson - CEDRR – Lyle & Olivia from CEDRR came to update us on their regional marketing initiative. They shared information about the program and the results they've been able to quantify. The town shared some information about what's happening here that they might be interested in highlighting. Lyle will be sending an official appropriation request for town meeting 2023 in the near future. They left some literature on their work in the community to have available at the town office.

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

Patty reported that she's been focused on election work. The BCA met earlier tonight to review the checklist and approve poll workers. Things are on track for a smooth election.

TOWN HIGHWAY: Road Commissioner Report –

- General Maintenance
- Met with Steffanie at RRPC re: GIA22 – online grant reporting is done; final report needs to be submitted.
- Putting up winter sand
- Working to get winter equipment ready
- The town has been informed that there may be a salt shortage if the railroad strikes, so we might want to do some stockpiling.
- Terry asked if Bill would firm up the Mowing machine rental with Joe Gunter – Bill will connect with him and get on the schedule.

- JCB backhoe needed service. DEF sensor malfunction. Ordered new sensor, a wiring harness for front bucket, and another sensor that needed replacement.

Other Town Highway:

TOWN LANDS - New Building Project – In progress

Peter updated the board on the last two weeks of construction. The excavation is essentially done, and we are waiting on the shipment of rebar. Compaction testing is good. Next step is to get Re-bar delivered and then to pour the footings. Expectation is that will happen within the next couple of weeks.

Peter has asked Naylor & Breen to give updated schedule, so we know what's going on.

Someone should do a FPF update on the progress so far, Patty volunteered. Emmett Francois has been coming and taking pictures as the project progresses.

First invoices for the project will need to be paid from our loan in order to activate it and not lose the rate.

Artifacts found on site will be stored by the town and kept safe until the Selectboard can do some research and determine what they want to do with them.

Neil reported that Dave Crossman was interested in contacting the church to lease or purchase a strip of land for store parking on the green of East Street. This is a state highway so the town doesn't have any say in whether that would be allowed. He'd need to contact the State Agency of Transportation and the church directly.

Neil also inquired whether the town could lower the speed limit in the village? Bill said that we'd need to conduct traffic studies and so forth to see that to fruition. In general, the Board was not in favor of spending money to create new traffic laws that we don't have the capacity to enforce.

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

SOLID WASTE: Robin brought up that he heard that people were dumping trash after big dumpster day was finished. Is there something we can do about that?

Patty reported that some people left money for things they dropped off – this has happened for multiple events. Bill & Terry brought up that if we tighten the access some of this stuff will end up on the side of the road and the highway crew will need to go out and retrieve it – at that point if the dumpsters are gone, we will have to then get it to the landfill ourselves.

Overall, part of the reasoning behind holding large trash days is to prevent this type of trash from ending up being unlawfully disposed of. It's a tough balance to achieve and over the years most people do the right thing.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- September Financials
- Letter from FEMA RE: recent risk mapping survey & comment period

- Appropriation Requests –
 - Vermont Assn for the Blind \$300 same as LY
 - Front Porch Forum \$150 – same as LY
- Service Requests –
 - David Wright re: leaves in the ditch on South Street (State Road) – nothing the town can do about that without clearing out everyone's ditches all over town.
 - Joseph Lowe re: unsightly junk on neighboring property – is there something the town can do about it? – Answer is no – there is nothing that the town can do.

Terry will complete the requests and make sure they are notified of the board's decisions.

There is a VTel line down in a working meadow on Buxton Avenue that has been a problem for weeks, VTel has been notified numerous times, nothing has been fixed or has happened. Terry will follow up with VTel and then the Public Service Board if nothing is done.

BOARD ORDERS: Processing Payroll / Municipal Bills –

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

LEGAL: Nothing

OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS – ARPA Funds –

Do we want to develop a formal application for requesting money? YES

What for?

Time Sensitivity?

Attach Documentation?

Who holds the purse strings?

Patty will ask other towns if they've had instances of giving away money and maintaining the documentation for accountability.

The goal for the next meeting to have sample application forms to review.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: (In Person w/Zoom access)

Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 7pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary) – none

ADJOURN: Terry moved to adjourn at 9:04pm, Neil 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm

Respectfully Submitted
Patty Kenyon, Clerk