

## Selectboard Meeting

### Unapproved Minutes

November 24, 2014

Present: Larry Straus, Doon Hinderyckx, Robert Meagher, Joanne McDonnell

Guests: Juli Reiderer, Amy Wright, Brenda Goupee, Diane Hanscom, Java Hubbard, Becky Klein, Terry Severy, Nancy Woolley, Diane Teetsel, Marvin & Barbara Harvey

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm. There are no additions/amendments to the agenda.

Robert made motion to approve the minutes from the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Doon. So voted.

Guests: Becky Klein, Delinquent Tax Collector, told the board that one delinquent tax payer is currently also in bankruptcy. He owes close to \$14000 overall, about half of that being involved with the bankruptcy and half for the 2013-14 tax year. Becky would like approval of the board to consult with a lawyer who is versed in bankruptcy. The cost of the lawyer will be added to the delinquent taxes. She also told the board that there is one other property in town that she would like to discuss with this lawyer as well. The property went unsold at tax sale. The board agreed that reviewing these properties with legal counsel is a good idea. Becky also noted that she has about 10 people who are doing well with payment plans.

Brenda Goupee spoke on behalf of the Park House Trustees. They would like the town to hold a public hearing and to ask the town to apply for a \$30,000 grant. Juli Reiderer noted that Park House has been a shared facility since 1991. The building is in need of quite a bit of work to become more fuel efficient and to bring it up to current codes. She has talked to the Vt Housing Conservation Board regarding a feasibility grant, and Park House has hired Amy Wright to help with the process. Amy noted that she has worked with all the funds that we just used throughout the Library Grants. Park House is unique in its offerings, and even though the Trustees do fundraising to keep costs affordable, they will not be able to come up with the money to get the building modernized. Scope of work and estimated costs must be completed. The next step is to hire an architect who is versed in historic preservation. Because the Park House can't apply directly, they would like the Town to apply and sub-grant to them. If the board approves, the first step will be to hold a public hearing. Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) will help oversee the project. Short discussion ensued. Robert made motion to hold the public hearing for the VCDP grant, seconded by Doon. So voted. The hearing is set for Monday, December 22, 2014 at 6:15 pm.

New Business: Larry told the board that he has been contacted regarding old road discontinuance. In 1948, a section of road known as the Aunt Lucy Road, (.65 miles) off the end of Oak Lodge Rd was discontinued. According to the information found in the town records, Larry believes it was properly discontinued. For whatever reason, that road has continued to show on our maps as untraveled, when it actually should have been removed back in 1948. The new owner would like to see the road removed from the map completely. Larry contacted the State, and they confirmed that when the board completes the Certificate of Highway Mileage

next February, that section of road can be removed. Short discussion ensued. The Selectboard agreed to submit the discontinuance paperwork to the state with the Certificate of Highway Mileage in February 2015.

Solar Proposals were reviewed. A total of five were received as follows:

Daedalus Solar Works \$107522.40 after the \$10,000 rebate

Necco Inc \$82898.00, structural work \$49694.00

Catamount Solar \$84300.00 and alternative proposal for ground array

Integrity Energy \$86300.00

Bristol Electronics \$86800.00

The board agreed that these proposals will need thorough review before an informed decision can be made. All proposals are way over the \$40,000.00 amount that the board was authorized to borrow. Larry noted he is meeting with Cricket McCusker tomorrow and will ask her opinion of the roof system at the Town Garage. They will need to evaluate if it is sensible to ask the voters for the balance of the funds. Discussion continued. There was no action taken.

TRORC sent an MBM letter which is their description of the qualifications they have to provide management services for the Bike Pedestrian Planning Grant that the town has been awarded. Robert made motion to accept the TRORC proposal to act as municipal project manager for the town during this project, seconded by Doon. So voted. Discussion on the project continued. The scoping study will be completed before next summer, and the engineer should be sure to bring to the attention of the State agency that will be working on the storm water drainage in the next year or two.

Old Business: Terry noted that the Fire Department voted to move forward with organizing with WRVA to form a First Responder team. They are getting bylaws from other towns so they can adapt theirs. Two Rochester residents have completed the course, and at the last WRVA meeting, their board voted to put aside up to \$4000 to help fund jump kits for our First Responders. Radios and pagers will be purchased from the \$10,000.00 that was put aside previously for that purpose. Short discussion regarding radio frequencies ensued. It was agreed that if the \$10,000.00 is not going to be spent, we will need to move it to a reserve account and possibly

Marv Harvey noted that Larry Curtis has told him that there are several streetlights that are out. Short discussion ensued, and it was noted that some of them tend to be out one day, but on again the next. Doon will contact GMP.

Larry revisited the issue of the water bill from one of the residents that was discussed at the last meeting. The board agreed that they do not wish to create any precedent for this type of situation. Discussion ensued. The homeowner will be notified that the bill will be due in full, but can be paid over time.

Nothing new on meters, Larry has emailed John Kiernan to follow up on where we stand in the ranks of grant money, but has not heard yet.

Also, nothing has come back from Atty Susan Ford regarding the deeding of the Library building to the Town. Larry will discuss with a different lawyer.

Bills were reviewed and warrants signed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McDonnell