

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (03/02/15) MINUTES
February 16, 2015 at the Town Office**

Selectboard members present: Carl Etnier (recording secretary), Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Steve Sparrow, Kim Swasey; Bruce Johnson (town administrator).

Others present: Karen Gramer (Delinquent Tax Collector); Julie Potter (town representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission); Don Welch (Town Treasurer).

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Seth Gardner called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

VTrans Certificate of Compliance for Town Road & Bridge Standards

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

Karen Gramer, Delinquent Tax Collector

Ms. Gramer presented a draft of the 2015 collection policy for delinquent taxes. It is very similar to the 2014 policy, with a clarification of the way interest is assessed on properties sold at tax sale.

The Selectboard (SB) is not required to endorse the policy. The SB is supportive of the change but took no action.

Ms. Gramer also updated the SB on delinquent tax payments. Summary:

Year	Amount due Feb. 16	# of properties
2015	\$77,514	32
2014	\$57,298	31
2013	\$48,181	29
2012	\$51,152	26

E. UPDATE ON CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (CVRPC)

Julie Potter, East Montpelier CVRPC Representative

Executive Director Sue Sinclair is retiring in April. The deadline for applications is later this week.

The regional plan is being updated for 2016. A future land use map will be adopted in 2015. She is encouraging CVRPC staff to ensure the regional and local land use maps are consistent.

As a member of the executive committee, she is working on reviewing and possibly revising the personnel policies for the organization.

F. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTED TREASURER CONTRACT

Motion: I move to approve the Employment Agreement with Treasurer Don Welch. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

G. CONSIDERATION OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR CONSERVATION FUND

The current Certificate of Deposit (CD) is up for renewal; fund total sits at approximately \$20,500.

There is an active Vermont Land Trust development rights project (on the Ormsbee property). The Conservation Fund Advisory Committee will be at the March 2nd SB meeting to discuss its recommendation for funding of the VLT project. The expected request is \$15,000.

The SB advised the Treasurer to put the CD into a savings account for the time being.

H. DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL VTRANS GRANT PROJECTS

The town will prepare to request VTrans funding for an engineering study of improvements to the new Class 2 stretch from US Rte. 2 to County Road.

The town will apply for the following structures grants: replacement of the undersized culvert under Quaker Road at the Brown residence, and, after getting a hydraulic study and a preliminary engineering review, replacement of the Murray Road culvert near the Montpelier line.

I. DISCUSSION OF 2015 TOWN MEETING/FORUM PRESENTATIONS

No action taken.

J. EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

Motion: I move to authorize Bruce Johnson to sign the excess weight permits for McCullough Crushing, Newport Sand & Gravel, and Pike Industries. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

K. WARRANTS

Signed.

L. MINUTES

Motion: I move to approve the minutes of February 2, 2015 as written. Made: Ms. Swasey. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

M. OTHER BUSINESS

VTrans Certificate of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards

This is a required element of VTrans structures and paving grant applications.

Motion: I move to approve the VTrans Certificate of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Sparrow. 5-0.

Charges for Capital West dispatch services

Mr. Gardner and Ms. Swasey reported on the meeting February 5. There is a patchwork of emergency dispatch services that East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) could choose from, e.g., Capital West, Barre City, Lamoille County Sheriff. It's unclear whether EMFD could save money by using other services. The SB looks forward to receiving more information on this issue as it becomes available.

Update on Act 148, the Universal Recycling Law

Mr. Johnson reported that the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) will handle the vast majority of the issues for us (and the other member towns). There is a hearing on its variable rate pricing ordinance on March 9th, 5:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce building.

March/April SB schedule:

To avoid spring school vacation, the SB schedule will be:

March 2nd, 16th, 30th; April 13th; the regular schedule resumes May 4th.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: I move to adjourn. Made: Mr. Sparrow. Second: Mr. Etnier. 5-0.