

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (03/06/17) MINUTES
February 20, 2017 at the Town Office**

Selectboard members present: Carl Etnier (recording secretary), Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Kim Swasey, Gene Troia; Bruce Johnson (town and zoning administrator).

Others present: Julie Potter (town representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC)); Paul Erlbaum, Ross Hazel, Thomas Weiss (Friends of Coburn Pond)

A. CALL TO ORDER

At 6:34 pm, Chair Seth Gardner called the Selectboard (SB) meeting to order.

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Liquor license for C.P. Dudley Store
Report from Municipal Government Day

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. DISCUSSION WITH JULIE POTTER, CVRPC TOWN REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Potter periodically updates the SB on activities at CVRPC.

Staffing changes: Transportation Planner Steve Gladczuk died in January; Dan Currier has moved from GIS to transportation planning. Pam DeAndrea is joining to handle GIS work.

Bylaws: They are in the process of changing the bylaws to allow the RPC to open a line of credit. The vote will be next month. They are anticipating a temporary negative cash flow in April. And, in any case, she thought it is prudent for organizations to have the option of a line of credit.

Ms. Potter is in her second year as vice-chair. By custom, the vice-chair becomes the chair, so she expects to become chair in July.

Work on the regional plan update is proceeding apace. It is anticipated by 2018. They are also working on the regional energy plan and anticipate a draft in May.

East Montpelier was one of three towns (out of six applicants) awarded special assistance to the energy committee for creating the town energy plan. The assistance will be available in April.

East Montpelier's Town Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) are due to be renewed in 2018. CVRPC has funding to pay for 75% or so of the HMP rewrite. It's difficult for a town to navigate the HMP process by itself.

E. WORK SESSION ON CVRPC CENTRAL VERMONT MUNICIPAL ENERGY SURVEY

Ms. Potter said CVRPC is looking for input from towns on the regional energy plan. The focus is on appropriate constraints for siting renewable energy structures. The town's Planning Commission (PC) and Energy Committee had a previous working session at the most recent PC meeting. There is another meeting scheduled for March 2 with the PC, Energy Committee, and Conservation Fund Advisory Committee. SB members Gene Troia and Carl Etnier plan to attend.

The SB went through the questions to give its take or to ask questions about the questions.

While the RPC is prepared to hear different things from different committees, East Montpelier will try to speak with one voice.

Motion: I move to pass the Selectboard input on to the Planning Commission, Conservation Fund Advisory Committee, and Energy Committee for their meeting on March 2 and to authorize that meeting to speak for the town. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.

F. DISCUSSION WITH FRIENDS OF COBURN POND

On behalf of Friends of Coburn Pond, Renee Carpenter drafted a letter for the Town to send to VTrans with regard to future ownership scenarios for the Coburn Pond parcel now owned by VTrans. The letter states that the town has interest in exploring ownership options, including the possibility of town ownership.

Mr. Johnson revised the draft. Thomas Weiss said he and the other two members of Friends of Coburn Pond attending the meeting were comfortable with the letter as revised.

Motion: I move to authorize chair Seth Gardner to sign the letter to VTrans re: Ownership of East Montpelier Coburn Road Wetlands Mitigation Site Property. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

G. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE OF NEW 2018 MACK 10-WHEELER

The SB reviewed the agreement and approved proceeding with the financing proposal from Kansas State Bank.

H. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO TOWN PERSONNEL POLICY

Mr. Johnson presented proposed amendments to the personnel policy, based on previous discussions. Additional tweaks were suggested; a new draft revision will be on agenda for the next SB meeting.

I. WORK SESSION FOR 2017 TOWN MEETING

The SB planned its presentations at Town Forum and Town Meeting.

J. LEGAL MATTERS

Hudson Adverse Possession Lawsuit. The trial is set for April 6-7, 2017; 6 hours on the 6th (9-3) and 3 hours on the 7th (9-noon).

K. LIQUOR LICENSES

Motion: I move to approve Caledonia Spirits' application for a special event permit at Morse Farm on March 25, 2017. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

Motion: I move to approve the C.P. Dudley Store liquor license application. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.

L. ACCESS PERMITS

Motion: I move to approve the curb cut application 17-003. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.

M. WARRANTS

Signed.

N. MINUTES

Motion: I move to approve the minutes of February 6, 2017 as submitted. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

O. OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Bald Invasive Plant Workshop

May 1st, 5:00 p.m. at the Village Emergency Services Facility. It will include a review of the hogweed situation nearby as a control example. It will be possible to do an onsite review of at least one site from 3-5 p.m. that afternoon.

Board of Civil Authority (BCA) Hearings Workshop

VLCT's Carl Anders will handle the workshop. Scheduled for April 17th (a normal board meeting night) at the ESF; a short board meeting will follow the workshop. Mr. Etnier offered to send Mr. Anders some questions based on previous discussions at the BCA.

VTrans Forum on Village Bridge & Rtes. 2/14 Intersection Project

Forum set for Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 6:30 p.m. at U-32. Current plan is to use a temporary bridge after all

Meeting Schedule

February 22nd	6:30 pm	At U-32; VTrans Village Bridge project forum
March 4th	9:30 am	Town Forum at East Montpelier Elementary School (EMES); second hearing on charter amendments
March 6th	6:30 pm	Selectboard regular meeting
March 7th	9:30 am	Town Meeting at EMES
March 20th	6:30 pm	Selectboard regular meeting

Zoning Administrator Report

5 permit applications so far in 2017.

Upcoming DRB meetings:

February 21, 2017 for two subdivision sketch plan reviews and a conceptual site plan review.

March 14, 2017 for subdivision hearings and any other matters that might arise.

Municipal Government Day Report

Mr. Etnier attended the events and the special meeting of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT), where the VLCT bylaws were amended to specify that the year's legislative agenda and any amendments thereto would be passed by a simple majority. He attended a question-and-answer session with staff from the Agency of Natural Resources on upcoming requirements for municipalities with respect to stormwater. And he attended a meeting of the House and Senate Government Operation Committees, where he presented work done in East Montpelier on conflicts of interest and charter amendments and used that as a basis to comment on current bills in the committees.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: I move to adjourn. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0. 9:04 pm.