

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (03/07/2016)
February 29, 2016 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: Andrew Greenwald, Sheriff W. Samuel Hill; Lieutenant Bret Meyer; Zachary Sances, Karen Saudek, Jean Vissering.

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

D. DISCUSSION WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff W. Samuel Hill; Lieutenant Bret Meyer

The town requested this meeting to discuss a possible contract for services; in particular, the Sheriff's Department can provide targeted speed patrols for challenging areas like East Montpelier Center.

They bill at \$28.75/hour plus \$0.62/mile. The minimum they would come out for is a three-hour shift. Availability is a question; the force is aging, and there are small classes in the academy. They may have capacity this year, but they cannot promise anything. The minimum contract level can be very low; they work with one town on a \$1500 annual contract.

If the town decides to sign a contract with the Sheriff's Department, they would like a couple weeks notice before the contract begins.

They are already in town on patrol occasionally on DUI details and SHARP (statewide accident reduction program).

The SB will decide later whether to sign a contract for patrols.

E. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE OF NEW 2017 MACK 10-WHEELER

The agreement is with Kansas State Bank at 2.49% interest. The total is \$148,234 made in five payments: one at closing, four on March 1st starting in 2017.

Motion: I move to adopt Obligor Resolution (Exhibit D) authorizing taking of loan from KS State Bank for the purchase of a new 2017 Mack 10-Wheeler. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.

F. CONSIDERATION OF EAST MONTPELIER VILLAGE PARK 'N RIDE DESIGN

The SB considered the current design and found no issues. It will go to the Development Review Board for a permit.

After the Park 'N Ride is constructed and the Town owns it, the Town is authorized to modify it.

Timeline: DRB in April; May, out to bid; construction is anticipated this year.

G. CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EAST MONTPELIER DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB) VACANCY

There is a vacancy due to the death of Betsy Catlin. The appointment would be until March 2017.

Three candidates have expressed interest:

Andrew Greenwald

Karen Saudek

Steve Sinclair

Mr. Greenwald and Ms. Saudek presented themselves to the SB and talked about their interest in being on the DRB. Mr. Greenwald said he would send a letter with more details; when he does, the SB will have something in writing from all three candidates.

The SB will decide at a later meeting.

H. UPDATE ON BDE EAST MONTPELIER LAZAR SOLAR, LLC PSB CPG APPLICATION FOR A 500 kW SOLAR ARRAY

Zachary Sances lives at 2537 US Route 2, which abuts the proposed project. He noted the history of his house and commented on the dramatic difference in the view behind the house if the solar array is built. He expressed skepticism that the project could be screened visually from the road. He also raised some possible legal issues that have the potential to stop the project.

Several on the board urged Mr. Sances to consult a lawyer so he knows how to advance his interests.

Planning Commission Chair Jean Vissering has been in communication with Joslyn Wilschek, the lead attorney for BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC and would like to provide an update on the situation. Ms. Wilschek has filed a notice with the Public Service Board that the Applicant and the town are in negotiations regarding potential permit conditions.

Motion: I move to find that premature general public knowledge of this matter would clearly place the town at a substantial disadvantage. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.

Motion: I move to go into executive session and invite Planning Commission Chair Jean Vissering into the session. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.

Made at 8:02 pm.

No action taken. Discussion ended 9:05 pm.

I. DISCUSSION ON 2016 TOWN MEETING

The SB reviewed the discussion at the Town Forum on Saturday and made plans for a discussion in Town Meeting.

J. WARRANTS

Signed.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

Town Administrator Report

Meeting Schedule:

March 1st	9:30 am	Town Meeting @ EMES
March 7th	6:30 pm	Regular SB meeting
March 21st	6:30 pm	Regular SB meeting
March 30th	6:30 pm	VTrans Village Bridge Forum @ U-32

Zoning Administrator Report

No new permit applications since February 15, 2016.

Next DRB meeting is expected to be April 5, 2016.

Anticipated applications for town park 'n ride facility; Orchard Valley Waldorf School pre-school on Coburn Road; Carpet Barn front exterior reconstruction; Dion business use of residential property on Fair Road

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: I move to adjourn. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0. 9:55 pm