

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (03/21/16) MINUTES  
March 7, 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: Vermont State Police:** Lt. Matthew Nally, Sgt. Roger Farmer. Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD): Ginny Callan, East Montpelier representative; Cathleen Gent, CVSWMD Planning Analyst; Bill Powell, Calais representative. Delinquent Tax Collector Karen Gramer. Townspeople Deborah Fillion and Rick Mastelli.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Two liquor licenses to sign.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**D. DISCUSSION WITH VERMONT STATE POLICE; CONSIDERATION OF 2016 STATE POLICE CONTRACT**

The town is preparing to renew its contract for extra coverage of 40 hours per month. It will be for a six-month period – yearly contracts are no longer written. The rate is \$68.35/hour; last year was \$66.25 (3.2% increase).

Staffing levels at Middlesex barracks are down by 1 trooper right now. Now is the window for transfers within the state, so it could change up or down.

**Motion: I move to authorize chair Seth Gardner to sign a six-month contract with Vermont State Police for 40 hours of coverage a month at up to \$68.35/hour on average. Made: Mr. Etnier.  
Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.**

**E. LIQUOR LICENSES**

The SB signed the liquor licenses for Dudley's Store and Plainfield Hardware and General Store.

**F. DISCUSSION WITH CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Ginny Callan, Town CVSWMD Representative  
Cathleen Gent, CVSWMD Planning Analyst  
Bill Powell, CVSWMD Representative (Calais)

CVSWMD reported on the current plans to comply with the mandatory composting and recycling provisions in Act 148 after the district has taken off the table plans to buy a parcel on Route 14 in East Montpelier. Their facility in Barre at the old Times Argus building is too small. They are looking at leasing options. They may need to ask the Agency of Natural Resources for an exemption to the leaf and yard waste collection requirement that phases in July 1.

They also said there is a search committee in place for a new general manager.

There was much talk about difficulties of running a district with towns dropping in and out. They have lost half a dozen over last decade. Private enterprise is competing to provide services of a SWMD. Many in the discussion wondered about the ability of private enterprises to provide competitive pricing in the long run.

CVSWMD is planning a session to brainstorm some next steps. Mr. Gardner offered to be part of that.

### **G. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

Karen Gramer, East Montpelier Collector of Delinquent Taxes

Ms. Gramer presented the current situation with delinquent taxes, now and in previous years at this time:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Number of Properties</b>
03/07/16	\$66,861.75	26
03/16/15	\$74,836.71	31
03/16/14	\$47,688.49	29
03/16/13	\$41,257.58	19

The delinquent taxes from the Reginald Laundry estate cannot be collected via a tax sale until the estate goes through probate. That does not seem likely to happen soon if the town does not make it happen.

**Motion: I move to authorize Delinquent Tax Collector Karen Gramer to hire attorney Bruce Bjornlund to begin the probate process on the Reginald D. Laundry estate. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Mr. Etnier. 5-0.**

### **H. CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EAST MONTPELIER DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD VACANCY**

Three candidates applied; the SB was impressed with all of them..

**Motion: I move to appoint Andrew Greenwald to the Development Review Board for a term running until March 2017. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.**

### **I. DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR SPEED ENFORCEMENT**

The town for now will try using the speed sign with radar that it has borrowed from Calais and see what results it has in slowing traffic on Center Road. The SB will return to the sheriff's contract at the end of April.

### **J. DISCUSSION ON FORMATION OF COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP OPTIONS FOR TOWN-OWNED OLD LAPERLE FARM PROPERTY**

The SB had previously decided to limit the committee size to seven. Far more than seven well-qualified townspeople indicated their interest.

**Motion: I move to appoint the following people to a committee to develop options for the town-owned LaPerle Farm Property and report to the Selectboard at its first meeting in October:**

**Ginny Callan  
Louise Frazier  
Seth Gardner  
Bob Morey  
Andy Shapiro  
Ray Stout  
Zach Sullivan**

**Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.**

The first meeting will be March 22, 7 pm, in the town office.

#### **K. LEGAL MATTERS**

The SB discussed the latest in BDE East Montpelier Lazar Solar, LLC proceedings for a Certificate of Public Good from the Public Service Board.

No action taken.

#### **L. 2016 SELECTBOARD ORGANIZATION**

Mr. Northrup chaired the first part of this agenda item.

**Motion: I move to elect Seth Gardner chair. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Ms. Swasey. 4-0-1 (Mr. Gardner recused himself).**

Mr. Gardner resumed chairing the meeting.

**Motion: I move to nominate Casey Northrup as vice-chair. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Ms. Swasey. 4-0-1 (Mr. Northrup recused himself).**

**Motion: I move to authorize Seth Gardner as primary signer and Casey Northrup as secondary signer of payroll warrants, payroll vendor warrants, and necessary expense warrants when due dates don't align with meeting dates. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.**

#### **M. 2016 SELECTBOARD RULES OF TRANSACTION**

**Motion: I move to adopt the Town of East Montpelier 2016 Selectboard Rules of Transaction as presented. Made: Mr. Troia. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.**

Potential meeting calendar for March through October (to deal with summer and holidays):

March 21st	(last year March 30th)
April 11th	(13th)
May 2nd	(4th)
May 16th	(18th)
June 6th	(1st)
June 20th	(23rd)
July 11th	(13th)
August 1st	(3rd)
August 15th	(17th)
August 29th	(31st)
September 19th	(21st)
October 3rd	(5th)

#### **N. 2016 TOWN MEETING REVIEW**

Board members discussed last week's successful (all items passed) Town Meeting. The board will revisit both the Recreation Board change of status and the Conservation Fund change of direction issues over the coming months. Just like last year, no one ran for the Second Constable position. The board will again leave this statutorily-optional position vacant.

#### **O. APPOINTMENTS**

**Motion: I move to appoint townspeople to the following positions:**

**Town Tree Warden: Paul Cate**

**CVSWMD Town Representative: Ginny Callan**

**Development Review Board (3-year terms): Jeff Cueto, Norman Hill, Carol Welch**

**Capital Improvement Committee (open term): Kim Watson, PC representative**

**Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.**

#### **P. WARRANTS**

Signed.

#### **Q. MINUTES**

**Motion: I move to approve the minutes of February 15 as amended. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Mr. Troia. 5-0.**

**Motion: I move to approve the minutes of February 29 as amended. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.**

#### **R. OTHER BUSINESS**

CVRPC is hosting a series of ICS 402 (Incident Command System for Executives) courses in late March and April. This course is recommended for all board members. Mr. Northrup has already taken the course. Mr. Gardner, Ms. Swasey, Mr. Troia, and Mr. Etnier agree to take the April 27<sup>th</sup> course offering. TA Johnson will submit the applications.

#### **S. ADJOURNMENT**

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