

Minutes of the East Montpelier Selectboard

APPROVED 5/7/12

April 16, 2012

SB Members Present: Bruce Johnson (Chair), Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Steve Sparrow, Carl Etnier
Others Present: Kristi Flynn (Recording Secretary), Don Welch, Lt. Paul White, Sandy Conti, Markus Bradley, Paul Cate, John Audy, Bill Amell, Mike Garand, Kyle Martin

Call to Order: 6:37pm

Additions to the Agenda: Liquor license

Public Comment: Sandy Conti, animal officer, gave the SB an update on a dog situation on County Road. There are dogs that are disturbing and threatening neighbors; the owners have been given warnings but have not been cooperating. The dogs are not licensed and it is not clear whether they have had their shots or not. The SB asked that the dogs be taken to the Humane Society immediately without proof of vaccination.

Lt. Paul White, Vermont State Police

The SB received a handout regarding specific calls in the town. The VSP concentrated on the hot spots mentioned during last year's meeting, mainly Upper North Street and Old Trail Road. The SB did not specify any hot spots this year. Lt. White and John Audy noted that the communication within the town and with VSP is invaluable.

Markus Bradley, Forester & Invasive Plant Expert

Mr. Bradley spoke to the SB regarding his experience with invasive plants across the state and hogweed in particular. He noted that most parcels in the state will have some type of invasive plant. He has some experience with hogweed, and is licensed for herbicide applications that would disrupt the amino acids of the plants. He would be looking at a 10-year plan, planning to spray once a year for the first two years. Paul Cate noted that there should be an initial knockdown of the plants, then herbicides and then considering dealing with the smaller plants with volunteers. Some research needs to be done regarding wells and run-off to the river. Spraying would most likely occur in June.

EMFD Capital Reserve Expenditure for Ambulance Purchase

John Audy, the Fire Chief, came to the SB to request expenditure for an ambulance purchase. The box from the existing ambulance would be taken off and re-mounted on a new chassis. The financing is \$101,556.19 to be approved out of the capital reserve fund, using revenue from the ambulance use. The money from the sale of the old chassis will go back into the capital reserve fund. Future expenditure: new engine replacement in 2021 (about \$400,000); the EMFD would consider borrowing money in the future if necessary.

Motion: I move to authorize the expenditure of up to \$101,556.19 from the truck line of the Capital Reserve Fund for the EMFD for a new chassis and re-mount of R4. Made: Northrup, second: Etnier

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

The SB spoke with the Fire Chief about burn permits. Current conditions are prime for forest fires, there is lots of growth and everything is extremely dry. On red warnings days, no burn permits will be given. The EMFD talks with those with unpermitted fires and puts the fires out. The process seems to be working well.

State Police Community Advisory Board Presentation

Don Welch came to the SB as the conduit between the town and the VSP. He noted that the Advisory Board would like to communicate directly with the townspeople about education issues without having to go through the SB. Suggestions: Front Porch Forum; share videotaped presentations/education.

Peoples United Bank Credit Card Application

The Road Foreman (RF) is uncomfortable with carrying a credit card for the town, but understands the reasoning. The SB is cancelling the card with the Town Clerk's name on it and getting a new card for the town. As the people who generally have to use the card, the Town Administrator and Town Assistant will be cardholders.

Motion: I move to adopt the resolution for Peoples United Bank Business Card Resolution Form for the Town of East Montpelier with the Town Administrator authorized to execute the application with Bruce Johnson and Denise

Brown as cardholders. Made: Gardner, second: Northrup

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Highway Budget and Project Discussion

The RF came to the SB to discuss upcoming projects.

- Pike came in with bids for Center Road for \$252,000, which can be submitted with the 2012 paving grant application, and bids for Muddy Brook, Towne Hill and County roads for \$330,343.25. There were no options besides Pike.

Motion: I move to accept the Pike Contract for the 3 town projects: Muddy Brook Road, Towne Hill Road and County Road. Made: Northrup, second: Gardner

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

- Lo-Pro repairs – rear springs needed replacing, exhaust intake was replaced. The truck is under mileage but over on hours. Some repairs will be under warranty.

- Summer hours – the crew will work four 10-hour days per week once the school year ends

- Sanders Circle – RF will put in a new 18” culvert at 775 Sanders Circle (Francis Holmes)

- Gravel budget – budget has \$8,000 left but it won’t last long. There are other lines to move money from, but the SB agrees to overspend the gravel budget.

- Ditching for Town Office – RF will put in a new culvert with the abutting owner’s permission; Patrick McCoy came in with an \$800 estimate. Ditching and sloping the road won’t completely solve the problem but it will help.

Biennial VTrans Town Bridge Inspection Report

The SB received the report for Coburn Covered Bridge and the bridge to Cate Farm. The SB signed the report and the Chair will send back to the Agency of Transportation.

Financing Agreement for New Mack Truck

Motion: I move to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of Obligor as follows:

- 1. Determination of Need. The Governing Body of Obligor has determined that a true and very real need exists for the acquisition of the Equipment described on Exhibit A of the Government Obligation Contract dated as of April 5, 2012, between Town of East Montpelier, Vermont (Obligor) and Kansas State Bank of Manhattan (Obligee).**
- 2. Approval and Authorization. The Governing Body of Obligor has determined that the Contract, substantially in the form presented to this meeting, is in the best interests of the Obligor for the acquisition of such Equipment, and the Governing Body hereby approves the entering into of the Contract by the Obligor and hereby designates and authorizes the following person(s) to execute and deliver the Contract on Obligor’s behalf with such changes thereto as such person(s) deem(s) appropriate, and any related documents, including any Escrow Contract, necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Contract.**

Authorized Individual: C. Bruce Johnson, East Montpelier Selectboard Chair

Made: Etnier, second: Sparrow

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Efficiency Vermont Streetlight Incentive Agreement

This agreement states that Efficiency VT will pay for any un-reimbursed cost of replacing streetlights.

Motion: I move to authorize the Chair to sign the Efficiency Vermont Agreement. Made: Northrup, second: Sparrow

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

ESRI ARC GIS Annual License & Maintenance Agreement

Motion: I move to authorize the Chair to sign the ESRI Annual Maintenance Agreement. Made: Etnier, second: Sparrow

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Sanfacon Appeal of DRB Decision to Environmental Court

Mediation may require the agreement between the town, Sanfacon and Pollock. Betsy Catlin of the DRB has requested the town vigorously defend the DRB’s decision. Successful mediation will mean less cost for the town.

Appointments

Rally Day Committee – Etnier will check with Tracy Loysen

Motion: I move to appoint Kim Watson to the Farm Contract Study Committee and Becky Brown, Lisa Helme and Jean Vissering to the Rally Day Committee. Made: Etnier, second: Northrup

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Excess Weight Permits

Motion: I move to approve Excess Weight Permits for Newton Construction and Gregory A Bartlett. Made: Gardner, second: Sparrow

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Warrants

Signed

Review of Minutes

April 2, 2012

Motion: I move to approve as amended. Made: Gardner, second: Northrup

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Liquor License

Motion: I move to approve the liquor and tobacco licenses for the Riverbend Store. Made: Gardner, second: Northrup

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0

Other Business/Town Administrator Report

Special SB Meeting – 4/23 at 11:30 am

Quarterly EMFD Budget Meeting – 4/19 at 7pm

Kingsbury Hydro – amended net metering application is more detailed; town still has standing to comment on PSB proceeding

Sylvia Tosi – being honored at the Capital, 4/17 at 10am

IT Services – rbTech has completed inventory and assessment of the network and recommends replacing 5 old computers; rbTech is working on a contract

Park N Ride – Chair may speak at the next WEC board meeting

PACE Program – towns may be able to finance the program without going into debt

“Fire Warden” – note Edie Miller’s concern regarding using the EMFD as “Fire Warden”

CVRPC – see Erik Esselstyn’s regular report on the CVRPC meeting

Motion: To adjourn. Made: Sparrow, second: Gardner

Vote on Motion: Passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristi Flynn, Recording Secretary