

**East Montpelier Selectboard Meeting APPROVED (05/18/15) MINUTES
May 4, 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: Matt Krauss, Taylor Ralph (SunCommon), Bill Royce, Howard Sieven, Becca White (SunCommon).

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Seth Gardner called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**D. DISCUSSION WITH TAYLOR RALPH, SUN COMMON REPRESENTATIVE,
REGARDING COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT PLANNED FOR COBURN
PROPERTY ON VT RTE. 14 N**

Taylor Ralph of SunCommon presented plans for a 150 kW solar array on the Coburn Property on Route 14 N. The application for a Certificate of Public Good from the Public Service Board is to be filed Friday, or perhaps the following week. They have already done outreach to abutters; she came to the SB to inform the board of the project.

There are possibilities for Green Mountain Power customers in East Montpelier to sign up for the power from this array. They plan to have an event or two in town closer to construction.

**E. DISCUSSION ON MAY 7, 2015 PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE EAST MONTPELIER LAND USE &
DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS and MEETING WITH PLANNING COMMISSION
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE HEARING REGARDING
PC PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE PLANNING & ZONING EFFORTS**

The SB is invited to attend the hearing on May 7 to give input on future directions for changing zoning regulations. The SB brainstormed some ideas to bring to the hearing and meeting.

F. CONSIDERATION OF BETTER BACKROADS GRANT APPLICATION

A grant application will be prepared for replacing a culvert on Coburn Road. It will be of a scale that the town's work will meet our matching fund requirements. Deadline is May 15.

Motion: I move to authorize Town Administrator Bruce Johnson to sign the Better Backroads grant application. Made: Ms. Swasey. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

**G. CONSIDERATION OF GREEN HOMES SOLUTIONS OF VT OFFER OF FREE BUG
TREATMENTS FOR TOWN RECREATION FIELD**

Green Homes Solutions of VT, a new local company, is offering to treat the recreation field for mosquitoes, biting flies, and ticks through the spring sports season.

The Recreation Board has some concerns with this offer, including a lack of identified need for

treatments. It will consider the treatment again at its May 11th meeting. Julie Brown, one of the company's owners and an East Montpelier resident, asked that the Selectboard also consider the proposal.

The SB will wait on any action until the Recreation Board meets and conveys its recommendation to the SB.

H. CONSIDERATION OF ESRI FY2016 ARCGIS LICENSE QUOTE

This is the standard annual one-seat ArcGIS license to use with the town's Query Manager parcel data program. The cost remains \$700, which includes maintenance and updates.

Motion: I move to authorize Town Administrator Bruce Johnson to sign the ArcGIS license contract with ESRI. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Sparrow. 5-0.

I. CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR IT SERVICES FROM rbTECHNOLOGIES

The contract will roll unless the board decides to not renew. The monthly price has dropped to \$260 from \$290 because of the change in server configuration. Last year the town had both a main server and a back-up server, but the new system simply has one server that handles all network tasks.

The SB is satisfied with the value received for the contract and will let it roll.

J. VTRANS RIGHT-OF-WAY PURCHASE OF TOWN LAND FOR VILLAGE BRIDGE PROJECT

As part of the Village Bridge and US Rte. 2/VT Rte. 14 south intersection project, VTrans is purchasing the land for which it holds road rights-of-way. The town owns a lot (the old town hall lot) along the east side of US Rte. 2. VTrans is offering to purchase the 24.75 feet (1.5 rods) of r-o-w.

The proffered deeds have not yet been vetted by Attorney Bruce Bjornlund. The offered price is \$200. The SB is OK donating the r-o-w to VTrans for the project. The donation will be executed at a future meeting, after the SB has received Mr. Bjornlund's opinion.

K. WEC REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION OF OFFICE BUILDING CONFORMANCE WITH ZONING REGULATIONS

In light of the recent refusal of the town to give the Church Street lot to WEC to resolve WEC's concerns over selling the VT Rte. 14 N garage lot to the town for a park 'n ride and its effect on WEC's available (and fully WEC-controlled) parking, WEC is now asking that the town certify that WEC is fully in conformance, as a pre-existing use, with the town's parking requirements contained in the zoning regulations.

Motion: I move to authorize SB Chair Seth Gardner to sign a letter assuring WEC that they are currently in compliance with East Montpelier zoning regulations for parking as a pre-existing use, without the parking spaces on the opposite side of Route 14. Made: Mr. Etnier. Second: Mr. Northrup. 5-0.

L. EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

Motion: I move authorize TA Bruce Johnson to sign excess weight permits EW-15-35 through EW-15-38 as presented. Made: Mr. Northrup. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.

M. WARRANTS

Signed.

N. MINUTES

Motion: I move to approve the minutes of April 13, 2015 as amended. Made: Mr. Sparrow.

Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0.

O. OTHER BUSINESS

Resident Matt Krauss introduced himself to the board and offered his services to volunteer on a board or committee in the town in the future.

The highway crew will be attending May 13th VMHA (VT Municipal Highway Association) Equipment Show & Field Day in Barre at Civic Center/BOR.

Municipal Assistant Denise Brown would appreciate consideration of the installation of a screen door(s) to allow airflow without bug flow. The SB considered the issue and could not find a way to install a screen door without violating what they believe to be fire requirements that doors in public buildings open outwards. The SB believes it is possible to open a screened window.

Zoning Administrator Report

There have been 2 new applications since April 13th; no DRB meeting currently scheduled, but it appears one will be needed on June 2nd, though no formal application has yet been received.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: I move to adjourn. Made: Mr. Sparrow. Second: Ms. Swasey. 5-0. 8:52 pm.