

## **Minutes of the East Montpelier Selectboard**

**June 27, 2013**

**SB Attendance:** Chair Seth Gardner, Casey Northrup, Steve Sparrow; Town Administrator Bruce Johnson

**Public Attendance:** Don Welch, Town Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

**Additions to Agenda:** Dubois culvert proposal; Recreation field easement

**Public Comment:** None

### **Warrants**

SB members signed the end-of-the-fiscal-year warrant.

### **Addition to Agenda: Dubois Construction Proposal for Mallory Brook Culvert**

The town recently received a structures grant from the VT Agency of Transportation. The grant, in the amount of \$175,000, is for the replacement of the Mallory Brook culvert on Center Road near the Dodge Road intersection. The town match is 10% of \$175,000 (\$17,500) plus any excess cost. Dubois Construction has submitted a proposal to replace the culvert for \$202,000, so the expected cost to the town will be \$27,000.

**Motion: To accept the Dubois Construction proposal to replace the Mallory Brook culvert.** Made by Mr. Northrup; second by Mr. Sparrow. Passed unanimously.

Chair Gardner signed the proposal.

### **Addition to Agenda: Recreation Field Easement to Benefit EMES**

The East Montpelier Elementary School renovation project includes a stormwater disposal element, an 18" pipe that runs diagonally across the town recreation field to a flow dispersion mechanism near the brook behind (west of) the mowed fields, that necessitates the town providing the school district with an easement over the town property. Town Attorney Bruce Bjornlund and district attorney Paul Giuliani crafted an easement to allow the desired use.

**Motion: To accept the proposed easement and authorize Town Administrator Johnson to sign the warranty deed on behalf of the town.** Made by Mr. Sparrow; second by Mr. Northrup. Passed unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Treasurer Welch presented an update on delinquent tax collections. \$156,438 is still delinquent compared to \$127,807 at this time last year, but the difference of \$28,631 is a significant improvement over the year-to-year gap of \$100,002 that existed on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Selectboard discussed the recent revelation that the EMES renovation bond would significantly affect the FY14 tax rate, adding an estimated 16.5 cents. This is the result of the school district accepting a 20-year bond that will take effect on June 28, 2013, so that a full year (two six-month interest payments and an annual principal payment) will be due in FY2014.

Board members discussed the new requirement that solar projects larger than 10kW must be assessed (under a state cost schedule) and added to the town grand list. Two entities, McKnight Farm and Kingsbury Hydro, have solar installations that exceed the 10kW threshold. These installations will not be added to the education grand list – the state directly taxes such projects at \$4/kW annually.

**Motion: To adjourn.** Made by Mr. Northrup; second by Mr. Sparrow. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Johnson, Town Administrator

**Approved: July 8, 2013 East Montpelier Selectboard meeting**