

Selectboard Memo
May 18, 2015 SB Meeting

Discussion with Village Committee on Village Sidewalk Project

- The town continues to make progress with the \$490,000 VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Grant for sidewalk & shoulder improvements in the East Montpelier Village area – currently in the design phase
- Issues have arisen with the area in front of the post office, Dudley's Store, and the old Hill's/Clark's garage; VTrans has a variety of concerns regarding access, sidewalk continuity, private property improvements, and other issues; the town needs to determine exactly what it wants along those properties, if anything

Discussion with Recreation Board on External Auditor Recommendations Regarding Management of Rec Board Finances

- From the FY2014 Sullivan Powers audit:

Recreation Committee Fund:

It is our understanding that the Recreation Committee Fund is a fund of the Town. If this is true, all assets should be under the control of the Selectboard and Treasurer. Also, expenditures would have to be approved by the Selectboard through the warrant process and all checks would be signed by the Treasurer. Currently, the Recreation Committee Fund has a cash account that is not under the control of the Town Treasurer.

We recommend that the Town verify that the Recreation Committee Fund is a part of the Town and, if so, that the Town should record all the assets and activity of Recreation Committee Fund, that the Town Treasurer should have control of the cash account and that all expenditures should be approved by the Selectboard.

Discussion on Creation of Capital Improvement Committee as a Standing Committee Under the Selectboard

- The Capital Improvement Committee was created in 2013 as a sub-committee of the Planning Commission; now that the initial development of a capital plan and planning process has been completed, both the PC and the CIC recommend re-establishing the CIC as a standing committee of the Selectboard
- See letter; the CIC proposal contemplates a 5-member committee with 1 PC member, 1 SB member, the town treasurer, and 1 at-large member; no recommendation for the 5 member
- All 5 current CIC members (PC members Gene Troia & Julie Potter, SB member Casey Northrup, Town Treasurer Don Welch, and citizen-at-large Dave Burley) are willing to continue serving

Discussion on SunCommon CPG Application for 150 kW Community Solar Array on Coburn Property

- SunCommon has now officially applied for a 150kW community solar array on Dave & Paulie Coburn's property located at 139 Daggett Road (large property along the east side of VT Rte. 14 N about a half mile north of Bragg Farm Sugarhouse); the array will be located to the east of the old Coburn farmhouse, well off VT Rte. 14
- Comments are due to the Public Service Board by early June

Consideration of Quit Claim Deed From Town to VTrans for US Rte. 2 R-O-W Currently Part of Old Town Hall Parcel

- At May 4, 2015 SB meeting members agreed to approve the transfer, by donation, of the US Rte. 2 right-of-way in front of the old town hall lot in East Montpelier Village to VTrans, once the deed was vetted by town attorney Bruce Bjornlund; he has now reviewed the quit claim document and is comfortable with the transfer

- This is in conjunction with the planned VTrans replacement of the Village Bridge and reconstruction of the US Rte. 2/VT Rte. 14 intersection

Consideration of Delta Dental Insurance Through VLCT

- East Montpelier is one of the few municipalities that does not provide some form of dental insurance to its employees; we are now in the window for new municipal sign-ups for the VLCT Delta Dental offering; if offered, the town must include and pay for all eligible employees (not dependents)
- If the town chooses to move forward with the program, there are choices:
 - Dependent coverage (at least 65% must sign up) and level of town payment for same (could be anywhere from 100% to 0%)
 - Dependent coverage to age 26 (like health coverage) – no extra charge
 - Domestic partner coverage – no extra charge
 - We, as a town, do not qualify for orthodontic coverage (too few employees)
- Cost for town's 7 fulltime employees for Plan 2 (the most popular) is \$2,878.68; cost for total coverage, including dependents, at 100% town cost would be \$7,796.28 (presuming 3 couples & 4 families)

Additions to Agenda

- Annual agreement (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016) with state for the use of the Marshall & Swift Cost Tables for CAMA
 - License fee is still \$238.81/year
 - Agreement needs to be signed by SB chair
- Update on FY15 Tax Collection
 - Due date for 2nd (final) payment was May 15th
 - Treasurer's Delinquent Tax Warrant to Delinquent Tax Collector Karen Gramer lists 79 properties and \$194,312 in delinquent taxes (2.88% delinquent tax rate compared to last year's 2.97%)

Town Administrator Report

- Winston/Silberberg property
 - Foreclosure has been approved by judge; next up is auction, possibly in late June
- Zoning Permit & Map Database Project
 - Permit database goes back to 1995; concept is to get database back to 1970; challenge is to tie permits/maps to a particular property as this predates E911 and our modern parcel numbering
- FY2016 VTrans Structures Grant Program
 - The town received a grant for the replacement of the Murray Road culvert near the city line
- 2015 Central VT Cycling Tour
 - Annual event centered in East Montpelier is scheduled for June 28th
- Better Backroads Grant Application
 - We did not apply for a 2015 grant; the Coburn Road culvert turned out to be too big a job (likely north of \$60,000) for the \$10,000 max grant (possible structures grant application for 2016)
- Capital Improvement Committee Questionnaire on Future Capital Projects
 - See questionnaire; due by June 30th
- Upcoming schedule:
 - June 1st Regular SB meeting
6:30 p.m. at town office
 - June 15th Regular SB meeting
6:30 p.m. at town office

Zoning Administrator Report

- 6 new applications since May 4th; June 2, 2015 DRB hearing (Wiswall/Cate Farm addition of apartment to barn using adaptive reuse of historic barn concept)
- Potential enforcement action (Clement/Buck, Mays Way)