

Selectboard Memo
December 21, 2015 SB Hearing & Meeting

Budget Discussion: GMTA/Route 2 Commuter Bus

David Armstrong, CCTA/GMTA Planning Manager

- The EM share of the Route 2 Commuter Bus service remains set at \$8,333

Discussion on GMTA Use of WEC Garage Property

- When the WEC garage parcel passes to the town on January 4th, the lease allowing GMTA use of the property will end; GMTA wants to continue using the site, despite the known difficulties
- VTrans recommends a low key, short-term lease that will expire at the start of the park 'n ride construction

Budget Discussion: Kellogg-Hubbard Library

Tom McKone, KHL Executive Director; Lindy Biggs, Town Representative

- KHL is requesting a level-funded \$38,614 from the town

Budget Discussion: Wrightsville Beach Recreation District

Collin O'Neil, WBRD Manager; Bill Merrylees, Town Representative

- The District, which has been level funded by the four towns (EM, Middlesex, Worcester, & Montpelier) for many years, is considering an increase; the representatives are here to discuss the reasoning

Presentation of Funding Request Study Committee Report

- SB already decided to remove Central VT Home Health & Hospice from the annual funding request article, which complicates the year-to-year comparison:
 - 2015: 27 funded organizations at a total of \$22,561, including \$5,500 for CVHHH
 - 2016: 30 funded organizations at a total of \$19,811
 - 26 organizations from both years: 2015 at \$17,061; 2016 at \$17,861; up 4.7%
 - 2 new groups for 2016 (Good Samaritan Haven; Washington County Mental Health Services); 2 returning (Red Cross; VABVI) after no funding in 2015
- Unless there are concerns, the board should accept the report and set the funding request article for the 2016 Town Meeting Warning

Discussion on Requested Center Road Speed Limit Change

- Citizens have submitted a petition for the town to consider a lower speed limit in East Montpelier Center; a number of residents have called, submitted emails, &/or appeared before the board in support of the concept
- CVRPC has completed a one-week study of speeds & volume of traffic along Center Road from Dodge Road to Bliss Road
- A resident pointed out traffic speed units on the Central VT Medical Center property that might work for Center Road; units are from Trafficalm Systems; Road Foreman Garand visited CVMC and was impressed with the concept, but was concerned with potential vandalism

Discussion on Planning For Winston/Silberberg Property

- **EMFD Request for Building Use**
 - See proposed Memorandum of Use to allow EMFD to conduct non-damaging drills both inside and on the roof of the town-owned structure located at 3035 US Rte. 2
- **Discussion on Responses from Volunteer Appreciation Party and Next Steps**
 - A variety of suggestions were received last Thursday, with the most common suggestions involving some kind of use benefitting EMSLI (senior housing), replacement town office, recreation, and restaurant/retail shops

Presentation of FY2015 Financial Audit

- Sullivan, Powers and Co., PC has completed the town's FY2015 financial audit

Consideration of Letter to EMFD Regarding Expansion of Ambulance Service to Other Towns

- See draft joint letter from the Towns of Calais and EM expressing concerns over the potential expansion; the Calais SB is also considering the letter at its meeting tonight

Discussion on FY2017 Budget Development

- As requested, EMFD amended its FY2017 budget request for a total (from EM) of \$234,418.66

Preliminary Discussion on 2016 Town Meeting Warning

- Two main issues:
 - The Conservation Fund is down to just over \$5,000; last March the board and the Conservation Fund Advisory Committee agreed to hold a discussion on the need to potentially add funding, but also to look at the entire concept given the amount of conserved land in town; the committee is willing to come to a January board meeting
 - The board needs to decide how it wants to proceed with the Recreation Board: move forward with the concept of a separate non-profit entity or bring the Rec Board's finances under the town's financial management
- The school board would like to continue going first at Town Meeting

Listers Errors & Omissions

- Gloria Biron's 2952 US Rte. 2 (the old Crossroads Garage) property was accidentally removed in its entirety from the grand list last June; the listers have recreated the exact parcel profile, with an assessed value of \$94,400, and a FY2016 tax bill has been sent; the board needs to authorize the addition of the \$94,400 to the 2015 grand list

Addition to Agenda

- **Renewal of Cemetery Commission CD:**
 - One of the perpetual care cds, in the amount of \$50,000, is up for renewal; Treasurer Welch recommends a one-year renewal, despite the continued anemic rates
 - If board is comfortable, should authorize Treasurer Welch to renew on such terms as he sees fit

Town Administrator Report

- Citizen Request For Permit Information on Town Website
 - A town resident has asked that the town consider putting zoning permits in some form (with or without application materials) up on the town website
 - Would also like to see the permit data linked to the web map, but that is likely beyond our capabilities at this point
- WEC Park 'n Ride Issues:
 - Closing on property is January 4th
 - Level 2 charging station:
 - WEC's Bill Powell will come to a January meeting to discuss the issue
 - Essentially the town will have to decide whether to accept the offer of a Level 2 station installed for free at the park 'n ride (installation would happen after the facility is constructed, not as part of the park 'n ride project) and then decide how to allow use (free; charge a set rate; charge per hour; charge penalty for staying beyond necessary charging time; some combo of same)
 - Two Level 1 stations are in the current park 'n ride design
 - Power at garage structure:
 - WEC is cutting off the power unless we request it to set up an account for the town
 - Does town want to have power at the garage during the interim period between property closing and construction of facility?
 - VTrans does not need access to power during the interim period
- Meeting Schedule:
 - January 4th 6:30 pm Regular SB meeting
 - January 18th 6:30 pm Regular SB meeting
 - January 25th 6:30 pm Special SB meeting

Zoning Administrator Report

- See permit activity for period December 7 – December 21, 2015
- No DRB meeting in January; very likely there will be a DRB meeting February 2, 2016
 - Anticipated applications for town park 'n ride facility; Orchard Valley Waldorf School structure; Laquerre 2-lot subdivision of recently purchased Rappaport woodlot