

Selectboard Memo

September 19, 2016 SB Meeting

Public Forum for East Montpelier Village Sidewalk Project

- Local Project Manager Kevin Russell and DuBois & King lead engineer Brian Breslend will present the latest plans for the sidewalk project

Meeting with Funding Request Study Committee

- Members: Charlie Catlin, Lindy Johnson, Ann Stanton, Sue Racanelli, Paul Erlbaum, Jeanne Malachowski, Sandal Cate; application packet will go out to 30+ organizations by the end of this week with a due date of October 21st
- This is the board's opportunity to set the ground rules for the FY2018 funding request article; total (without Montpelier Senior Activity Center & Central VT Home Health & Hospice) last year was \$19,811; already at least one new organization intends to apply this year (TW Wood Gallery)

Consideration of Cross Vermont Trail Request for 2017 Town Meeting Funding Article for Planned Winooski Bridge

- The long-planned Cross VT Trail Winooski River bridge in the old rail bridge location near Winooski Hydro (the west end is in East Montpelier; the east end is in Berlin) still lacks some \$100,000 in local monies to leverage the federal funds; the trail itself, from the Montpelier line west to east, is in East Montpelier until it crosses the bridge, runs a few hundred yards in Berlin, a few feet in Barre Town, and then back in EM for a number of miles before entering Plainfield
- Rick Hopkins will be here to discuss the possibility of a funding article on the 2017 Town Meeting Warning to benefit the bridge; the Cross VT Trail Association is making similar requests to other local communities

Discussion with Bill Merrylees, Town Representative to Wrightsville Beach Recreation District

- Mr. Merrylees is stuck in Boston on business and will not be present

Discussion with Dan Currier, CVRPC, Regarding Potential Kingsbury Branch Watershed Grant Application

- Central VT Regional Planning Commission is preparing a grant application to do a stormwater analysis of the Kingsbury Branch watershed; the towns of Woodbury, Calais, and East Montpelier are involved; Mr. Currier will explain the purpose of the study and request a letter of support from the Selectboard

Discussion with Gus Seelig, Executive Director of the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board

- Mr. Seelig will be here to discuss his organization's land conservation & affordable housing programs, the concerns expressed by the Selectboard when it rejected the Fairmont Dairy project, and how the town, VHCB, and organizations like the VT Land Trust can best work together for the public good

Reconsideration of Decision Regarding Land Conservation Fund Usage for a Trails Easement on Fairmont Dairy Land

- Vermont Land Trust is in the early stage of putting together a 3-phase conservation project for the bulk of the old Lylehaven Farm properties purchased in 2014 by Fairmont Farm
- The first phase, encompassing some 361 acres along Drake & Clark Roads, includes a trails easement for Cross VT Trail; VLT submitted an application to the EM Conservation Fund Advisory Committee for \$6,000 in town funding from the Conservation Fund; the committee has provided a written recommendation to the board in support of this use of the Conservation Fund
- At the June 20, 2016 Selectboard meeting, the board declined to authorize town funding; Mr. Seelig requested that the board reconsider this decision

Consideration of Capital Reserve Use for Old LaPerle Farm Property Committee Expenses

- The committee is expending funds (under contracts approved by the Selectboard) for the town-owned LaPerle Farm property; this is a continued use of the Capital Reserve's "Opportunity Fund" line originally used to purchase the parcel

Consideration of VLCT's Health Insurance Services Program

- When the health insurance arena changed three years ago, VLCT warned communities that it would at some point withdraw its member support for health insurance issues due to the fact it no longer received a percentage of the plan premiums; in particular, VLCT would provide us with coverage options and recommendations, education for employees, employee advocate services, and the basic forms for compliance with regulatory mandates; we continued to receive these services last year, but the "free" window is closed
- To continue the so-called Health Insurance Advisory Services we will have to subscribe; the cost is \$500 plus \$15/month/employee taking our health insurance offering, so the expected annual cost is \$1,400 (assuming 5 employees on our health plan)

Update on 2016 Charter Committee Progress

- Mr. Etnier, board representative to the committee, will provide an update

Access Permits

- **16-045 Taylor Curb Cut on Chickering Road**
 - New curb cut location for Taylor building lot (former Kline lots) on Chickering Road; this new cut will eliminate two prior permitted curb cuts (08-064 & 08-065); the Kline lots are now merged into one lot; the new curb cut is right on the former border between the two lots
 - Road Foreman Garand has approved
- **16-046 Taylor Work in ROW on Chickering Road**
 - Request to bring power under Chickering Road (from north side to south) to benefit the Taylor building lot
 - Road Foreman Garand has approved

Appointments

- **Bill Merrylees as Town Representative to the Wrightsville Beach Recreation District**
 - Bill's current term expires at the end of September; he would like to be reappointed to another three year term; term expiration of September 30, 2019

Town Administrator Report

- Concern on Montague Lyle Young Property:
 - Mr. Montague would like the board to review the drainage situation again
- 2016 VLCT Town Fair:
 - October 5th & 6th at the Champlain Valley Exposition Center in Essex
- Meeting Schedule:
 - October 3rd 6:30 pm Selectboard regular meeting
 - October 10th 7 – 9 pm Land Conservation Summit at ESF
 - October 17th 6:30 pm Selectboard regular meeting
 - October 20th 7:00 pm EMFD quarterly budget presentation at ESF

Zoning Administrator Report

- 6 new permit applications since August 29, 2016
- Next DRB meeting is on October 4, 2016
 - Currently two hearings: Demers additional business use of 1528 US Rte. 2; Bragg Farm storage shed at 1005 VT Rte. 14 N

Personnel Matters

- Town Clerk benefits discussion