

**Selectboard Memo**  
**October 2, 2017 SB Meeting**

**Report on Central VT Solid Waste Management District: Casey Northrup, Town Representative**

- Mr. Northrup will provide an update on recent CVSWMD happenings

**Road Foreman Report**

- Road Foreman Perry will be here to discuss:
  - Shifting of the Heavy Equipment part of the Capital Plan; the grader is up for replacement in the near future; Mr. Perry would like to defer this for a few years and move the loader to the top of the list for replacement
  - Update on road projects:
    - Muddy Brook Road slump repair by Dubois Construction is ongoing; the repaired areas are gravel; guardrail should be replaced this week with paving patches soon to follow; the full road will then be repaved by Pike when it can find room in its schedule
    - The crew has completed two of the grant-funded erosion control projects, on Snow Hill Road and Sanders Circle; the third one, on Center Road, is in progress
- **Consideration of 2017/18 Winter Roads Policy**
  - Once again, essentially the same as last year; if comfortable, this should be officially adopted

**Consideration of 2018 Employee Health Care Benefit Options**

- Basic question is whether the board wants to make any changes to current offerings:
  - We pay the equivalent of 90% of the BCBS Platinum Plan
    - In 2017, one employee chose to take the Gold Plan, which saved the town some \$40/month and cost the employee nothing (up front; deductible levels make this a gamble); there is no sign as yet that the employee intends to shift to the Platinum Plan
  - In lieu of insurance, we provide a stipend of \$1,600
- Assuming we want to stick with the BCBS offerings, an initial issue is whether we want to offer our employees access to as many as 9 BCBS plans or some subset of same (see sheet)
- MVP plans continue to be more competitive than in recent years (the state has held down rate increases) and it appears MVP now offers, through Cigna, a national network similar to BCBS
- Cost of BCBS Platinum Plan is up overall about 9.49% (last year the Platinum Plan increased 4.59%)
- FY2018 budget health insurance line is \$98,000; the first half of the 2018 health care benefit is covered by this budget line, with the second half under the FY2019 budget; current monthly cost (with stipends and VERB Trust costs) is \$8,036.54; projected monthly cost starting in January 2018, using the current benefit and assuming no changes, will be \$8,755.92; in July 2018 that number rises to \$9,372.59. As always, we have to open up the benefit options to all employees, so the actual cost could be significantly higher.
- Need to determine 3 things:
  - Town share of insurance cost
  - BCBS plans (or others) to be offered to employees
  - Value of stipend in lieu of health insurance

**Discussion of 2018 Draft VLCT Municipal Policy**

- The 2017 VLCT Town Fair conference will be held October 4 & 5, 2017 at Killington Resort Grand Hotel; the annual meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> with the normal workshops on the 5<sup>th</sup>
- Mr. Etnier, who will serve as the town's delegate at the annual meeting, has proposed two areas in the draft VLCT Municipal Policy for discussion:
  - 1.03(2) Open Meeting Law expansion
  - 1.09(8) No early voting/registration on the day before an election

**Consideration of VLCT Membership Renewal**

- The annual VLCT PACIF membership renewal is due October 13<sup>th</sup>; assuming the board wants to continue with the VLCT insurance program, the board should authorize TA Johnson to sign and submit the paperwork

### **Update on EM Park 'n Ride Project**

- The lot is paved and lined; Dale Percy Inc. should be back this week to work on the landscaping elements
- The lights and the bus shelter have been ordered, but will likely not be available for installation until mid-November or later; also, the Level II charging station that WEC is granting to the town still needs to be installed (Bill Powell of WEC will be at the board's October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the grant); Dale Percy may be ready to turn over the lot to the town within two weeks; it is up to the town to decide whether to allow use of the lot before all the installations are complete

### **Discussion on Potential Alterations to the Town's Property Tax Collection Procedures**

- At its August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting the board decided to handle on its own (in lieu of creating a separate committee) a review and possible recommendation to voters of changes to the town's tax collection procedures; possible areas of change include:
  - Tax penalty imposition
    - Level of penalty (currently 8%)
    - Potential stagger of imposition, such as 2% the first month, an additional 3% the second, etc.
  - Tax payment timing and number of payments
  - Payment acceptance protocol
    - Now that the town accepts credit card and debit payments, should payments be allowed until midnight of the deadline day
    - Allowance of postmark rather than receipt by the deadline

### **Town Administrator Report**

- Updates on Projects:
  - Town has already received the state reimbursements, a total of \$282,387, for the Murray Road culvert and County Road paving projects
  - The FY2018 Municipal Planning Grant Program application has been submitted; the decision should be known by the beginning of December
  - The trails easement portion of the Fairmont Dairy Phase 1 conservation project closed last week
- Meeting Schedule:
  - October 4<sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm VLCT annual meeting at Killington
  - October 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm SB regular meeting; second intersection study forum
  - October 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Winooski River Tactical Basin Plan forum at Calais Town Hall

### **Zoning Administrator Report**

- 5 permit applications since September 11, 2017
- The next scheduled DRB meeting is October 3<sup>rd</sup> for: Casella transfer station's biennial review; conceptual review of a master plan for 170 Cherry Tree Hill Road; a 2-lot subdivision of the 36-acre lot across US Rte. 2 from the Carpet Barn; and, a boundary adjustment in favor of the Carpet Barn from the golf range lot