

Selectboard Memo January 7, 2019 SB Meeting

Additions to Agenda:

- **City of Montpelier Request for Trails Use of Town-owned Baird Woods Parcels**
 - Montpelier is trying to develop ski trails from the Montpelier recreation field complex up to Morse Farm, taking advantage of some of the former Morse Farm Ski Touring Center trails; the key link trail will cross over the town's land
 - The City has provided a landowner approval form; if the board is comfortable with the arrangement, it should authorize TA Johnson to sign the agreement
- **VTrans Request to Recommend Center Road Stone Culvert for Listing on National Register of Historic Places**
 - Board has been asked to authorize submission of the recommendation

Discussion on Potential Broadcast of Selectboard Meetings

Rob Chapman, Executive Director, Onion River Community Access Media

- Mr. Chapman will provide an overview of ORCA's available services for the community, including possible broadcast of board meetings

Discussion with Conservation Fund Advisory Committee

- Committee members will be here to discuss the need for further appropriations for the benefit of the town's conservation fund; the fund currently contains approximately \$20,216, including the FY2019 voter-approved appropriation of \$3,000; the committee would like to continue adding to the fund in anticipation of future needs, including the trails easement element of the expected 2019 Fairmont Dairy/VLT conservation of the main Lylehaven Farm parcel

Discussion with Revolving Loan Advisory Committee

- Committee Chair Gabrielle Malina will be here to update the board on the committee's progress in developing recommendations for use of the Sandy Pines Mobile Home Park block grant repayment funds (the Revolving Loan Fund)
- See draft Revolving Loan Fund Policies & Procedures document

Road Foreman Report: Discussion on FY2020 Highway Budget

- Road Foreman Perry's suggested budget line levels are included in the draft budget worksheet

Discussion on FY2020 Budget Development

- The town's CLA dropped to 95.32% from 95.83%; this will create a slightly increased upward pressure on the 2019/20 education tax rate
- The CLA drop also pushes our projected Washington County tax up slightly to \$25,074; the annual Washington County budget meeting is set for January 18th, 3 p.m. at the clerk's office in Montpelier; the final tax figure will be set thereafter, but no change is expected

Discussion on 2019 Town Meeting Warning Development

- Cemetery Commission request is level funded at \$17,250
- EM Trails Association request is level funded at \$4,000
- EM Signpost request is level funded at \$6,000
- No request as yet from the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association
- Update on Candidacies:
 - Selectboard (3-year & 2-year terms)
 - Carl Etnier is running for reelection to the 3-year seat
 - Planning Commission (3 3-year terms)
 - Julie Potter & Kim Watson are running for reelection; Norm Hill is not seeking reelection; Zach Sullivan is running for a seat
 - Town Moderator (1-year term)

- Michael Duane is running for reelection
 - 1st Constable (1-year term)
 - Sandy Conti is running for reelection
 - 2nd Constable (if board so decides; 1-year term)
 - Lister (3-year term)
 - Chris Racanelli is running for reelection
 - Auditor (3-year term)
 - Cemetery Commission (5-year term)
 - School Positions (specifics still confusing):
 - EMES School Directors (3-year & 2-year terms)
 - U-32 School Director (3-year term)
 - School Moderator (1-year term)
 - WCUUSD (3-year & 2-year terms, apparently)
- No known petition article in the works at this point
- The draft warning includes potential articles still under consideration:
 - The elimination of the Cemetery Commission; and,
 - Town authorization to sell a portion of the town-owned Old LaPerle Farm parcel
- Significant unknowns remain regarding how the school meeting element will play out both at town meeting and town forum; see draft EMES warning

Development of 2018 Selectboard Report for Annual Report

- The board needs to determine desired topics to include in the report

Discussion on EMFD Concerns with Selectboard Approved FY2020 EMFD Budget Requests

- EMFD has submitted a letter to the EM and Calais Selectboards expressing dismay at the towns' determinations regarding the EMFD operating budget requests for FY2020 and requesting a joint meeting to discuss the topic

Town Administrator Report

- VT State Police Contract Update:
 - Lt. David White is the new station commander and will be handling the contract process; he will come to the March 4th board meeting
- Film Crew Request:
 - NYU student film crew would like to do a short road/scenic shot near North Street/Cummings Road intersection tomorrow at 9:30 a.m.; Washington County Sheriff's Department will monitor, but required that the film crew get town permission
- Transfer by donation of 3-acre undeveloped Hodgeman property to the town is complete
- Meeting Schedule:

○ January 9, 2019	6:00 pm	School district articles of agreement public hearing
○ January 14, 2019	6:00 pm	WCUUSD special school meeting
○ January 21, 2019	6:30 pm	Selectboard regular meeting
○ January 28, 2019	6:30 pm	Tentative Selectboard special meeting

Zoning Administrator Report

- 54 total applications in 2018; none as yet in 2019
- Next DRB meeting will be held January 8, 2019; 1 warned hearing for conditional use review of Brown request to operate auto service business at 505 Quaker Road; 1 sketch plan review for a proposed 5-lot reconfiguration/subdivision of the 3-parcel Abrams complex at 925 Center Road