State of Vermont — Chartered in 1781

MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF December 8, 2014

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Brian Kellogg, Steve Rae and Mickey Smith(arrived@6:00PM)

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police; Todd Thomas, Mary Ann Wilson and Zoning Administrator/Health Officer

Guests: Min Cote, Joyce Lanpher, Mike Chase, Dot Cook, Geroge Cook, Joni Lanpher, Tim Sargent and Tina Sweet.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by Bob Beeman

I. TEGU BUILDING CLOSING

II. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

No changes or additions

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to approve minutes of November 24, 2014 with grammatical changes and change Community Coordinator hours from 32-34 to 30-32. Motion Carried (3/0)

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. **SEWER LINE EXTENSION FOR PORTLAND STREET**- Dan Lindley, Town Administrator would like to use $5,000 from the FY13-14 reserves to extend the Sewer line from Lower Portland St. to the Oxbow for the purpose of putting in a bathroom at the Oxbow. There would be a men's and women's bathroom and it would be handicapped accessible. The bathroom would be a minimal seasonal bathroom and would be shut down in the winter. There was some concern if the bathroom would be locked at night and who would be responsible for cleaning it. The Selectboard felt there were a few things that needed to be worked out but overall thought it was a good idea.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve using $5,000 from the FY13-14 reserves for the purpose of extending the Portland Street Sewer Line. (3/0)

2. **ERRORS & OMISSIONS-** Lamoille Valley Fish & Game received their current use status. The change adds $9,552 to the grand list.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve errors and omissions as presented. Motion Carried (3/0)

3. SIGN LOAN DOCUMENTS FOR TEGU BUILDING PURCHASE- Mary Ann Wilson did not have documents for the Selectboard to sign and instead asked to discuss the terms of the loan that were voted on at the last meeting with the Selectboard. She apologized for not being at the last meeting where the bids were discussed and voted on. She went through ramifications of signing a loan for 30 years and the amount of interest that the town would pay over the 30 year term. Mary Ann as a treasurer and tax payer advised against the 30 year term as it would cost $275, 298 to borrow $600,000 at the 3.95% interest rate. The Selectboard has been trying to keep the budget at a 3% increase and admitted that they were concerned that the difference in monthly payments between the 20 year term and the 30 year term would raise the tax rate and put them above the 3% mark which is why they chose the 30 year term. Mary Ann stated that the town would have to budget double payments in ordered to make up the difference in the interest savings. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator stated that the budget is currently at the 3% mark and he has heard from several residents concerned with the amount of interest the Town would pay for a 30 year term.

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to reconsider the 30 year loan term with Merchants bank at 3.95%. Motion carried (4/0)

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Mickey Smith to approve loan term with Merchants Bank for 20 years at 2.6%. Motion carried. (4/0)

V. BOARD OF HEALTH

1**. DISCUSS NEPVEU HEALTH ORDER** - Todd Thomas, Health Officer has been working with David Nepveu regarding the work on the Nepveu building at 182 Portland Street. Todd stated that he is happy with the work that has been performed thus far and feels that Dave will continue with the work that he promised he would do to make the building safe. Dave Nepveu stated that he should have the cornice done by Friday and would be able to start putting the sheet metal siding back on the building. He said he ran into some issues with the roof and had to replace most of the roof before he could finish the cornice. He thought he would be able to remove the sidewalk barricade once he installs the remaining cornice. He thinks he will have the project completed in about a month. Todd Thomas recommended continuing the hearing for 30 days. Todd asked if the hearing date could be pushed out as he was on vacation the week of January 5th, 2015.

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to continue the Health Order until January 19, 2015. Motion carried. (4/0)

VI. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS-

4. **DISCUSS WEEKEND COVERAGE FOR RESCUE-** Joyce Lanpher and Mike Chase Representatives of Rescue are proposing to hire 8 people to cover weekend shifts for 6 months, hoping that at the end of 6 months they will have found enough volunteers to cover the shifts. They are proposing 2 people per weekend shift which would cost the Town approximately $29,225 for 6 months. If the town hires part-time temporary people those individuals would ***not*** be able to "volunteer" for the rescue department according to the Federal Fair Labor Act. Joyce Lanpher checked with the Town of Stowe and they have paid people as well as volunteers and are paid a per diem. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator didn't think that was in compliance with the Fair Labor Act and it was his understanding that if you were and "employee" of the town you could not be a volunteer in the same

department. The Selectboard ask Dan to verify the Fair Labor Act with VLCT and to check with Charles Safford, Stowe's Town Manager on how their rescue department is paid. Dan said that he would do that and report back to the Selectboard. In the mean time Mickey Smith, thought the Rescue Board could start looking for the 8 people they might want to hire with the understanding that they would be temporary part-time employees, not volunteers and contingent on information the Selectboard receives from VLCT and the Town of Stowe.

5. **TAX STABILIZATION-** Bob Titterton just purchased the building located at 46 Pleasant Street formerly the old Department of Labor Building. It is proposed to be the future home of the Morristown Co-op(MOCO). He is planning to do some work to the building but he would like to stabilize the property tax prior to doing so. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator, stated there are three choices when it comes to Tax Stabilization, and the max you can stabilize is 5 years. You can Stabilize the Current Value, the current tax rate or the tax payment**.** Dan recommended stabilizing the current value which is $471, 900 for the 5 year period. Bob Titterton accepted Dan's recommendation and asked the Selectboard to stabilize the value for 5 years.

Steve Rae made a motion, seconded by Brian Kellogg to approve tax stabilization of 46 Pleasant Street at the current value of $471, 900 for 5 years. Motion carried. (4/0)

6. DISCUSS CLOSING BEDELL HILL FOR WINTER- Min Cote asked the Selectboard to close Bedell Hill Rd. for the winter months. It is very dangerous for the road crew to plow as well as those motorists that use it in the winter. There is one house at the end of each end of the Hill. Those residents will be able to access their home via Moran Loop. Min proposed closing from November to May. Richard Keith, Chief of Police thought it was a great idea as well as Denny Digregorio the Fire Chief.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg seconded by Mickey Smith to close Bedell Hill from November 15- May 15 each year. Motion carried. (4/0)

Min also talked about reducing the weight limit on the Cady's Falls Bridge back to 24,000 come March. He feels that trucks over that should be using the new bypass. The Selectboard agreed.

Min also suggested selling the 2000 International. It is was a truck they don't need any more. Dan stated that we have already placed an ad requesting bids.

Min would like to purchase a tow behind air compressor. He feels that it would be a good addition for the village and the highway garage. Min's wife has it for sale for $4,000. Dan suggested that we use the proceeds from the truck sale to purchase the compressor.

Min gave Selectboard an update on the Terex they are renting to do the sidewalks. He said that it is working out well and is saving time. He hasn't' received the V-plow yet but will let the Selectboard know how it works when he does.

7. **APPOINT SELECBOARD MEMBER TO SIGN WARRANTS OF DECEMBER 22, 2014-** We will not have a regular meeting on December 22, 2014 and therefore need to appoint a member of the Selectboard to sign the warrants. Dan would also like that appointee to review truck bids for the dump truck purchase.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Mickey Smith to appoint Bob Beeman to sign warrants and review bids. Motion carried. (4/0)

VIII. BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL

None.

IX. TA REPORT

1. Budget worksheets have been updated and are in your packets. Overall Budget is at a 3.2% increase. We have scheduled a budget meeting for December 15, 2014 with the department heads.
2. Met with representatives from VTRANS to discuss the bypass and how it is functioning as well as signage. There are several ways to help the business let the public know they exist and Dan and Todd will be working with them and VTRANS to make that happen and not conflict with the sign statute.

X. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Steve Rae-

- Thought the idea of closing Bedell Hill was a good one and always wondered why there seemed to be some redundant plowing between us and the Town of Stowe in that location.

Brian Kellogg-

- None

Bob Beeman-

- Has received concerns from Bishop Marshall parents and representatives regarding the new intersection. There seems to be an issue with the line of sight Dan stated that VTRANS made an agreement to monitor the area for 1 year and if there continues to be an issue they will install a light. They did agree that there was a line of sight issue with the fence and will move the fence back to correct this problem.

Mickey Smith-

- None

IX. APPROVE WARRANTS

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Mickey Smith to approve Warrants as presented through December 8, 2014. Motion carried. (4/0)

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Mickey Smith to enter executive session at 8:05PM for Contractual, Personnel and Legal to include Dan Lindley, Town Administrator. Motion carried (4/0)

Motion made by Brian Kellogg seconded by Mickey Smith to exit executive session and enter regular Selectboard session at 9:00PM. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to adjourn the meeting at 9:05PM. Motion carried. (4/0)

Respectfully submitted and filed this 8th day of December 2014
Erica Allen, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in draft form unless otherwise stated and are approved at the next meeting.