State of Vermont MORRISTOWN Chartered in 1781

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2008

Members Present:	Shaun Bryer, Todd Yando, Bob Beeman, Dave Yacovone (arrived at 7:20) and Brian Kellogg
Department Heads:	Dan Lindley, TA; Bob Melfy, Highway Superintendent; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk; Heidi Krantz, Community Development Director; Richard Keith, Chief of Police.
Guests:	Alex Garvin, Suzanne Roberts, Lynn Smith-Themann, Laura Jacobey, Linda Shaw, Steve Rae, Matt Burgess, Guy Shane, Chris Ransom, Roxanne Manning, Joanie Newton, and Robyn Desrochers.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM in the Tegu Building Community Meeting room by Shaun Bryer.

I. AGENDA ADDITIONS, CHANGES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

II. GUEST PRESENTATIONS

1. **Union Bank Bonding Allocation for the Manor-** Suzanne Roberts from the Union Bank as well as Lynn Smith-Themann from the Manor were present to discuss their use of the Town's bonding authority for a $6.5 million bond. The Town would not be responsible for the bond in any way. The Manor would like to do this in the calendar year 2009. The Board had concerns about the amount the Town would need for bonding in the next fiscal year. Dan explained that the Town could acquire a line of credit for the Bridge for $1.5 million in the calendar year 2008. The Town would not draw funds from this line until the money was needed for the Bridge. Obtaining a line of credit for the Bridge would free up $1.5 million worth of bonding authority for the calendar year 2009. This would allow the Town to give $6.5 million of bonding capacity to the Manor and still leave the Town with approximately $3.5 million in borrowing capacity for the calendar year 2009 to cover our tax anticipation note, equipment as well as unexpected needs.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Todd Yando to authorize the board to sign the bond allocation agreement for $6.5 million with the Town and VEDA for the benefit of the Manor. Motion approved (4/0)

III. BUDGET REVIEW

1. **Recreation-** Heidi Krantz, Guy Shane, Laura Jacobey, Chris Ransom, and Linda Shaw were present to represent the Recreation Commission. Joanie Newton, Robyn Desrochers and Roxanne Manning were present to represent the Recreation Council. The Council has agreed to become a subcommittee of the Recreation Commission. The Commission will function under the existing by-laws. The Commission requests that the Selectboard review the governance structure including the by-laws and appointments. Shaun supports allocating $5,000 to fund a position that will be 10 hours a week for 12 weeks starting May 1 – Sept 10. This position would be responsible for cataloging existing recreation opportunities, hiring recreation staff, researching grants and looking at possibilities of expanding programming funded by charging fees. A study has been done that concludes that Morristown should target

families with young children. Shaun would like to coordinate with the school for recreation field usage.
In regards to the Recreation Council budget, Shaun questioned the summer bus costs and why it was reduced. Joanie stated that the Recreation Council contracted with a different bus company that was less expensive. They only needed one bus this year as opposed to prior years when two buses were needed. Robyn stated that they are planning to continue with a full day program this coming year. Enrollment was down this past year. Fees were increased and some people complained. It is a requirement that all participants pre-pay for the entire summer. This is a problem for some people to come up with all of the money up front. Robyn further explained that we don't have a "pay as you go" program because they don't have the staff to collect money and keep records. Last year, there was no ice skating rink due to bad weather. The Council will try to have the rink this year. The Council tries to have someone at the rink from after school until 6:00 each day and also on Saturday.

Guy Shane did not charge the Town for scheduling the Oxbow this year. There was $1,500 in the budget for this service. Guy asked if that $1,500 could be put in this coming year's budget.

Shaun would like to see Fields & Parks, Recreation, LARC agreement and 4th of July Committee under one category in the budget. The supervisory part of this division needs to be discussed if everything is combined.

2. **4th of July-** Carol explained the costs of the July 4, 2008 project that Alex coordinated. There was a surplus of $882.47. Alex recommends cutting the budget – not the fireworks, just the 4th of July Committee budget to be $1,000. She feels that the Town should be responsible for the parade and pay someone to organize it. Other vendors could do everything else. The $1,000 would pay for the parade and prizes. This person would need to fundraise additional funds to cover the cost of coordination. Mary Ann and Matt Burgess felt that the other activities are important to bring in people and revenue to the Town.

3. **Capital Budget-**

- We have a balloon payment for the Cole Property scheduled to be paid next fiscal year. We need to decide if we want to sell the property or refinance the debt. The Selectboard is scheduled to meet with the Library next week, so we can find out their thoughts on this issue.
- Dan explained that we will be able to get funding of 75% for the construction of the Hearthstone sewer line but the Village will need to apply for the grant. We may be able to use 0% interest loan from the Agency of Natural Resources. The Town will need to fund approximately $25,000.
- Dave questioned if it was possible to put off some expenses such as replacing the loader and the truck for the highway. Bob felt that this would double up on our expenses the following year and we would incur more repair costs. Buying highway equipment from auction and repossessed equipment sales was discussed. Todd was against putting off purchasing highway equipment due to the poor condition of the trucks that needed replacing.
- Dave also questioned the boiler for the ambulance building. Unfortunately, it was not replaced when the renovation was done. Questions were raised about when the boiler was last inspected and if it is working fine, would it be possible to put it off a year.

<u>IV. ADJOURN</u>

On a Motion by Todd Yando, seconded by Bob Beeman, the Board adjourned their meeting at 8:10PM. Motion passed unanimously (5/0).

Respectfully submitted and filed this 9th day of December 2008.
Tina Sweet for Erica Reed, Administrative Assistant to the Town Administrator

Please note that all minutes are in draft form unless otherwise stated.