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MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 29, 2010

Members Present: Brian Kellogg, Min Cote and Dave Yacovone

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator/Planner, Charlie McArthur, Lister; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Bob Melfy, Highway Superintendent; Richard Keith, Chief of Police.

Guests: Steve Rae, Robert Budliger, Polly McArthur, Bill Thomas, Max Paine, Paul Griswold, John Mudgett, Bonnie Brigante, and Bill Rossmassler.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM in the Tegu Building Community Meeting Room by Brian Kellogg, Chair.

I. AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. None

II. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

1. None

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss & Approve Zoning Bylaw Changes- Min drove out to see how the proposed zoning changes would impact the area. He felt that the new commercial line is in a good place. The Planning Commission is trying to clean up the area and the new line will help this process especially over time. Min likes the way the changes are written. Dave and Brian also agree with Min. There were no community comments on the proposed changes to the Airport area. There needs to be some updates to the section of the zoning changes that talk about signage. The Board asked Todd Thomas to take the signage section back to the Planning Commission to be updated. Todd felt that they would have the updated signage changes back to the Selectboard soon.

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to approve the proposed zoning changes with the exception of the section that referenced the signage. Motion approved. (3/0)

2. Accept Donation of Property located at 75 Mayo Road - The Selectboard has been approached by the owner of the property to ask if the Town would accept this property as a donation. The property has 1.39 acres. There is the possibility of donating this land to Habitat for Humanity. If the land is donated to Habitat for Humanity, the Town would be able to put the land back on the tax rolls as a residence.

Motion made by Min Cote, seconded by Dave Yacovone to accept the donation of land at 75 Mayo Road. Motion approved. (3/0)

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Conservation Commission – Grant Application, Fee Schedule for Prime Ag – Steve Rae stated that the Conservation Commission wants to apply for a Vermont State grant to survey the Town's wet lands in accordance with the Town Plan. The Planning

Commission is in support of the survey. It would allow us to survey all of the Town's wet lands with the exception of the State land. The grant application would be for $5,800.00. Steve feels that we have a good chance of receiving the grant funds. This survey will help with zoning and planning. We have had issues in the past with wet lands that were not showing up on State maps. The Conservation Commission would also like to get a motion for them to be able to use $1,000.00 of the money that has been set aside for them three to four years ago.

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote authorizing the Conservation Commission to apply for the wet lands grant. Motion approved (3/0).

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to allow the Conservation Commission to use $1,000.00 of the reserve funds that have been set aside for conservation. Motion approved (3/0).

Steve Rae voiced concern about the zoning language for prime ag soils. In the new zoning language, it states that there will be a fee schedule. This would be the first fee schedule implemented at the Town level that Steve is aware of in the State. Steve recommended that we have a committee made up of Todd Thomas (zoning), a Lister, someone from the following boards: Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, and the Selectboard to come up with a fee schedule to be completed by early spring. It was the feeling of the Selectboard that this was a good idea and they asked Steve if he would move forward with this task.

III. OLD BUSINESS

2. Review Audit with Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. – John Mudgett and Bonnie Brigante presented the draft audit to the Selectboard. John stated that their audit team felt that the audit went very smoothly. Bonnie stated that the independent auditor's report is an unqualified report as are their previous ones. John felt that Carol did a great job on the Management Discussion and Analysis Report. The major changes were that several funds were taken out of the general fund. The purpose of this is to be able to quickly identify operating funds and other funds designated for a specific purpose. The budget expenses were under budget by $157,000. There were significant savings in the Police salaries and wages due to two of our officers being deployed. There were no material findings on the audit. The internal controls that are in place are very good.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

2. Review Capital Budget – The Capital budget that was given out differs from Bob's recommendations. The bridge reserve fund is scheduled to increase from $10,000.00 to $30,000.00. Dan feels this increase is very important especially because we are faced with replacing the decking on the Cady's Falls Bridge. Dan feels that he can get some State aid for this project too. Bob stated that he does not need to replace any trucks this year. Dan feels that we should use funds from the Equipment Replacement Reserve to help purchase the new grader that is slated to be replaced in this budget. Bob feels that we should not bring our Equipment Replacement fund down to such a low level. He also does not support buying a used grader. The estimated cost of a new grader including the trade in would be $170,000.00. Dan feels that we could probably find a good used grader. Bob stated that if we do buy a used machine we should make sure there is a warranty with it. Bob feels that we need to replace the chipper and the ditch bank mower. They are very old. Bob wants to wait a

few years to replace the Bobcat. Dan disagrees because the Bobcat is utilized a lot and is getting older. Dan feels that we should trade it in while it is still worth something. We took $10,000.00 from the funds that were slated for the foundation/wall repair at the Cochran Road garage and used it to pay for the lift repairs. This will leave us with a total of $40,000.00 to repair the foundation/wall. The Police are scheduled to replace the 2005 Explorer in this budget. The Explorer will be used for the new Emergency Services Coordinator position. We need to wait for the Fire department to discuss their capital plans as they have not received all of their quotes yet.

There will be no meeting next week. On December 13th we will be discussing the budget for wages, revenue, phones, and fuel. We also will need to discuss possible paving options as paving is not included in the budget now.

3. Budget Line Adjustment – Election Expenses – Mary Ann presented the Selectboard with a request to give Sara Haskins and Cathy Killian a onetime $250.00 each merit bonus. Mary Ann felt that her staff went above and beyond during the election time when she was unable to be here. Mary Ann stated that she had monies left over in her Election Expense budget line item and asked to use this money to fund the bonuses.

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to give Cathy Killian and Sara Haskins a $250.00 each merit bonus. Motion approved (3/0).

V. TA REPORT

- The Vermont Council on Rural Development has agreed to do a visit to Morristown. Congratulations to MACC. The Vermont Council on Rural Development wants to start in January. MACC wants to put together a steering committee. Dan will call Paul Costello to move forward.

VI. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Brian Kellogg- Guard rails on the bridge. Dan will call to have this put on the punch list.
Bob Beeman- Not present
Todd Yando- Not present
Dave Yacovone- None
Min Cote-None

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes of 11-15-10, 11-16-10, and 11-22-10
2. Approve & Sign Warrants

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to approve consent agenda as presented. Motion approved. (3/0)

- **ADJOURN**

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Motion approved (3/0).

Respectfully submitted and filed this 30th day of November, 2010
Tina Sweet for Erica Reed, Administrative Assistant

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