State of Vermont — Chartered in 1781
MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2014

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Brian Kellogg and Steve Rae,

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police; Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator/Planning Director; Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk & Treasurer; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Denny DiGregorio, Fire Chief and Charlie McArthur, Lister Coordinator

Guests: Susan Loa, Marci Young, J.T. Lukens, Pauline McArthur, Etienne Hancock, and Mark Kelly.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Bob Beeman

I. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

- Add to Other Business- Contractual with possible Executive Session
- Add to Old Business Correct Minutes of February 17, 2014 for correction of road name
- Add to New Business Temporary closing of Needle Eye Rd.

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve minutes of September 29, 2014. Motion Carried (3/0)

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve minutes of October 14, 2014. Motion carried. (3/0)

III. PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING NOV4, 2014- Dan Lindley, Town Administrator discussed Article I which is a bond vote to Purchase the Tegu Building and for building improvements such as HVAC system, energy efficient windows etc. The total cost of the building purchase and the improvement are approximately $1,050,400. The Town has saved in its building reserve fund $471,000. We have had the building looked at by an engineer and a construction professional [Donnie Blake Construction LLC] the building is structurally sound and can be expanded if need be. To build a new building, it would be about $200 per sq. foot. Total cost of a new building, not including lot improvements and an elevator would be $1.2 million. Buying the Tegu building would be more cost efficient and save the Town money as the Town currently leases the building and pays tax on the building. If we were to purchase for a 20 year note the loan payment would be between $38,000 and $40,000 depending on interest rate and for a 30 year note the payment would be between $28,500 and $30,500 depending on interest rat. Currently the Town is paying $46,217 for the lease and taxes on the Tegu building. The appraisal came in at $615,000 but the cost to replace a building this size is $1,575,000. We would be paying more than the appraised value, but there are things to take into consideration such as moving costs and the Vault is already built. The Selectboard feels that they have negotiated the best price possible. The cost to buy the building will be cheaper in the long run and will have no impact on taxes.

IV. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Polly McArthur asked if there were going to be lights on the Town Clock. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator answered that he though David Lowe was working on it but will check in with him to see where he is in the process.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. NEEDLE EYE ROAD CLOSURE FOR BRIDGE REPAIR-The Engineer that is working with VAST on the Rrail Trail would like to close down Needle Eye Road for about an hour so that they may do some repair work on the bridge. They plan to only shut it down for 15 minutes at a time to allow traffic to go through. The engineer will let Dan know when they plan to do the work.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve closing Needle Eye Road work to allow bridge work to be done on the VAST trail. Motion carried. (3/0)

2. CADY'S FALL DRINKING WATER LOAN FUND APPLICATION- Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator has been working to build funds to connect the Cady's Falls Water Co-op onto the Village water and sewer. This loan fund is through the State of Vermont for $25,000 at 0% for 5 years. If we start construction after 5 years it would go into a construction loan. If we build within the 5 year period and complete the project the loan becomes null and we do not pay back any of the $25,000. The Village Trustees still need to fill out some water system information before the application can be signed and sent in.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve application to the Drinking Water Loan Fund. Motion carried (3/0)

3. PAVEMENT CUT FOR FRED'S PLUMBING AND HEATING- Fred's Plumbing & Heating would like permission for cut across Lower Bridge Street to install utilities. They plan to do the work this week[week of Oct. 27, 2014]. Dan asked that they not shut the road down or do any construction on Friday afternoon as that is when the Bypass is scheduled to open.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve pavement cut for Fred's Plumbing & Heating for the purpose of installing utilities. Motion carried (3/0)

4. DIVESTING TOWN INVESTMENTS- Marci Young and J. T Lukens came to discuss divesting town investments from fossil fuels. J.T. explained that the companies such as Exxon, BP, Chevron. etc. extract fossil fuels such as coal, oil & natural gas. These fossil fuels are what some believe contribute to the climate change by releasing carbon into the atmosphere. The purpose of divesting public funds from fossil fuel companies is purely symbolic. Selectboard felt that it was a good idea however they would need to talk to their financial advisor before making any decisions. Steve Rae mentioned that it might be a good idea to talk about divesting funds from fossil fuel companies at Town Meeting.

5. **PACE WEATHERIZATIN FINANCING-** Marci Young and Mark Kelly, a representative of Efficiency Vermont,came to discuss PACE. PACE is a financing option through Efficiency Vermont which allows residents to finance home efficiency upgrades that they are not otherwise financially able to complete. Efficiency Vermont operates the program, Opportunities Credit Union Processes the loans and National Bank of Middlebury writes the check. The Selectboard would need to adopt a resolution and the Town would need to approve Morristown being a PACE district. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator felt that there were too many unknowns regarding what the Town's involvement would be in the program and in the

collection of loan and property taxes. Brian Kellogg felt that it was too big a decision for just the Selectboard to make and he would like Marci to petition the Town to see if it is what people want to see on the Town Warning at Town Meeting.

6. **FEDERAL BIKE TO WORK REIMBURSMENT PROGRAM**- Marci Young on behalf of the Biped Committee came to ask the Selectboard to implement a program that would reimburse employees of the Town if they bike to work. Dan Lindley, Town Administrator stated that this would be a personnel policy change and generally these types of request are put through the Personnel Advisory Committee[PAC] and they make a recommendation to the Selectboard. PAC will be meeting in the coming months and will discuss the Federal Bicycle Program.

7. **ERRORS & OMISSIONS**- Besser residence should have been billed as one residence rather than two and Canon Financial Services shouldn't have been billed at all. These changes apply to the 2014 Grand List.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve Errors & Omissions as presented. Motion carried(3/0)

8. APPROVE PAY COMPENSATION PLAN FOR FY15-16- The Federal Social Security Administration has released their COLA increase for 2015. They have set it at 1.7%. This increase will be for the FY 2015 -2016 pay plan and adjustments will be made on July 1, 2014 to all applicable employees.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve the FY 15-16 pay compensation plan as presented. Motion carried. (3/0)

VI. BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL

No business to discuss

VII. TA REPORT

1. Bypass opens Friday October 31, 2014 at 2:00PM. There will be a ribbon cutting at the location of the Roundabout on Rt. 15 in Morrisville. The Governor intends to be here for the Ceremony. After the Ribbon cutting there will be a parade across the bypass and will end near Bishop Marshall School.
2. Maple Street Block Party will be on Weds. Oct 29, 2014 from 5-7 PM it will be held at the Maple House Inn B&B.
3. Mike Day is retiring. His last day will be October 31, 2014. We will have a celebration on Nov. 8, 2014 at the VFW from 5-8PM
4. Budget Books will be ready for the Selectboard on Friday.

VIII. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Min Cote-

- Not Present.

Steve Rae-

- The Town Forest Road looks good. Roland and his crew opened it up so that Doug Small could get in and out with logs. Dan is waiting to hear back from the Conservation Committee on whether they would like that road gated. If they decided it needs to be gated then it will need to be declared a legal trail.

<u>Brian Kellogg</u>-

- Will Maple Street be paved before winter? Dan said yes; Pike is going to pave. The weather has not been cooperative the last couple of weeks.

<u>Bob Beeman-</u>

- None.

<u>Mickey Smith-</u>

- Not present

<u>IX</u>. <u>APPROVE WARRANTS</u>

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to approve Warrants as presented through October 27, 2014. Motion carried. (3/0)

<u>X. OTHER BUSINESS</u>

Denny DiGregorio, Fire Chief wanted to let the Selectboard know that they will be burning the old Bowen Residence.

Mary Ann asked which Selectboard members were able to work the election on November 4, 2014. They said they would check their schedule and let her know.

**Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to enter executive session at 7:50PM for Personnel, to include Dan Lindley, Town Administrator.
Motion carried (3/0)**

Motion made by Brian Kellogg seconded by Steve Rae to exit executive session and enter regular Selectboard session at 8:15PM. Motion carried. (3/0)

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Steve Rae to hire Michael (Min) Cote for the fulltime permanent position as the Village Foreman at a pay grade 6 Step 14 ($23.58/hr)Motion carried. (3/0)

Motion made by Steve Rae, Seconded by Brian Kellogg to hire Brad Carrier for the fulltime permanent position as the Emergency Medical Services Department Head at a pay grade 7 Step 2 ($19.94 /hr). Motion carried (3/0)

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to pay Diana Osborn $25.00/hr. for the remaining of this training term ending on January 15, 2015, this will end any and all contract between the Town and Diana Osborn. Motion carried. (3/0)

Motion made by Brian Kellogg to terminate any and all contracts with Green Mountain Technology & Career Center for Emergency Medical Training & the end of the term which ends January 15, 2015. Motion carried (3/0)

Motion made by Steve Rae, seconded by Brian Kellogg to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM. Motion carried. (3/0)

Respectfully submitted and filed this 28th day of October, 2014
Erica Allen, Scribe

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