



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2004

Members Present: Brian Greenia, James Paige, Cathy Voyer, Shaun Bryer and Brian Kellogg

Department Heads: Paul D. McGinley, TA; Mark Leonard and Mary Ann Wilson

Guests: Amy Noyes, Dave & Sonny Sanborn, Theresa Hale, Buckwheat Lowe, Larry Wells, Tina Tomlinson, Chris Ransom, Scott West, JB McKinley, Sue Sargent, Molly Pease, Joan Robinson, John Meyer, Mary West, Shirley Mason, Lisa Vinick, Patricia Stevens and Ellen Koier

Chair Brian Greenia called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM as the **Board of Health** at the Morrisville Water & Light Facility.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Officer, Mark Leonard gave the Board a brief update on conditions of the apartment building owned by Larry Wells that he is seeking a health order against. He described the violations as being windows not weather tight, broken and leaking; roof leaking and not rodent proof and the bathroom, floor is not waterproof. A previous matter with the toilet had been resolved.

Mr. Wells stated that he had not had any complaints until the tenant received an eviction notice. He felt his own health issues prevented him from doing the repairs himself and without rent money coming in he could not afford to hire the necessary repairs done. He further informed the Board that he had a purchase and sales agreement on the property and a closing date of September 20th had been set.

When the BOH members stated that the violations still needed to be corrected, Mr. Wells said that the roof itself was not leaking, but it appeared that the lead flashing next to the chimney might need resealing. After discussing the other issues, Mr. Wells stated that he felt he could make the repairs to the windows and close up the lead flashing where the bats found access. He also stated that he already had the flooring for the bathroom.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board authorized the Health Order to be sent giving Mr. Wells (15) days to repair the bathroom floor, broken windows and close up the lead flashing by August 31st and he is to contact Mark Leonard when the repairs have been completed.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Board of Health adjourned and moved into regular Selectboard meeting at 6:15 PM.



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reserve accounts. Buckwheat felt some of this money should be used for much needed paving projects, and Brian told him that some of it was already earmarked for paving.

Chris Ransom questioned the right of the Town to do Eminent Domain on the Cole property and was informed that this was not an option.

Various guests also asked about the two modular houses that the Cole's had on route and where were they located now.

Chair Greenia stated again that the Town only had an option to purchase the property and it would go before the tax payers at Town Meeting.

Various Library members arrived at this time.

MARK LEONARD – MUNICIPAL SURVEY – TOWN HALL

Mark informed the Board that Donna Smith had tabulated the results for the survey. There were a total of 220 surveys received. Mark explained that they had been inserted into the Transcript and had also been placed around town.

A breakdown of the survey results was given to the Board showing that 83% felt that the Town does indeed need new Town Offices with 68% showing that they are needed now. 77% felt that the Town Hall should remain in the Village. (Attached)

Chris Ransom asked about certain questions on the survey and was told that his questions pertained to the Recreation Survey that Heidi Krantz was doing, not the Municipal survey.

Tina Tomlinson stated that she was disappointed in the number of surveys received. She felt that the reasons and comments against the project were more important than those that supported it.

Some guests felt that the Union Carbide facility would be an ideal location for a Municipal Facility for a lot less money than building a new one. Chair Greenia stated that after considering many options, the Board felt that a joint project with the Library was the best one to keep costs down. The Union Carbide facility was one of the original sites that was considered.

One guest who referred to herself as a "retiree on a fixed income" stated that she felt the Town Offices should remain in the Village and that even though she is on a fixed income, she voted for the project.



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The number of days to properly warn a special vote was discussed. Mary Ann Wilson stated that there would have to be a public hearing within (10) days preceding the vote and warned not less than (30) days nor more than (40) days proper warned Bond notice.

The Selectboard felt it was not fair to ask for an answer at this meeting. After some discussion, they felt they might have an answer by the next meeting or so.

Tina Tomlinson stated that people have a soft spot for the Library, but maybe the expansion project was too elaborate and might need to be scaled down as well. Sue felt that the building had been carefully thought out and it would be able to serve the Town for the next 50 – 100 years.

Cathy Voyer stated that a divided community was not good and everyone should try to work together. Molly Pease stated that the process took a long time, meanwhile the Town owned the building, although not the contents and it was the Librarian who cleaned up when there was a sewer backup due to the out of date plumbing.

Mary Ann Wilson reminded everyone that there would be a new committee and hoped that Buckwheat and Tina would be on it. The people who serve on this committee will have to give a lot of commitment to the project. When Buckwheat stated that he was not in favor of a joint project, Mary Ann said maybe there could be two separate facilities with only one bond vote.

OLD BUSINESS

MINUTES

On a motion by Cathy Voyer, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board accepted the minutes of August 2, 2004 as presented.

TA SEARCH UPDATE

Shaun Bryer felt it would be best to move this to later in the meeting due to time constraints.

PERMIT FEE ACCOUNTS

Mary Ann Wilson presented the Board with documents to form two separate accounts for the permit fees as requested for bookkeeping purposes.



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Mary Ann stated that the process to set the tax rate has changed every year for the last four years and would change again next year.

HIGHWAY TRUCK BIDS

Two bids were received for the Ford F-350 1995 one ton truck. Chair Greenia opened the bids from James & Monica Wood in the amount of \$5,300 and Tomlinson's Store in the amount of \$3,050.

On a motion by Cathy Voyer, seconded by James Paige, the Board accepted the higher of the two bids from James & Monica Wood in the amount of \$5,300.

The Board requested a bank or certified check as payment.

SNOWPLOW PURCHASE

The Town Administrator explained the reason to purchase an electric unit versus the hydraulic unit as used in the past. He said that he had check with people who have purchased the electric units and everyone seems to be happy with them and they are cheaper.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Board authorized the purchase of the electric snowplow unit from H. P. Fairfield for \$5,525.

VLCT VOTING DELEGATE

Jim Paige was the Town's delegate last year and agreed to be again this year.

On a motion by Shaun Bryer, seconded by Cathy Voyer, the Board authorized James Paige to be the VLCT voting delegate.

OTHER BUSINESS

SPEED ISSUES

Shaun Bryer reported that he had received a complaint of speeding on Summer Street and questioned putting speed limit signs up. Brian Kellogg said that it is signed by his house and people still fly by. Discussion included proper signage, enforcement and actions taken by other communities. Dominic Cloud stated that he had information that he would be happy to share with the Town.



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be accepted until September 20, 2004. The Committee will be meeting and bring back the recommended setup of a committee for the interview process. Shaun said the committee is recommending that background and reference checks be done by VLCT.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Cathy Voyer, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board adjourned at 11:35 PM.

Respectfully filed and submitted this 19th day of August 2004.

Barbara Cochran, Administrative Coordinator

Minutes approved

Date

Barb Cochran

From: Mark Leonard [mleonard@pwshift.com]
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2004 1:14 PM
To: Jim Pease
Cc: Barbara Cochran
Subject: Town Offices Survey Results

Jim,

The attached file has the results of the Town Offices Survey. The other two files contain comments (pro & con) respondents made on the surveys.

We received 220 completed surveys. Not every question was answered by each respondent, so the numbers don't always add up to 220. The questions and responses are summarized below:

Voted for the bond question: 108 respondents

Voted against the bond: 96 respondents

<u>Question:</u>	<u>strongly agree/agree</u>	<u>strongly disagree/disagree</u>	<u>no response</u>
1. Town needs new Town Offices:	83%	14%	3%
2. Town needs new Town Offices <i>now</i> :	68%	27%	5%
3. Town Offices should remain in central village:	77%	19%	4%
4. Support higher initial cost w/lower lifetime cost:	56%	34%	10%
5. Town office/library expansion most cost-effective:	51%	38%	11%
6. Project costs reasonable given scope of both:	53%	40%	7%
7. Town did good job providing project info to public:	59%	33%	8%
8. Town did good job finding non-tax project funds:	51%	41%	8%
9. Property tax impact important factor in my vote:	73%	20%	7%

Asked to rate various planning factors, 80 respondents rated "meets community needs" as most important, followed by "project cost", rated most important by 71 respondents. 126 respondents rated "functionality" of the facility as very important, followed by "parking/traffic" considerations, rated very important by 123 people.

These numbers tend to confirm what we've heard over the course of the two bond votes. A solid majority believe we need new offices now. Three quarters want the town offices to remain in the central village. A small majority think the combined town offices/library expansion was/is the way to go (with several written comments urging the town to bring that option back to the voters once more), with opponents of that idea citing project costs, traffic/parking, and opposition to higher taxes as their reason for doing so. Property tax impact was an important consideration in how people voted.

I'll be at the Selectboard Monday evening to review this info with the full board; I'll hold off sharing the info until they've had a chance to review it (several interested citizens have been asking to see the results)

MARK LEONARD
 Zoning Administrator
 Town of Morristown
 (802) 888-6373

Please rate the importance of the following planning factors:

NOT **SOMEWHAT** **VERY** **MOST**
IMPORTANT **IMPORTANT** **IMPORTANT** **IMPORTANT**

Project Cost	2	32	99	<u>71</u>
Location/ Accessibility	3	33	105	61
Functionality	4	17	<u>126</u>	50
Parking/Traffic	2	33	<u>123</u>	50
Meets Community Needs	2	16	99	<u>80</u>
Appearance/ Aesthetics	22	75	76	25

COMMENTS:

later. We should build a beautiful municipal building to set the tone for private developers.

- Town offices should remain in the center of town to make it easier for people who aren't familiar with the area to find an office that they are looking for. (4)
- This project is vital to the growth and prosperity of our village. Current office space does not meet the needs of the town. A town hall outside of the village would be a travesty and I believe it would hurt the town greatly.
- We have a wonderful opportunity that will enhance our town a great deal. The project would be a crown jewel and help attract business and new residents. The voters need to stop being pennywise and short sighted.
- The vault is so small as to be unusable in these days of real property development. Every part of the facility –from the stairs to the size of the claustrophobic size of the zoning office is inexcusable. The relative small tax increase would not operate as a burden on any group or homeowner.
- Apparently not enough people voted to give a true picture. Nobody wants more taxes but delay will only cost more.