



SELECTBOARD MEETING OF June 29, 2009

Members Present: Shaun Bryer arrived at 6:15PM, Brian Kellogg, Todd Yando, Bob Beeman and Dave Yacovone.

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, TA; Richard Keith, Chief of Police; Bob Melfy, Highway Superintendent; Carol Bradley, Finance Director.

Guests: Tina Sweet, Alex Garvin, Max Paine, Amy Noyes, Rev. Barbara Miller, Dawn Andrews, Kelly Rogers, Andrew Volansky, Heather Sargent, Rita Pitkin, Berta Pykosz, Steve Rae, Chris Ransom, Isaac Graham, Dave Polow, Justin Pittinaro, Carl Wrighton, Sue Sargent, JB McKinley, Suzanne & Eric Plante, Tim Scandale, Mike Paritz, Dave Vilord, Ernie Patnoe, Tracy Patnoe, Lisa McCormick, Art Sanborn, Heidi Krantz, Bonnie Waninger,

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

I. AGENDA CHANGES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Add RIP/Bids for Bridge Street Bridge Financing- TA REPORT
2. Add Police Department Retaining Wall- Bids Received- NEW BUSINESS
3. Selectboard was introduced to the new Recreation Coordinator a newly created position. He will be overseeing the Recreation Committee as well as the summer program. This is a part-time position.

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Request to use Municipal Parking Lot-*** Rev. Barbara Miller is requesting to use the Municipal parking lot for a backpack BBQ August 15th, 2009. She has 850 kids signed up to receive back to school backpacks. Any community help would be greatly appreciated. Barbara is to meet with Dan to go over the location of the BBQ so as to allow for community parking.

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Todd Yando to approve use of municipal parking lot for purpose of backpack BBQ August 15, 2009. Motion approved. (4/0)

2. ***Presentation by Ed Debour***— Limitations on commercial zoning has cause some business to look elsewhere for their business location. There is minimal Commercial Land available in Morristown, only 2.32% compared to other towns such as Hyde Park with 91.9% land available for commercial use. Johnson has 100% available for commercial use; Wolcott has 100%. Only four new commercial buildings have been built in Morrisville in the last six years. Examples of lost opportunities are Hawkeye, Jordan Electric, High Mowing Seeds, Vermont Soy, Bill's Body Shop, and Roberts Landscaping. Many businesses have not been able to grow and expand due to lack of land available. Leo's Small Engines leases their building, Mike Paritz owner said that if he was not an established business he would not be able to afford the lease on the

building. Ernie Patnoe, Owner of Mud City Day Care looked for two years for a property large enough and commercially zoned for a large daycare. Custom Metal Fabricators lease is almost up and as there is very little available, Dave Vilord, owner may have to relocate to another Town. Without equity in a building it is hard to grow a business on customers alone. Most businesses have had to lease existing properties due to lack of land available. We need more commercially zoned land for responsible economic growth.

3. ***Economic Development- Downtown-*** Selectboard discussed with Art Sanborn, LEDC, Bonnie Waninger, LCPC, Heather Sargent, MACC, Rita Pitkin, LHP, and Heidi Krantz, Community Coordinator; ways to develop the downtown. There are several vacant buildings that could be used for housing and retail. We need to find willing landowners and use the local agencies to help develop the idea. Heidi Krantz says there are a few willing landowners and MACC has had conversations with them and are working on some ideas for some of the vacant buildings. There are many resources available to landowners, such as tax credits, and block grants for renovations. Heidi will pull out old project ideas, design charrets and surveys, and will organize a meeting with the area agencies.

Dave Yacovone left to go to another meeting.

4. ***Skatepark Committee-*** Betsy Rich, Justin Pittinaro, Dave Polow, Isaac Graham, Rita Angione, and Carl Wrighton are the current committee members. Isaac went over the proposal for the Skatepark that will be located at the Oxbow. It is expected to be on a asphalt pad and made primarily out of wood. It looks like completion will be July 2010. Skatepark will have to do some policing of their own to keep park in good condition. They will also need to have rules as a guideline for patrons. Isaac and Dan Lindley, Town Administrator will work together with Mark regarding zoning and any permits that will be needed.
5. ***Library-*** Shaun updated the board on the handicapped ramp at the Library. Molly Pease and John Duffy have been working on getting new ramp; it looks like it is going to cost \$1500 for materials to make it ADA compliant. Bob Melfy, Highway Superintendent looked at the old ramp and is able to remove it, when the library is ready. Sue Sargent and JB McKinley were present to discuss the Alexander property with the Selectboard; it seems there was a clause embedded in the purchase and sale agreement of the old Town office building. The Union Bank was to pay the Town of Morristown in the form of a Challenge Grant in the amount of \$45,000 in 5 installments of \$9,000 each for 5 year for the Morristown Centennial Library. The Selectboard will discuss it further and get back to the Library Board.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Bob Beeman to enter Executive Session at 8:15 PM for Real Estate to include Suzanne & Eric Plante as well as Dan Lindley, Town Administrator. Motion Approved. (4/0)

Motion made by Todd Yando, Seconded by Brian Kellogg, to exit Executive Session at 8:40 PM. Motion approved. (4/0) No action Taken.

6. ***Railroad Bridge Fencing-*** we received two bids for fencing for the Railroad Bridge to be used as a pedestrian walk way while the Bridge Street Bridge is under construction. Lowest Bid received was from Feerick Fence in the amount of \$5540.00, this is for

rental of fencing not to exceed 60 days. Anything over 60 days will be an additional \$10.00 per day. Damages to chain link fabric would cost an additional 6.00 per linear foot, and damage to posts would cost an additional \$30.00 per post. There has been some "tagging" in town recently. Selectboard was worried that if the fence got "tagged" would we have to pay. Dan will check on it, but thinks it is structural damages.

Motion made by Todd Yando, Seconded by Brian Kellogg to approve contract for fencing with Feerick Fence on the railroad bridge in the amount of \$5540 contingent upon information regarding damages. Motion approved. (4/0)

7. ***Ambulance Write offs-*** Billed calls for 07-08 were \$234,005.00. 646 calls were made- 159 calls were no transports, 487 calls were billed- 80 calls need to be written off. Of these 80 calls are people who didn't pay, didn't have insurance or no contact information. Write off amount is \$29,971.72 which is 12.8% of the billed calls.

Motion made by Todd Yando, seconded by Bob Beeman to write off Ambulance calls in the amount of \$29,971.72. Motion approved. (4/0)

8. ***Bids for Police Department Concrete Retaining Wall-*** Bids were sent out to local contractors. Only one bid was received, from James Bradley in the amount of \$16,595. The sidewalk will be done by our village crew.

Motion made by Bob Beeman, seconded by Brian Kellogg to award bid to James Bradley in the amount of \$16,595. Motion approved. (4/0)

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Approve Personnel policy-**

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Bob Beeman to approve personnel policy effective as of July 1, 2009. Motion approved. (4/0)

IV. TA REPORT

1. Detour package for the Bridge Street Bridge has been approved. Everything is still on schedule. As long as Fair Point stays on track, we will be ready to go August 15, 2009. T. Buck will be moving in to get set up around July 15th.
2. We received three bids for the financing of the Bridge. Not sure what Mary Ann's recommendation is as she was not able to make it to the meeting. Dan will talk with Mary Ann and have more information for next meeting.
3. 4th of July Parade is coming along; still need volunteers.
4. Would like Board okay to have PAC move forward on developing a simplified evaluation system. Shaun thought that was fine as long as we wouldn't be starting over as we had already developed an evaluation form; it just needs to be simplified.
5. Bylaw hearings are done, we will need to start adding to the agenda until we get through the discussions. We will put on as regular agenda item at 7:00PM

VI. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Brian Kellogg- None.

Shaun Bryer- 4th of July Parade- if any of the Selectboard members can volunteer it would be great.

Todd Yando – None

Bob Beeman- None

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minute of 06/15/09 and 06/23/09
2. Approve & Sign Warrants

Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Todd Yando to approve Consent Agenda with amendments to the June 23, 2009 Selectboard minutes (Brian Kellogg was not in attendance so therefore could not make a motion to adjourn the meeting). Motion approved. (4/0)

Chris Ransom Comments- Foot Bridge from Oxbow to Northend- thought Heather Sargent from MACC was working. Hadn't heard anything about it recently. Why couldn't we save the metal from the Bridge Street Bridge and use to make the foot bridge. Contract with T. Buck states that they own the bridge when it comes down. Would also have to deal with lead abatement.

V. ADJOURN

**Motion made by Bob Beeman, seconded by Brian Kellogg to adjourn meeting at 9:05PM.
Motion approved. (4/0)**

Respectfully submitted and filed this 30th day of June 2009
Erica Reed, Administrative Assistant

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