State of Vermont — Chartered in 1781

MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MINUTES JUNE 23, 2003

Members Present:	Brian Greenia, James Paige, Mark Struhsacker, Brian Kellogg, Shaun Bauer
Department Heads:	Paul D. McGinley, TA; Richard Keith, Chief MPD; Wallace Reeve, Chief, MFD; Carol Bradley, Fiscal Services
	D. Hoisington (Highway); D. Shedd (Streets); C. Hess (Fire)
	Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk
Guests:	Heidi Krantz; Dorothy Cook, Morrisville Rescue; Nancy Laidman

Chair Brian Greenia called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Morrisville Water and Light. Scheduled guests, Steven Rae and Bill Thomas were unavailable.

GUESTS

DOROTHY COOK – NEWPORT AMBULANCE PARAMEDIC CONTRACT

D. Cook of Morristown Rescue recommended the Selectboard accept and sign the proposed Contract for Paramedic Intercept as proposed by Newport Ambulance Service, Inc. She noted there was no commitment by Newport Ambulance to waiving the $75 charge in cases of hardship but that it was not a major concern.

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by James Paige, the Selectboard agreed to enter into the contract with Newport Ambulance for paramedic intercept services.

D. Cook will acquire an original copy of the contract and present it to the Chair for signature.

EMPLOYEE ADVISORY BOARD

Chief Keith, D. Hoisington, D. Shedd and C. Bradley were present to update the Board on their review of existing personnel policies. Much of the language of the policies has been cleaned up and provisions are being reviewed.

Specific topics being examined include

- Banked sick time and provisions of workman's comp – at issue is the manner of reimbursing for work related injury so that the employee continues to accrue benefits to reflect uniformity with the union contract.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

P. McGinley noted the approved vendor's license applied for by the Lenke's requires the signature of the Board. Additionally, the Lenke's have asked for clarification regarding what areas and events the license covers. Following discussion, the members agreed the license covers public, town property and events but would exclude school property unless prior consent was obtained from the school district.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Chair Greenia inquired as to a set date for a meeting with MFD to discuss the Fund and proposals set forth by Steve Bousquet at the meeting of June 9.

NEW BUSINESS

FIREWORKS APPLICATIONS

Two additional applications for fireworks displays were reviewed.: Todd Shonio on July 4, 5; and Joe Alfieri on July 4, 5 and 12. As Mr. Alfieri's request did not designate any dates as rain dates, it was assumed that his request was for three events. Members again discussed limiting approval for displays to two nights.

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by James Paige, the Board approved the application of Todd Shonio for July 4 and 5 and approved the application of Joe Alfieri for two of the three days requested (his choice).

Members requested that blank application forms be available at the next meeting for review and revision to include the limitation on number of events and the time for the display.

CONTRACT FOR AUDITORS

R. F. Lavigne has submitted a proposed contract for completing the town audit as approved at the meeting of May 27. Estimated cost was between $5,150 and $5,650. Members agreed with the increased cost and Chair Greenia signed the agreement.

HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN DESIGNATION

An opportunity to expand the historic downtown designation may be available through the work of Z. Sargent provided his qualifications meet the required state standards. Monies have been set aside for this purpose. A consensus of members approved the continuation of establishing a historic designation.

RAIL LINE SALVAGE

Chair Greenia announced the rail lines will be salvaged before the coming winter.

BRIDGE STREET RAILROAD BRIDGE

S. Bauer presented the concerns of Louise Jones regarding the deteriorating condition of the railroad bridge that crosses the Lamoille River. J. Paige commented the deterioration was limited to the improvements made by VAST. It was proposed that a letter be drafted to VAST regarding their responsibility for the condition of the bridge with a copy to Ms. Jones.

She was also concerned regarding the speed at which cars entering and leaving the Oxbow were traveling. She was advised of the sidewalk project and the steps being considered that would help to control traffic and reduce speed.

FOURTH OF JULY CLEAN UP

In an attempt to control cost for the July 4th celebration, S. Bauer asked for suggestions regarding the day after clean up which will occur on Saturday and could, therefore, require the payment of overtime to the supervisor. P. McGinley will inquire of Mike Day of the Street Department whether any assistance can be expected from them. S. Bauer was also advised to contact Northern Vermont Tents of Newport regarding tent rentals at competitive prices.

COMPENSATION FOR BCA MEMBERS

M. A. Wilson presented a study and recommendation for the compensation of the Board of Civil Authority members (attached). Lack of participation on the part of BCA members has prompted consideration of a compensation system. The practices of neighboring towns and the rates paid for attendance at meetings, attendance at elections and conducting tax appeals were outlined in the report. Funding for the coming fiscal

INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE LIBRARY

A letter from David Sichel of the VLCT PACIF regarding coverage for the Morristown Centennial Library was read (copy attached). It remains unclear as to the next steps in resolving this issue. P. McGinley suggested the next level of inquiry would be the insurance board; B. Adams will inquire of the Library Board whether they have any interest in standing for election at Town Meeting to satisfy the qualifications as set forth in the letter.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Brian Greenia, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board approved the warrants as listed in the memo dated 6/23/03.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

P. McGinley, Town Administrator, announced the Administrative Offices would be seeking a temporary replacement for B. Cochran who has requested family leave.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bauer, the Selectboard adjourned to Executive Session at 8:10 pm to consider setting of wages and a request for family leave.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bauer, the Selectboard adjourned the Executive Session at 8:45 pm and resumed the regular meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by James Paige, the Selectboard granted the request for family leave to Barbara Cochran.

On a motion by Mark Struhsacker, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Selectboard accepted as presented the wages to be placed into effect for the fiscal year 2003-2004.

Members requested that prior to completion of the 2004-2005 budget the Board meet with the Employee Advisory Board for a general discussion on wages and benefits and how those are determined.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted and filed this 25th day of June 2003

Barbara Adams, Recording Secretary

Minutes to be presented for approval at the next Selectboard meeting.

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Minutes Approved Date