



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

MAY 24, 2004

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

Department Heads: Paul D. McGinley, TA

Guests: Pat Persico, PVC; "Buckwheat" Lowe, David & Sondra Sanborn, John Youland of Edward Jones Investments; Ed Debor and Mark & Cyndi Hill

Chair Brian Greenia called the meeting to order at 5.30 PM at the Morrisville Water & Light Facility.

GUESTS

PAT PERSICO – PVC:

Due to the lack of participation in the Pleasant View Cemetery Association, Mr. Persico, as President came to the Selectboard seeking help and advice. Other items that were discussed included a report of the Investment Portfolio, lawn mower issues, the update of the Rules & Regulations, old and new water lines, Mausoleums, use of cemetery grounds for sledding and snowboarding, the tapping of the Maple trees and assistance from Herman Fiess.

Pat explained that Mike Goodell preferred rear discharge mowers as there was less chance of damage to stones and he was looking at a John Deere. The Board asked for local businesses to be considered. They didn't feel that keeping the old John Deere mower for parts was practical as different models would have different parts.

There was a weight concern on the Mausoleum, as it is in the five ton range. Other towns restrict where they can be placed.

Pat said that he uses Mr. Fiess as a reference a lot. Herman handles the selling of the lots as well as organizes the burials.

There was concern of the cemetery becoming a popular recreation area. Not only do bicyclists and walkers utilize the cemetery in the summer time, but sledding and snowboarding have become winter sports there. There are safety issues involved as well as possible damage to stones.

Someone tapped the Maple trees this spring. Pat felt that the old trees were already under a great deal of distress without them being tapped.



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A survey was suggested, such as the one for the Recreation Study, to try and get more public feedback. Chair Greenia stated that the Board, along with the Library Trustees and Judith Harris would be sitting down to look at possible changes to cut down the cost.

Ed Debor asked what percentage of the cost had to be paid by the townspeople in Johnson for their Town Hall. Buckwheat Lowe stated that Johnson's Town Hall cost \$650,000. Mr. Debor advised that was not his question, he wanted to know the percentage of funding that actually came from the Town versus grant funds, donations and other funding etc. The Town Administrator stated that you can cut costs up front, but it would cost more money for maintenance five years down the road. He said that a new building should take care of the Town's needs for the next (50) years, not just the needs of today. The Selectboard agreed that they would continue with the project, as the need is still there.

Buckwheat Lowe inquired why the Town didn't look at the Unemployment Office, which would soon be vacant. The Town Administrator stated that it had been looked at in the early stages of the planning process.

When Mr. Lowe asked about the old Creamery building he was informed that the owner wasn't interested in selling the building and it was not economical for the Town to rent. Mr. Debor stated that if the Town was ever interested in renting to go and talk with him.

Reasons for a combined project with the Library versus individual projects included the fact that there could be one elevator, one heating and cooling system and basically to reduce expenses as well as location. Rural Development monies as well as other avenues of funding will be looked at.

The November election was suggested for the project to be reconsidered as there will be a larger number of voters at the poles. Another suggestion was to wait for the next Town Meeting to allow for more time to research the financial aspects of the project. Everyone was in agreement that it was important to inform the tax payers that they would not be footing the entire bill. Monies would be received from grants, donations and fund raising to help offset the Town's costs.

Mr. Lowe suggested that the Town postpone the Brooklyn Street sidewalk project until after the Bypass went through to lessen traffic problems.

Mr. Debor thanked the Selectboard for doing a great job.



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MAPLE STREET PROJECT:

Time and date of the upcoming meeting with Cathy Voyer, Brian Kellogg and the Trustees was questioned. Cathy said 3:00 would work for her, but Brian said he couldn't make it until 3:30 PM. The Administrative Assistant will check with Scott once again to confirm the time. Mr. Lowe and Mr. & Mrs. Sanborn left at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

VLCT NOMINATIONS:

VLCT is seeking names of individuals to serve on four policy development committees, two of which include: Public Safety and Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR). The Selectboard recommended Chief Richard Keith to serve on the Public Safety committee and Mary Ann Wilson to serve on the FAIR committee. Their names will not be submitted until the Town Administrator discusses it with them.

AUDIT PROPOSALS:

In a memo dated May 19, 2004 the Fiscal Services Officer provided a breakdown of the three proposals received for providing auditing services to the Town of Morrystown. Proposals were received for a one year and a three year period from Sullivan, Powers & Co. (\$12,000 & \$37,200); Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner (\$7,600 & \$24,000 with a \$2,000 adjustment equaling \$26,000) and R. F. Lavigne (\$10,485 & \$29,835).

On a motion by Cathy Voyer, seconded by James Paige, the Selectboard moved to accept the bid from R. F. Lavigne.

Discussion included that R. F. Lavigne has been auditing the Town's accounts and they are already familiar with Morrystown.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

DOG COMPLAINTS:

Brian Kellogg reported numerous complaints of dogs running at large at the Oxbow. It was also reported that a Rottweiler recently attacked a small dog there. The Animal Control Officer was advised to issue tickets to those who weren't in compliance.



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The Administration Office was advised that a motor cross event had taken place in the Duhamel Pit over the weekend. Access was gained through a road at the back of the property. The Selectboard requested that the Highway Department post signs along the property at that road location.

The Housing Foundation, Inc. (HFI) has requested the Town to assist them with the purchase of Pinecrest Trailer Park by applying for VCDP grant funding and sub-granting back to their organization. HFI's goals are to stabilize rents and upgrade infrastructure where needed. There is currently between four and five million dollars in the Vermont Community Development Fund for grants. A concern that the Town should look is the fact that there can't be two applications from one area. Heidi Krantz is working with a committee that is also considering applying for these funds. The TA advised that the Selectboard should decide which grants are applied for and by whom. Member Voyer inquired about conducting a housing study. Paul said that Heidi was scheduling a meeting and would let the Selectboard know ASAP. Others who may be competing for funds include: for stormwater issues, Trails, River Arts and someone who has a tenement house on Bridge Street.

The traffic study for the Park Street, Elmore Street, Richmond Street intersection was discussed. Paul feels the RFP request would make the project over \$10,000, which the Board felt was too high. They suggested correcting the RFP, which would make the cost in the \$5,000 range.

OTHER BUSINESS

STORMWATER ISSUES:

Brian Greenia informed the Board that he had just received a phone call from Norm Prive regarding stormwater on his property caused from work that had been done near Sunset Drive. The AA advised that Art Hamel had come into the TC office this afternoon stating that a lot of the work that had been done there had washed out from the recent rains. Jim Pease will be notified, as that is one of the projects that he is overseeing.

BILLING SCHOLARSHIP:

The Administration Office was advised that PA had no students going into the Ministry or Forestry fields; therefore there would be no applications.

Memorandum

To: Selectboard

From: Carol L. Bradley, Bookkeeper

Date: 05/24/04

Re: Warrants presented for Board Meeting on May 24, 2004

General Fund:

Warrant #03048- PR Related Invoices from pay Pd 05/19/04	\$ 5,899.02
Warrant #03049- AP Unpaid Invoices due 05/25/04	\$ 60,590.06
Payroll Warrant for pay period ending 05/15/04-05/19/04	\$ 31,919.68

Other Funds: