TOWN OF MORRISTOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

APRIL 29, 2002

Members Present: Brian Greenia, Donald Anderson, James Paige, Mark Struhsacker and Shaun Bryer

Department Heads: Paul D. McGinley, Mary Ann Wilson, Bill Moulton, Richard Keith and Bruce Kelley

Guests: Sandi Utton, Marci Young, Peter Burhans, Heidi Krantz, Bill Preis, Bob Merchant, Jody Carriere, Sonny Demars, Gary & Linda Briggs, Elizabeth Raymond, Susan Southall and James Palmer

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD

Brian Greenia called the Board of Liquor Control to order at 5:58 PM to address a liquor and tobacco license application.

On a motion by Donald Anderson, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board approved the applications as listed on the April 29, 2002 Memorandum. James Paige opposed. (Attached)

On a motion by Mark Struhsacker, seconded by Donald Anderson, the Board voted to go out of Liquor Control at 5:59 PM.

At 6:02 PM Brian Greenia called the regular Selectboard Meeting to order in the Morrisville Water & Light facility.

NEW BUSINESS

MPD OFFICER RESIGNATION:

Chief Richard Keith reported that Officer Cindy Storey had submitted her resignation as a full-time police officer. Officer Storey is willing to serve as a part-time officer for the Morristown Police Department.

Richard requested Board approval to advertise for another full-time officer to begin at the start of the next fiscal year. Donald Anderson enquired about the school officer covering during the summer months. Richard replied that Officer Ryan Bjerke was available, but with summer vacations, he was short at least one person for the entire summer and sometimes two.

On a motion by Donald Anderson, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Selectboard moved to accept the resignation of Officer Cindy Storey.

Chief Keith was instructed to work out the details of hiring another officer with Town Administrator, Paul McGinley.

OLD BUSINESS

MINUTES:

On a motion by Donald Anderson, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board approved the minutes of the April 15, 2002 Selectboard meeting as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

ACT 250 IMPACT QUESTIONNAIRES:

Two Municipal Impact Questionnaires were submitted for Board approval. The Town Administrator asked the Board for clarification on the proper procedures and how they wished these documents to be handled. After much discussion, the Board took the following action.

On a motion by Mark Struhsacker and seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Selectboard unanimously voted to authorize the Town Administrator to sign properly documented ACT 250 Questionnaires for the Town.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT:

Paul reported that we have received one application for the summer employment position at this time. Discussion included starting pay rate, possible bonus for high school or college students, dependant on the amount of time worked and the start date. After much discussion, the Board authorized the Town Administrator to hire a summer employee for the Shared Services position with a flexible pay rate in the $8.00 range.

MORRISVILLE FARMERS MARKET REQUEST:

The Board took the following action after reviewing a letter from Tim Moore, President of the Morrisville Farmers Market requesting approval to set up in the same location as last year.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board requested a letter be sent to the Morrisville Farmers Market giving approval, contingent upon obtaining all necessary permits and permission from the property owner.

BILLINGS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:

The Board received a memo from the Town Treasurer regarding the Billing Scholarship Award amount. The Selectboard previously has offered a $500 Scholarship for a student who wishes to continue their education in the fields of Forestry or Ministry. The Town Administrator advised the Board that as has been done in the past, his office has sent a letter to the school on the matter. The Board agreed to keep the amount at $500.00.

FIREWORKS PERMIT:

The Board received a Fireworks Permit application from Edward Wilson requesting to display fireworks at his 1040 Frazier Road property on July 6th with an alternate date of July 7th.

On a motion by Donald Anderson, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board unanimously approved the Fireworks Permit request from Edward Wilson.

SAND SCREEN PURCHASE:

Peter Burhans from Emerald Screening & Crushing presented a sales agreement for the Sand Screen, which was approved at the previous meeting, for the Chairman of the Board's signature. Town Administrator, Paul McGinley had explained in his 04/26/02 memo that under the accrual system of accounting, the Town could make this purchase now, rather than after July 1st.

On a motion by Shaun Bryer, seconded by James Paige, the Board authorized Brian Greenia to sign the Sales Agreement with Emerald Screening & Crushing for the purchase of the Sand Screen.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

- Request for People's Academy Cross Country Run August 8th – Mark Churchill has requested to host their annual cross country run on August 8th. Mark has worked out the details with Chief Keith.

- Paul reviewed the April 24th memo regarding his 9-month Budget report with the Selectboard. He and Carol have projected income and expenses for the next three months to add to the balances on the March financial. Estimations at this time show General Government and the Police Department to be over budget with Fire and Rescue under budget and Highway about even.

  Paul stated that although we are short some revenues that were budgeted, we will receive other revenues that were not listed, which will offset some of the expenditures and make the final budget very close.

  Mary Ann Wilson requested that she receive copies of documentation given to the Selectboard when discussing dollars and cents in the future.

MORRISTOWN STP WALK (4) S HEARING

At 7:05 PM the Selectboard recessed their regular meeting to conduct a Conceptual Plan Review Hearing for the Brooklyn Street sidewalk project, Morristown STP Walk (4) S. Jody Carriere, Transportation Engineer of Lamoureux & Dickinson, MPM Robert Merchant and Bill Preis, VTrans Project Manager were there to report on the status of the project and answer any questions of the property owners of Brooklyn Street.

Predominant in the discussion was the topic of crosswalks. It was determined that the crosswalks would be textured, not raised as was previously thought and would have imprinted squares in them. Sufficient lighting at the four crosswalk locations was also a concern. Jody informed the audience that she would look into the possibility of additional lighting at dark locations. Village Trustee, Sonny Demars stated that he too would talk to Morrisville Water & Light about the lighting situation. The Board asked Mary Ann to have the Economic Development Committee of the Morristown Community Partnership to research as well.

Other concerns included traffic that does not stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. It was decided that it might take some enforcement to bring under control.

The crosswalk at the Harrel Street intersection was shown on the plans crossing Harrel Street at an angle, to allow for the shortest crossing space. Discussion showed that pedestrians who travel that route on a regular basis would continue to cross the street at the current location regardless if it was a longer area. Jody will make the necessary changes to the plans.

Bill Moulton felt that curbing at that location should come around onto Harrel Street to allow for the connection of future sidewalk construction.

It was determined that a new one and a half inch topcoat layer of pavement will be required to allow for the repainting of the street, which is a requirement of the State.

Residents inquired about additional sidewalk construction. Mr. Merchant stated that it could be done, but at the expense of the Town. The Selectboard was not in favor of incurring any additional expense at this time.

Mr. Briggs asked if the Water & Light Department had plans to change their water mains during this construction, as this was what he had heard discussed. Mr. Demars stated that this was not in their plans.

James Palmer requested that Lamoureux & Dickinson take another look at the design of the project near their place of business. The current plans show the street being moved to the west to allow room for the sidewalk construction. Mr. Palmer felt it would not make for a safe area near his gas pumps. Jody agreed that she would take another look at the design at that particular area.

Other discussion included changes in width of the "green strips" to keep the existing utility poles in place and moving existing crosswalk signs.

Engineer, Jody Carriere informed the audience that the project was on schedule with construction planned for next spring. This would allow the necessary time required for the right-of-way process, to conduct the appraisals and complete the contractual plans. Bill Preis of VTrans informed the audience that this would be the last public meeting to receive comments or to air concerns. The hearing ended at 7:50 PM.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

- Portland Street/Oxbow Park, STPEH01() – Paul reviewed his April 24th memo regarding this sidewalk project with the Selectboard. Issues with location, east or west side of the street were reviewed. Further discussion with Mark Loati is needed, as location and design could concern his warehouse access. It was determined that the project could not be constructed, as originally planned, therefore additional costs will be incurred. A possible solution would be to reduce the scope of work and do design and engineering at this time with the expectation that the sponsor will construct the sidewalk at a later date without grant funds.

Heidi Krantz voiced her concerns if the project was not done it might interfere with Mike Stafford's and the Trails Committee plans. Further discussion was postponed until the Town Administrator could contact Mike and the Trails group.

OTHER BUSINESS

WALKING DOGS AT THE OXBOW:

Bill Moulton expressed his concerns of the growing number of dogs *"being walked"* or *"running at large"* at the Oxbow. It presents problems with students who are using the Oxbow for sports events.

The Town's ***Leash Law*** Ordinance will be reviewed at the next Selectboard meeting to see if it needs to be revised

GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

Brian Greenia and Mark Struhsacker submitted their lists of goals to Barb, requested at the previous meeting. The other members were urged to submit theirs this week.

WARRANTS

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Selectboard unanimously approved the warrants as listed on the Memorandum dated 04/29/02. (Attached)

OTHER BUSINESS

MOWING OF FIELDS:

Concern of the mowing at school was expressed with all of the work that needs to be done and all of the teams using the fields.

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR:

Heidi Krantz presented the Board with her notes from the Morristown Study Circle meetings she has been attending. Some of the topics discussed included: what's difficult about being young; what's challenging about growing up in Morristown; what's good about growing up in Morristown; needs; family support; economics and challenges. There were 8 – 10 people at the meetings, which ranged in age from 4 young adults up to around 50 years old. Officer Reeve was also a participant in the study. One of their wishes was to have a "Social Center" for young and old. They will be having a wrap up session on May 7th from 5 – 8 PM at Applecheek Farm in Hyde Park.

The Community Festival will be held on August 10th. Vendors will be set up along Portland Street from noon until around 5 PM and Heidi requested that parking be limited to the parking lots and not on Portland Street itself. The Selectboard will consider the request and decide at a later meeting. River Arts will be set up at the Oxbow during the evening hours for their music festivities.

LAMOILLE RELAY FOR LIFE:

Mary Ann Wilson asked if the Selectboard would sponsor the municipal team for the 2002 Relay. She informed the Board that their support last year was a tremendous morale booster. Entrance fees consist of $10/person.

On a motion by Brian Greenia, seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Board unanimously approved the request to sponsor the Lamoille Relay For Life municipal team at $10 per person.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Shaun Bryer, seconded by James Paige the Board moved into Executive Session on personnel matters at 8:29 PM with Paul D. McGinley and Barb Cochran in attendance.

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bryer the Board moved out of Executive Session at 9:29 PM and resumed the regular Board meeting.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:

Zoning Administrator, Mark Leonard has successfully completed his probationary period of employment. The Town Administrator recommended the Board offer Mark a permanent position as Zoning Administrator.

On a motion by Mark Struhsacker, seconded by James Paige the Selectboard unanimously voted to offer Mark Leonard a permanent position as Zoning Administrator.

ADJOURN

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Shaun Bryer the Selectboard adjourned their meeting at 9:31 PM.

Barbara Cochran, Scribe
Minutes filed 05/01/02

Minutes to be presented for approval at the next scheduled Selectboard Meeting.

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Minutes Approved Date

Memorandum

To: Selectboard

From: Carol L. Bradley, Bookkeeper

Date: 04/29/02

Re: Warrants presented for Board Meeting on April 29, 2002

General Fund:

Warrant #01-43- PR Related Invoices from pd 4/23/02	$ 4,983.39
Warrant #01-44 – AP Unpaid Invoices due 4/30/02	$ 20,333.65
Payroll Warrant for pay period ending 4/20/02 -Pd 4/24/02	$ 28,480.78
Warrant #ML-10 – AP manua l / electronic checks	$21,065.42

Other Funds: