State of Vermont Chartered in 1781

MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF March 28, 2005

Members Present: Jim Paige, Brian Kellogg, Shaun Bryer, Steve Bousquet

Department Heads: Tag Taginski, and Mary Ann Wilson

Guests: See Attached List

Executive Session:
Steve Bousquet made a motion seconded by Brian Kellogg to enter an executive session to interview candidates for employment at 5:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Brian Kellogg seconded by Jim Paige to leave executive session at 5:55 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Guests:
Paul Griswold – Municipal Facilities Committee had notified Shaun that it would again not be ready to present their final report and recommendations. Discussion followed during which Board members expressed frustration with the continued delay of the committee's report.

LHP Housing Consortium – Jenny Hyslop of the Central Vermont Community Land Trust provided information to address concerns raised at the hearing for the consortium grant. Meg Pond and Rita Pitkin also provided information on the administrative costs, aid to elder housing independence, client served now and who will be served if the program moves forward.

Following discussion, Steve Bousquet moved to adopt the Resolution for the Town of Morristown to be a joint applicant with Northfield and Bradford for VCDP funds for a Housing Consortium. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:
Minutes:

On a motion by Steve Bousquet, seconded by Jim Paige to approve the minutes of March 28, 2005. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Administrative Assistant Appointment- **Motion made by Steve Bousquet and seconded by Jim Paige to approve the appointment of Lisa Laughlin to the position of Administrative Assistant Grade 5 step 2 with a probationary period of six months. Motion passed unanimously.**

Highway Superintendent – Tag notified the Board that Garry Atherton has withdrawn his name from consideration for the position of Highway Superintendent. The Board agreed by consensus to discuss the matter later in the meeting in an executive session.

Liquor Licenses – Mary Ann Wilson presented a listing (attached) of liquor licenses applying for renewal.

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Shaun Bryer the Board convened as the Local Liquor Control Board. The motion passed 3–0-1, Jim Paige voting to abstain.

Following discussion, Steve Bousquet made a motion, seconded by Brian Kellogg, to approve the list of liquor licenses for Bonz Smokehouse & Grill and the Morristown Corner Store. The motion passed 3-1 with Jim Paige voting against. The Board directed Tag to ask the owners of Time Out Sports Bar to attend the next meeting to discuss recent operational issues and the license suspension.

On a motion by Jim Paige, seconded by Brian Kellogg, to adjourn as the Local Liquor Board and reconvene as the Select Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Select Board Appointments – The Board reviewed a list of annual appointments. Discussion followed and corrections were made in the list.

A motion was made by Steve Bousquet and seconded by Jim Paige to accept the appointments as identified on the attached list including appointing Chip Horton in place of Bernard Barton as Tree Warden. The motion passed unanimously.

ED Wilson Correspondence – An additional letter following the last Board meeting was distributed to the Board. Discussion followed on recent work for Fraizer Road and the Wilson property.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Department – Chief Wally Reeve outlined a Homeland grant being requested for the acquisition of either and new ladder truck or breathing apparatus. Discussion followed on cost implications to the Town and regionalizing fire services.

A motion was made by Steve Bousquet and seconded by Shaun Bryer to approve the filing of a grant application for a new ladder truck. The motion passed 3-1 with Jim Paige voting against.

Veteran Tax Exemption – Tag informed the Board of a resident who failed to file a veteran exemption with the Town because she did not receive a notice for the annual requirement. Discussion followed and Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk suggested the Board send a letter to the Veterans Administration and our legislative delegation asking assistance to correct this problem. Tag and Mary Ann will draft a letter for the Board's review at the next meeting.

Equipment Purchase – The Board reviewed a summary of the loader bids. **Brian Kellogg made a motion seconded by Jim Paige for discussion purposes to purchase the John Deere loader**. Discussion followed on the merits of model of loader. **Motion failed on a 1-3 vote**. **Jim Paige then made a motion seconded by Steve Bousquet to purchase the Volvo loader following the 30 day Town Meeting petition appeal period. The motion passed 3-1 with Brian Kellogg voting against.**

Water & Light Department – Tag provided comments regarding the draft of the strategic plan from the Water & Light Trustees. Following a brief discussion the Board by consensus table further discussion and comment until next meeting.

SIGN WARRANTS:
Payroll/Accounts Payable – **Motion was made by Brian Kellogg and seconded by Jim Paige to approve the Warrant as presented for March 28, 2005. The motion passed unanimously.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:
Report from TA- Tag mentioned the changes needed for the Copley Fund and development of an investment policy. A change in the hearing date for the Child Care Connection grant application.

GENERAL OPEN DISCUSSION:
Shaun asked Tag to look into parking restrictions and enforcement for the municipal parking lot.
Shaun and Steve asked what the Town was doing to encourage joint purchasing and other cooperative measures.
The Board discussed attending the Facilities Committee meeting this week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Motion made by Steve Bousquet, seconded by Jim Paige to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing employment applicants for the Highway Superintendent position. Motion passed unanimously. 8:00 PM.

Motion made by Jim Paige and seconded by Brian Kellogg to leave executive session at 8:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE ACTION:

ADJOURN:
Motion made by Jim Paige seconded by Brian Kellogg to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted and filed this ___ day of March, 2005.

Francis Taginski
Town Administrator