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# TOWN OF MORRISTOWN
# SELECTBOARD
# MINUTES

**DATE:** February 24, 1997
**PRESENT:** Brian R. Greenia, Chair, Donald R. Anderson, Steven G. Leach, Philip L. Locke, Kenneth E. Grimes, Carole D. Kissinger
**DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT:** Bill Moulton, Richard Keith, Wayne Camley, Brian Kellogg, Mary Ann Wilson, Marge Miller, Reg Whittier
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Reeve, Amy Kobl Noyes

## SELECTBOARD MEETING

The Chair opened the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Steve made the motion, seconded by Don to approve the minutes of the Board meeting on February 10, 1997 as presented. Passed.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:** Reg and the Board discussed the way that they would like to handle the collection of delinquent accounts during the next year. Reg will be retained as a liaison with the Board who will go into the process of tax collection. The Board wants to continue with the system that Reg has in place, but they would like to computerize it. Reg mentioned that he wondered if the Board would still accept partial payments. Brian said that if the voters go along with the Town being the delinquent tax collector, then 30 days past Town Meeting, the Board and Reg should sit down and review the steps, setting up the what, who, how and when of the new process.

**FIRE:** Wayne reported that nothing major is happening at the Fire Station. Bill's men have the water truck. The compressor is working well now. The circulator broke on the furnace but it has been repaired.

**POLICE:** Richard said that it is starting to pick up now. He reported that there were 182 incidents, six arrests and no transports during the past two weeks. A lot is happening at the Station. Richard just completed a **CHIEF'S COMMAND COLLEGE** at the Academy. It was excellent and they hope to present it on an annual basis for the Chiefs. Ryan Bjerke graduated last Friday and received the Most Physically Fit Award. Garth Christensen has accepted a full time position with the Sheriff's Department. The Police Department received their promised **ROWING MACHINE** from Concept II. The **STATE CAD SYSTEM** cost will be lower than what Richard has budgeted for it in the coming year. It will be installed in March. Training will also take place in March. Richard introduced Michael Reeve to the Board. Michael is Richard's choice to fill the full time officer's position under the **COPS UNIVERSAL II** Grant. He is scheduled to receive Phase I Training in March. He also needs Domestic Violence training and will receive on the job training with several of the police officers. Richard would like to use some of his Block Grant moneys that are available to purchase a weapon for Michael. Richard is able to purchase a gun, present the bill and be reimbursed for the cost. The amount will be released to one designated person, in the Town's case, the Chair of the Selectboard. The Board approved of Richard starting to look for a Police Cruiser to be bought by the end of this fiscal year. While Richard is on vacation from March 6-22, Larry Pecor will be in charge and will attend the Selectboard meeting in Richard's place.

**HIGHWAY:** Nothing much is happening in the Village. A group of students from the High School wants to paint the trash cans in Town. A majority of the Board had no problem with this and told him to use his own judgement on this project. The men have bolted the frame back on the Fire Department's Water Truck. There was no way that the old one could be patched so they put a new frame seven feet long on each side. The roads are very rough due to it freezing with so much water in the roads. Dave has tendinitis in the shoulder. It was turned over to Workers' Comp. It will be a test of the new Insurance Company.

**RESCUE:** Marge represented Rescue and gave their report. Rescue is concerned that Dispatch is not following the protocol that Rescue has set out. She gave the Board two letters that were sent to the Sheriff's Dept. They have not received any response from the Sheriff. Marge said that Dispatch does not tone our Rescue for all structure fires. Brian told Marge that the Board would try to get some communication going. After all, the Board is the one that pays the bill. Bill asked Marge if the people who stay overnight at the Rescue Building could park inside the building. That way Bill will not have a problem plowing in front of the doors.

**TOWN CLERK:** Mary Ann reported that the Town Clerk's Office has been very busy, in fact too busy lately. Last year the tax rate was $2.07. If the Grand List remains that same, this year's rate will be $2.18. Last year during the Budget Process, the Town's portion was .80 and the School's portion $1.30. This year, the Town's portion is .77 and the School's $1.41. The Electronic Voting Machine has been an asset to the Town. The only complaint that Mary Ann has heard is that someone at the machine might see a person's vote. Since you can insert the ballot in any manner, it would not take much education to have the voter place the ballot vote side down in the machine.

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** Brian Kellogg told the Board that he had several problems. He told of two dogs that attacked a beagle. Brian went with a police officer to speak with the owner. The dogs are still not registered; they are unlicensed. The second problem is with another pair of dogs that are bothering all their neighbors. There seems to be a problem, too, with issuing tickets. When Brian spoke with Mary Ann some time ago, they were unable to determine if the fines had been paid. Mary Ann explained that she now has more information and has ascertained that the owner of the second set of dogs has indeed paid her first ticket. The Town Clerk said that four of the seven tickets issued have been paid. Mary Ann is trying to find out a better way of tracking this information. The Board said that the intent of the tickets is to enforce compliance. Brian asked the Board what he should do if the first people refuse to register their dogs. The Board told him that he should issue them tickets. The next step could be a hearing before the Board. The Board wants an update from Brian at the next meeting.

**SIGN PAYROLL/BILLS:** Ken made a motion, seconded by Steve, to approve Payroll Check Warrant for the period ending 02/15/97 in the amount of $18,562.73. Passed. Steve moved and Don seconded the motion to approve Check Warrant #3-P/R for checks (13769 to 13777) for checking account #02 dated 02/18/97 in the amount of $13,111.33. Passed. Don moved and Ken seconded to approve Check Warrant Report #4-AP for Unpaid Invoices for Checking Account #02 from 02/24/97 to 02/25/97 in the amount of $31,801.55, and Check Warrant Report #2-A/P for Unpaid Invoices for Checking Account #02 from 02/11/97 to 02/11/97 in the amount of $25,675.16. The warrant for the invoices for 2/11/97 was signed by all the Board members earlier in the week. The board discussed the bill presented by Wayne's Wrecker Service to the Morrisville Fire Department for payment. The Board said that this bill is not the Town's responsibility. It should be returned to Wayne's Wrecker Service for submission to the responsible party. Some Board members asked for clarification on several Delta Dental payments. Passed.