TOWN OF MORRISTOWN
SELECTBOARD MINUTES

DATE: **February 21, 2000**

PRESENT: Brian Greenia, Chair; Steven Leach; Donald Anderson; Lee Sturtevant
ABSENT: Phil Locke
DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: Bill Moulton, Richard Keith, Bud Geary, Wally Reeve, Dave Godfrey, Ken Sweetser
GUESTS: Amy Noyes, Kathleen O'Neill, Lucy Leriche, Kevin O'Riordan, Jeanne Grassette, Cathy Voyer, James Pease

Brian Greenia opened the Regular Meeting of the Morristown Selectboard at 6:02 PM.

AA REPORT:

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the February 11th Meeting were amended, in order to strike the funding amount and recipient's name; concerning the Morristown Development Fund.

The February 14th Meeting Minutes were amended; to include John Sullivan as a guest.

Steve made motion to accept the Meeting Minutes of: 2/7/00, 2/11/00, and 2/14/00, reflective of the before mentioned changes. Brian made second motion. Passed.

HIGHWAY:

Bill stated that it had been quiet. The crew is continuing to haul snow. Parking lot signs have been ordered. 50 tons of salt in the Village, and 150 tons in the Town have been spread.

Three sealed bids were opened by the Selectboard, for a new model cab and chassis. The first was received from Vermont Mac's. It was quoted at a price of $62,580 for a 2001 Mac model RD690P. The second was from Clark's Truck Center. It was quoted at a price of $53,734 for a 2001 International model 2574. The third was received from JB Internationals. It was quoted at a figure of $49,641.77 for a 2001 International model 2574. Bill will follow up and ensure that the bids are based on a comparison with similar equipment. Steve made motion to receive the prospective bid proposals for the Highway department. Lee made second motion. Passed.

A request voucher for 18 overtime hours was presented by Carol Bradley, for Bill Moulton. The request was proposed for approval by Lee. Second motion was made by Don. Passed.

The Selectboard requested that the annual bridge inspection report be forwarded to Bill Moulton, for his review.

POLICE:

Richard stated that the workload had been about average. There were 160 calls made during the past two weeks, and 3 detoxification transports. Training will occur during March, April, May and June. Richard noted that much of this is paid for by grant funding. On March 16th the Public Safety Building will be the host site for a training session on standardized dexterity testing for DWIs.

Richard also stated that the Crown Victoria had been worked on for electrical problems.

Bids for the new flooring are still pending.

The Selectboard asked if Richard had been receiving complaints about the parking lot. Richard didn't think so. No tickets have been issued.

RESCUE:

Bud stated that the rescue Squad is still in need of new volunteers. Though there are many applications in process, not much finalized response is forthcoming.

Bud is going to initiate giving the three chief officers oxygen tanks, masks, regulators, etc.; in order to make it possible for them to respond to calls directly from their homes. The Selectboard concurred with this idea.

The tentative Rescue meeting date schedule is the fourth Monday of the month.

HEALTH:

Dave Godrey gave a general report. He has addressed complaints on the Randolph Road about rental unit heating. He will be following up on a septic tank concern in the spring; when the ground is no longer frozen. A new sand filter and mound system was discussed.

Next week Dave will be conducting the annual school inspections.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:

The Selectboard ascertained that Mr. Alter's small claims court date has yet to be determined. Mary Ann Wilson has filed a claim and Brian has agreed to follow up on it.

FIRE:

Kevin. Emergency contingency provisions were also questioned. Concern was expressed that the local police department would be responding to calls, and the negative results of possible pattern offenses within the community. The responses included implementing the use of the Moretown location emergency bed facility, in order to immediately remove an individual who is not meeting the program specifications from the area. The responsibilty would then revert back to the individual's community of origin. An assessment would also be made of the conditions every time an individual in the program leaves the home. Kevin stated to the Selectboard that any known sex offenders in the program would not be housed within the Village.

Representative Cathy Voyer reiterated the need for extensive training the special service agency care providers, and client screenings. The Selectboard asked for a firm assurance to be given to the Town, ensuring that sex offenders not be housed inside of the Village.

The written request submitted by Sandra Stubbs, on behalf of Sterling Area Associates, asking for property tax-exemption was addressed. Brian made motion to grant tax-exemption for two properties owned by the Sterling Area Association located on Main Street, and Cram Road. Lee made second motion. Denied. The Selectboard cited examples of other groups that had applied for exemption, and stated that it was not appropriate to grant tax-exemption to some of them, and not to all of them. A copy of the statute was given to Mr. Riordan; which mandates that any tax amount exempted has to be compensated by the rest of the Town taxpayers.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Selectboard addressed the two letters which were sent from the American Legion and the VFW, requeting the removal of the tree planted by the memorial at the traffic yield on lower Elmore Street. It was decided that this request be granted. Possible resources for removing the tree will be investigated.

The Selectboard voted to sent a letter of appreciation to the Community Assets Building Team for their work in facilitating the February 5th community gathering at the school. Motion was made by Steve. Second motion made by Lee. Passed.

Jim Pease was introduced to the Selectboard by Kathleen O'Neill as a representative of the Conservation Commission. Jim works for the Agency of National Resources in the Water Quality division, and offers his assistance and knowledge in his field. Motion to discuss appointment of four member to the Advisory Board for the Morristown Conservation was made by Brian. Second motion made by Lee. Passed. Don cautioned that an even number board could make voting majority difficult. The four appointees proposed were: Kathleen O'Neill, Gert Lepine, Heath Eiden and James Pease. Steve made motion to approve the appointments on a temporary basis, through Town Meeting; until such time that a list of proposed seat positions and rotating years of terms would then be designated. Don made second motion. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

The proposed alternate truck route was discussed briefly. Cathy Voyer is optimistic about its progress. It was agreed that plans for a bike path shelf by the bridge would be dropped. It was decided that Brian would make revisions to the letter drafted to Marty Abaire, of the Army Corp of Engineers, pertaining to the alternate truck route.

It was also decided that the Village streetlight proposal was still in the dialogue stage. The letter dated February 10, sent to the Selectboard by the Village Trustees, was discussed. As no new information has been obtained and the position of the Village remains the same, the Selectboard decided to send a letter of response; stating that the proposed **Village streetlight maintenance and property transferal** be postponed until July budget discussion. A follow-up discussion would be added to the agenda for the Selectboard Meeting on April 3rd.

Cathy Voyer told the Selectboard that she understands that the Village Trustees meeting held on February 14th (concerning charter changes) went smoothly. A legislative bill would not be introduced until 2001.

Brian agreed to make arrangements to have the large wooden table moved from the Public Safety Building for storage.

PAYROLL/BILLS:

Warrant #00-07 ($7,010.47) for payroll related invoices from 2/16/99, Warrant #00-08 ($40,048.06) for accounts payable from 2/21 – 2/22/00 as well as two bills (Swish Maintenance for $129.85 and $570 for Brad Wilson; presented by Wallace Reeve for the Fire Department) were proposed for payment by motion made by Lee. Second motion made by Don. Passed.

Payroll Warrant for the pay period ending 2/12/00 ($23,404.06) was proposed for payment by Don. Second motion made by Steve. Passed.

Lauria van den Noort, Scribe
Brian Greenia, Chair
Minutes filed 2/24/00

Minutes not approved