



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

FEBRUARY 18, 2003

Members Present: Brian Greenia, James Paige, Mark Struhsacker, Shaun Bryer and Lee Sturtevant

Department Heads: Paul D. McGinley, TA; Mary Ann Wilson, TC and Chief Richard Keith

Guests: Senator Susan Bartlett, Robert Davis, Steve Rae and Brian Kellogg

Chair Brian Greenia called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM following the Alexander Hamilton Copley Trust meeting at the Morrisville Water & Light Facility.

GUEST

Senator Bartlett, at a previous meeting, agreed to give the Selectboard a lesson on Act 60 in order for them to better understand the process. It was explained that the net yield equaled a cent raised on the grand list and a handout on FY2003 Local Yields was provided for comparison purposes for Vermont towns. At the top of the list was Addison, where 1¢ on their grand list would give a net yield of \$1,205.41 versus in the town of Stannard, where 1¢ would only raise \$12.79 in taxes. Morristown's net yield, for comparison purposes equaled \$34.13. Senator Bartlett explained that the net yield cutoff point between a receiving town and a sending town is at \$45.20. The Commissioner of Education sets the yield in September of each year.

The State's block grant per student is currently about \$5,500 and \$1.10 is used as a statewide base to figure state education property tax. For FY 2004 the Senate is *proposing* to have a \$16.4 million in property tax relief for all Vermonters, have a \$1.2 million tax relief for working farmers by eliminating all taxes on farm buildings, increase the block grant to \$5,810 per pupil, reduce school tax rates by 3.9 cents, reduce income sensitivity by 0.077% of household income and maintain the Education Fund reserves at 5%. For FY 2005 they wish to simplify education funding by setting the base payment at \$7,000, set the property tax rate at \$1.38 (rate moves proportionate with spending) and eliminate the sharing pool with no above block spending or local share tax. If a school spends less than the block grant, their base rate would be lowered. There would also be a cap on the grand list wealth per pupil at 85% or around \$70.00. There would be a five-year transition period.

The Senate and House will be conducting a study on Cost Containment and Grand List growth issues including the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). Senator Bartlett stated that money left in the education fund one year would lower the base rate the following year. She stated that education is the biggest business in towns and there was a clear relationship between tax rates and spending.



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MORRISTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

At the March 17, 2003 Selectboard meeting, the handling of MCC funds will be addressed.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRE WARDEN REQUEST:

As Mr. DiGregorio was not present, the request to use budgeted funds was not addressed.

JOHN MORGAN – COPLEY PARKING LOT COMPLAINT:

As Mr. Morgan was not present, this matter was not addressed.

LAMOILLE VALLEY COMMUNITY TV:

The Selectboard acknowledged a letter from Kenneth R. Schramm regarding Lamoille Valley Community TV, received at the Administration Office on February 12, 2003. Shaun Bryer reported on a meeting he had with Mr. Schramm, Alice Angney, Bill Kimball and Ortho Thompson. The Selectboard asked that Mr. Schramm be notified that Terry Bailey of the Green Mountain Technology Center has requested to be included on the Selectboard's agenda on March 17, 2003.

LHP – COPLEY HOUSE NOTE:

The Selectboard acknowledged a January 30, 2003 memo from the Morristown Fiscal Office pertaining to the Copley House note. The Town Administrator will contact Lucy Leriche per instruction from the Selectboard.

LRSWMD – TAX BILL STUFFER:

Board member Sturtevant made reference to a Memo from the Town Clerk regarding a request from LRSWMD to include an insert on Hazardous Backyard Burning with the town's tax bills. The memo explained that adding a 3 ½" X 8 ½" insert would not cost any more, but it would if more than one tax bill is sent to the same property owner. Also, it would require more labor, therefore additional expense to the Town. The Administrative Assistant suggested LRSWMD put the notice in the *Morristown Community Quarterly*, a publication that is distributed as an insert to the Transcript, four times a year. This would actually reach all residents, not just property owners. Lee Sturtevant will contact Joyce Majors regarding inclusion in the newsletter.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Lee Sturtevant, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Selectboard authorized the Warrants as listed on the Memorandum dated 02/18/03. (Attached)



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BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL

On a motion by Lee Sturtevant, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board of Liquor Control approved all liquor and tobacco license applications as well as a catering permit for off-premise consumption as listed on the Memorandums dated February 18, 2003. James Paige opposed. (Memorandums attached)

On a motion by Mark Struhsacker, seconded by James Paige, the Board of Liquor Control adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted and filed this 20th day of February, 2003

Barbara Cochran, Scribe

Minutes to be presented for approval at the next regular Selectboard meeting.

Minutes Approved

Date

Date: February 18, 2003

To: Local Liquor Control Commission/Board of Selectmen

From: Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk

Re: 2003 Liquor Licenses and Tobacco Licenses

Licenses ready for your approval. Each liquor license is submitted in duplicate. You must sign your approval/disapproval on the last page of each liquor license. Tobacco licenses must be signed on the back in the top left corner. Thanks.

<u>Applicant:</u>	<u>Liquor:</u>	<u>Tobacco:</u>	<u>Outside Consump.</u>
Audet, Marion (Morristown Corner Store)	Yes	Yes	
Copley Golf Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes
Green Mountain Catering (Hilary's Rest.)	Yes	No	Yes
Green Mountain Catering (Hilary's Wicked Sister)	Yes	No	
Mei Hua Restaurant	Yes	No	
Rock Art Brewery	Yes	No	
V.F.W. Post 9653	Yes	Yes	Yes

TOWN OF MORRISTOWN SELECT BOARD

PLEASE SIGN IN

PRINT NAME

PRINT ADDRESS

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