



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2004

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

Department Heads: Paul D. McGinley, TA; Chief Richard Keith, Carol Bradley, Fiscal Services; Mary Ann Wilson, TC/T and Mark Leonard, Zoning

Guests: Donna Smith, Jean Girard, R. F. Lavigne & Co.; Min Cote, Lamoille County Snow Packers; Sue Sargent and Barbara Adams, Library Representatives; Brad Wilson, MFD and Steve & Judith Harris of Harris & Harris

Chair Brian Greenia called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at the Morrisville Water & Light Facility.

GUESTS

R. F. LAVIGNE & CO. - TOWN PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS:

Jean Girard gave a report on Compliance and Internal Control of the financial reporting for the Town of Morristown. She explained the new method of how accounts were audited and explained how they handled issues like fraud. She recommended that the Selectboard establish a policy on investments, what types of accounts funds should be invested in and how they are handled.

As far as GASB34 is concerned, Jean stated that there is no way out of complying with it. Morristown is fortunate as they fall into the category where we do not have to establish a value for each part of our infrastructure etc. that the Town has today. Morristown will be expected to track any major changes and improvements to its bridges, roads, buildings, infrastructure, etc from June 30, 2004 on.

A capitalization policy will also need to be established for the Town's assets to be properly capitalized. The recommendation was for purchases and repairs valued over \$5,000 and all computer purchases, regardless of cost be included.

The audit showed that the Town has done a good job with its budgets. Ms. Girard explained that with the Town's finances now being on the accrual basis, purchases are expensed when they are received, not when they are paid for as is done in a cash basis of accounting. The Town should not take possession of any new pieces of equipment until the beginning of the appropriate fiscal year.



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The Selectboard discussed the article in which taxpayers would vote to have four tax installments versus two. The Town Clerk stated that it would create more work for her staff, but it would increase the cash flow to the Town. She stated that even with two tax payments, property owners could make as many payments per year as they choose to. Other options available are ACH or electronic payments through the Union Bank, which are usually processed in 12 to 24 hours. Steve & Judith Harris arrived at this time.

After much discussion, the Selectboard agreed that they all were in favor of having four tax installments.

The Board asked the Town Administrator to check with the school on their opinion of the number of installments.

Library representatives stated that they would have members available at Town Meeting to make nominations for Library Board members. This article to elect Library Trustees was established to bring the insurances in line to allow the Library to fall under the Town's umbrella.

It was noted that David Sanborn would not be running for the Lister's position again.

Article #4 pertaining to the joint Town Hall/Library facility was discussed at length. Mark Leonard has prepared a power point presentation to be shared at the Pie Social. Harris & Harris presented a three-dimensional rendering of the proposed joint facility.

Brad Wilson arrived at this time.

Other matters discussed included: tax-rate impact, terms and life of bond, and whether the bonding needed to be done in phases or not.

Mary Ann Wilson presented a resolution certificate, sample ballot, and warning article for this project. She also explained that she along with Karen Lynch of LEDC had prepared a spreadsheet that showed the affects of the bond over the term of the bond.

It was also decided that the Bond amount should be approximately 2.8 million when rounded, which was determined by taking the total combined project of \$3,362,000 and subtracting the anticipated offsets of from the AHC grant for the Copley Room (\$120,000); the estimated figure from the sale of the Town Hall facility (\$160,000); the funds already expended by the Library (\$64,000); and \$220,000 of the expected \$380,000 of the Library's fundraising efforts.



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SELECTBOARD TERMS:

Mark Struhsacker will not be seeking reelection. Shaun Bryer announced that he would be running for the three-year term.

VTRANS CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE:

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board approved and signed the State's Certificate of Highway Mileage.

LRSWMD APPOINTMENT:

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Mark Struhsacker, the Board appointed Mac Miller to represent the Town of Morrystown on the LRSWMD Board.

GOVERNMENT DAY:

The Town Administrator reminded the Board of the upcoming Local Government Day on February 11, 2004. It was determined that no members would be available to attend this year.

SMART GROWTH MEETING:

There will be a Smart Growth Meeting on January 29, 2004 at the Johnson Municipal Building for all Lamoille County communities.

WARRANTS

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board approved the warrants as listed on the memorandum dated 01/19/04. (See Attached)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The TA advised the Board of a letter sent to Scott Corse regarding the Brooklyn Street and Washington Highway infrastructure upgrade of sewer and water lines and timeline to do repairs so as not to wait until our paving projects are complete before being dug up to do their maintenance.

The Administrator also reported that the new employee, James Caldwell hired to fill the Highway Department/Fields & Parks Supervisor position has taken another position and will not be coming to work for the Town.



Memo

To: News & Citizen
From: Barbara Cochran, Administrative Assistant
Date: January 19, 2004
Re: ad – one week (make ad as small as possible)

TOWN OF MORRISTOWN:

The Morristown Selectboard has renewed last year's request from the Lamoille County Snow Packers. The following road and bridge segments are open for the 2003-2004 Snowmobile Season:

1. Lower Cottage Street Road and culvert
2. Section of Maple Street from the Village Shed to Washington Highway
3. Section of Washington Highway and Maple Street to Boudreau's
4. Oxbow Parking Lot up Lower Portland Street to RR tracks

Trails cross the following roads:

Elmore to Stowe

5. Lazy Lane
6. Darling Road
7. Rte 12
8. Washington Highway
9. Fitzgerald Road
10. Earl Grey Road
11. Bliss Hill Road
12. Neuland Road
13. Randolph Road
14. Stancliff Road

Railroad

15. 15 A
16. Portland Street
17. Brooklyn Street
18. Rte 100
19. Silver Ridge Road

Beaver Meadows

20. Walton Road
21. Randolph Road
22. Stagecoach Road
23. McKee Road
24. Cole Hill Road
25. Mud City Loop Road (4 times)

[illegible]