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MORRISTOWN

SELECTBOARD MEETING OF January 7, 2013

Members Present: Brian Kellogg, Mickey Smith, Bob Beeman Min Cote, and Steve Rae.

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police Carol Bradley, Finance Director and Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk Treasurer.

Guests: Tina Sweet, Al Robertson, Ron Stancliff, Doug Small, Meredith Mcgee, and Fran Sladyk.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM in the Community Meeting Room by Brian Kellogg.

I. AGENDA CHANGES ADDITIONS

1.None

II. COMMUNITY CONCERNS

1. None

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Library CDBG Grant Hearing- Purpose of hearing is to hear any public comment on the closeout of the Library's Community Development Block Grant. Present from Library Board of Trustees is Meredith McGee. Hearing no public comment Brian Kellogg closed the hearing.

2. **Lamoille Valley Rail Trail-** Alan Robertson, Representative of LVRT came to discuss with the Selectboard the possibility of providing some in-kind services to help with getting the trail ready for use. They are looking for help with mowing of the trail sides near Melbens, the railroad bridge needs guardrails, they will need some fill at some point and there is a slump in the trail on RT15 from debris that slid down the embankment during Hurricane Irene that needs to be removed and disposed of. They would also like to see a trail head at 15A. The State is going to be reconstructing 15A and building a new bridge where Tenney Bridge and. The Selectboard agreed to help with the mowing, and haul away the slump on the trail and to help out with fill when needed. Dan will also try to work with the State and ask them to turn over any of the old RT15A to later be used as a trail head. VAST does not have the means to provide these services due to a bad winter last year and the costly process of the ACT 250 permitting process. LVRT is working with the VYCC to get some of the youth to help out with trail clean up but it does cost them about $8,000 per week for these services. Alan will get a preliminary plan back to the Dan & the Selectboard for review.

3. Forest Improvement Contract -Fran Sladyk, consulting forester has written a contract for the Town, between the Town of Morristown and Doug Small for the thinning of 5-10 acres of softwood plantation located on the easterly portion of the Morristown Forest. Doug was disappointed with the contract as he was originally supposed to have two plantations to cut and now it has been reduced to one and it is the most difficult one as the contract states that he would have to use the state land as a landing for the logs, which would cause him a significant amount of time and money to land the logs on the State land rather than the Town Land. There would also be a $1,000 guarantee deposit to the Town as well as the State. Doug feels that since this has been an issue for the last three years, that there should be one main point of contact for the forest that knows about logging, so that we can finally move on and get the plantations thinned out. Ron Stancliff said that we only promised Doug one plantation at a previous meeting on the Town Forest. Ron expressed on behalf of the Conservation Commission that they wanted to see a management plan in place first before any cutting occurred. Ray Toolan, State Forester has updated the previous management plan. Doug mentioned that he would be doing some cutting on Tim Sullivan's property which is near the spruce plantation that is marked and he could make a landing on that side. It would cost him a bit more in the beginning but would make the other plantations easier in the long run. Steve Rae thought it would make sense to have a plan that does minimum damage, even though it may be more expensive in the beginning but he could do the pine first and the spruce at a later date. Ron Stancliff felt that the Selectboard should be going out to bid on thinning the forest and infact thought it was illegal if they didn't. Bob Beeman stated that he did check into that and the Town does not have to go out to bid since they own the forest. They can hire who they wish to do the cutting. Brian Kellogg asked Doug if he would be happy if he could cut the Spruce plantation on the westerly portion of the Town forest. Doug stated that he would like everyone to be happy but yes he would do that. Fran will revise the contract and send to Dan for signature.

Motion made by Min Cote, seconded by Mickey Smith to authorize Dan to sign the Contract between the Town of Morristown & Doug Small for the thinning of the Norway Spruce Plantations on the westerly portion of the Town Forest. Motion approved. (5/0)

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Final Budget Review- Reviewed the changes requested by the Selectboard throughout the previous budget workshops. Proposed 2013-2014 budget is $4,535,830 which is a 3.1% increase over FY12-13 budget of $4,398,218. Discussed the Maple Street project, Dan has projected $c374,681.77 for the completion of the project which would include new storm drains and pavement. This project would be over a period of 3-4 years. This would need to be on an Australian ballot. We would probably need to take out a line of credit to pay for the cost of the project. The Selectboard was a little hesitant to present the proposal to the voters due to the current economic situation, but ultimately decided to have Dan write the Article to present at Town meeting and let the voters decided whether the project will move forward or not.

2. **Rescue Volunteer Termination-**

Motion made by Min Cote, seconded by Bob Beeman to terminate Zach Hayford from the rescue squad. Motion approved (5/0)

3. Approve & Sign Bypass Sewer line- This is the sewer line that Howard is constructing that we agreed to be the applicant on to help speed the process.

Motion made by Min Cote, seconded by Bob Beeman to approve the permit application and authorize Dan to sign. Motion approved (5/0)

V. BOARD OF LIQUOR CONTROL

1. None

VI. TA REPORT

- Fire Department has requested that their purchase of the new Tanker truck be placed to Australian Ballot.
- We purchased the sander trailer for $650 and it seems to be working out great. Mike is looking into a John Deere x720 with snowblower, plow and broom. They are commercially sold for $15,000 but we would get municipal discounts so the price would be a lot lower.

VII. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS

Min Cote

- Pot Holes. There is one in front of the office building. Has Mike used the cold mix yet? Dan wasn't sure that he had but would mention the pothole.

Bob Beeman

- None

Steve Rae

- None

Mickey Smith

- What is the time frame on the clock tower? Dans says springtime they will be here doing the outside work. Most of the work is being done in Jay's shop.

Brian Kellogg

- Decorations in the front window looked great for the holidays.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes of 12-10-12 & 12-1712
2. Approve & Sign Warrants

Motion made by Min Cote seconded by Mickey Smith to approve consent agenda with changes to the Motion to "thank Carol Bradley & Mary Ann Wilson for their work on the Bridge Street Bridge Loan refinance" to include a second by Mickey Smith with 5/0 vote. Motion approved. (5/0)

Motion made by Min Cote, seconded by Mickey Smith to adjourn at 8:15PM. Motion approved (5/0)

Respectfully submitted and filed this 8th day of January 2013
Erica Allen, Clerk

Please note that all minutes are in draft form unless otherwise stated and are approved at the next meeting.