



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2004

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

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

Guests: Steve Rae, Gert Lepine, Jim Ryan, Jim Pease, Kevin Lane, Roy Marble, Brad Wilson, George Robson, Bill Rossmassler, Mike Desjardins and Donald Hill

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

OLD BUSINESS

MINUTES:

On a motion by Shaun Bryer, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board approved the minutes of December 17, 2003 and December 22, 2003 as presented. James Paige abstained from the December 17th minutes vote as he was absent.

MCC TOWN MEETING ARTICLE:

The MCC submitted wording for an article pertaining to a request for funding for the purpose of preserving open space and natural resource lands, etc. that they are recommending to be placed on the warning for the 2004 Town Meeting, as presented on page three of the Selectboard packet. (Attached)

The Board questioned how it would be determined by the Conservation Commission what they could recommend to the Selectboard for preservation.

Bill Rossmassler stated that his community (Middlesex) has formed a review committee consisting of a Selectboard member, Conservation member, as well as ad hoc members to address conservation issues.

GUESTS

JIM RYAN – LAMOILLE COUNTY WATERSHED COUNCIL:

On behalf of the Lamoille County Watershed Council Jim Ryan explained the planning process of the classification and typing of the Lamoille River watershed surface waters.



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2004

OLD BUSINESS

MFD LADDER TRUCK:

Chief Reeve reviewed the three pieces of ladder equipment that MFD is currently considering. They include a 1973 Seagrave with 100' ladder at \$33,000; a 1982 Mack with a 106' Quint (not inspected) for \$42,000 and a 1991 Spartan equipped with a 1975 Seagrave 100' aerial ladder for \$49,000. Discussion included the number of times the ladder truck had been to calls outside of town, (7); the need for the Town of Morristown to have its own aerial ladder; mutual aid and the bylaws of it; and the need to send Armand to look at any equipment the Town might consider for pre-approval and certification prior to purchasing.

Mark Struhsacker questioned the needs and wants of the Reel truck, which was approved at last year's Town Meeting. The size of the truck and ability to park in the station, and the changes of the safety requirements on reel trucks and the changing of the truck design were major factors in the escalating costs. The Board asked the MFD to get costs for sending someone to Maryland and Alabama to look at these pieces of equipment.

TOWN GARAGE WATER ISSUES:

The Town Administrator reviewed with the Board the water issues at the Town Highway Garage on Cochran Road. He recommended hiring a Hydrologist to evaluate what would be in the Town's best interest to solve these problems and the Selectboard agreed and left the matter to the Town Administrator to handle.

BUDGET REVIEW – PROVISIONAL APPROVAL:

The *lengths of Bond terms* were discussed. It was questioned if a municipality could acquire a Bond for more than 20 years. Mary Ann Wilson will work with Karen Lynch at LEDC to see what is available. Mary Ann also said Paul Giuliani could also provide information on what to expect and if there are any tax credits for funding municipal projects.

On the *Maple Street* project, the Selectboard agreed that it would be best to move ahead to next year as necessary information had not been prepared in time for budget processing.

The Selectboard agreed that from previous budget meetings, they were in agreement to use the Town Administrator's proposals versus the Department Head proposals. For further reductions, the Board discussed the following: postpone purchasing the loader at a



SELECTBOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2004

On a motion by James Paige, seconded by Brian Kellogg, the Board voted to offer James Caldwell the position of Fields & Parks Supervisor/Highway Department employee at the rate of \$12.00 per hour. His six month probationary period will coincide with the fiscal year raises along with the pay plan classification study.

OLD BUSINESS

SALT & SAND ISSUES:

The Chair reported that the matter of salted sand storage will not happen as soon as was expected and have such an immediate impact on the Maple Street Garage.

WARRANTS

On a motion by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Shaun Bryer, the Selectboard approved the warrants as listed on the January 5, 2004 memorandum. (Attached)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The TA stated that Chief Reeve had informed him of a request and turned the floor over to Chief Reeve to further explain.

The State of VT has contacted Wally and the MFD in regards to burning down the old Ford Dealership property on Bridge Street. They want the building removed by May of this year. Gert Lepine questioned if Tom Fonda or someone else would be interested in tearing it down versus burning it. The pit would also need to be filled in. It was stated that this was the second oldest Ford Dealership in the State of VT. The property is now owned by the State as it will be directly affected by the Alternate Truck Route (Bypass) when it is constructed. The Town Administrator has a copy of the request. It states that the State will reimburse the Town for its expenses.

There has been no advancement on the Portland Street sidewalk project, due to the State's Project contact being on vacation.

OTHER BUSINESS

BUCKWHEAT LOWE – The Selectboard agreed that this was the second time he has asked to be included on the agenda and not attended. If he should request another time, inform him to either be here or he will not be included on future agendas.