

# TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

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## MINUTES

### SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

#### SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Congdon, Jr, Clerk

Michael Klopchin, Chair

Arthur Knox

Daniel Pinkowski

Richard Wilbur

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING: Selectmen (5), Administrative Assistant, George Ambrose, Robert Bixby, Cindy Davis, Marjorie Southard. Also present were Tom Donahue, Lyle Jepson, and Tyler Richardson.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND CLERK: Selectman Knox made the motion to appoint current Board Chair Klopchin as chair for the following year, and stated his reasons for doing so. Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed; Michael Klopchin was appointed Board Chair expiring March 2017. Selectman Congdon made the motion to appoint Selectman Knox as Board clerk, Selectman Wilbur seconded; Selectman Knox thanked the Board for the nomination but declined the appointment. Selectman Knox made the motion to appoint Selectman Congdon as clerk, Selectman Wilbur seconded, after a brief discussion the motion passed unopposed, Robert Congdon Jr. was appointed Board Clerk expiring March 2017.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair informed the Board and public that Brownson Spencer may have information on a contract, and if he was to come to the meeting, there would be reason to have an executive session. Selectman Congdon motioned that if Mr. Spencer were to arrive, the Board would move to executive session to discuss the contract information, Selectman Knox seconded, the motion carried unopposed. There were no other changes to the agenda.

#### APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Select Board Meeting Regular – February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016: Selectman Congdon made the motion to accept the minutes subject to corrections, Selectman Knox seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Marjorie Southard stated that she had a court document she would like to attach to the minutes that corrected information given by the Town Agent regarding Ms. Southard's involvement in a permit appeal. After a brief discussion, Selectman Congdon motioned to attach a copy of the court document to the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 minutes, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion carried unopposed.

HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was not present.

Name VT State Route 103: The Board Chair read a letter aloud from Mr. Stephen A. Leach, requesting that the Board support the effort to rename route 103 the Desert Storm Veterans Memorial Highway. Selectman Congdon motioned that the Board draft and sign a letter supporting the renaming of route 103 to the proposed Desert Storm Veterans Memorial Highway, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. A brief discussion followed on the name, and whether or not it would affect

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emergency 911. It was suggested that Rep. Dave Potter be copied on the letter, the Board Chair asked the Administrative Assistant to do so.

Certification of Compliance, Bridge Standards and Network Inventory: The Board Chair explained that this was done annually. Selectman Congdon motioned that the Board sign the certificate, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion carried unopposed, the certificate was signed by all members.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL WARRANTS: All new warrants and warrants previously signed by the designated Select Board member were approved and signed by all Select Board members.

GUEST: TOM DONAHUE AND LYLE JEPSON, REDC INTRODUCTION: Mr. Donahue presented the Board with the Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Report, and spoke to their involvement in the twenty-seven towns in the region, including a "listening tour" of the towns with REDC. At this point, Mr. Lyle Jepson and Mr. Tyler Richardson with REDC were introduced. Mr. Jepson gave a history in the change of REDC, and stated that a goal is to increase the use of the airport and the industrial park. The revolving loan fund available to prospective businesses was mentioned, and brief rundown of personnel at REDC was given. Mr. Jepson also presented the Board with the City of Rutland Board of Aldermen's Resolution Pertaining to the Department of Environmental Conservation's Draft Combined Sewer Overflow Rule, and stated that REDC will be writing a letter to DEC on the issue. A discussion followed on how the Draft Rule would impact Clarendon, and the hope to change the negative business environment image of Vermont. The 9L criterion of Act 250 was also discussed, as well as Governor Shumlin's work in the Southern Vermont region. The Board Chair stated that the smaller communities in Vermont are not kept abreast of the political developments in the state; he also stated that following this presentation he had renewed confidence in REDC and thanked the gentlemen for attending the meeting. Marjorie Southard was recognized, and expressed her belief that Clarendon could bring business into the Town on its own, and that REDC was not needed. Ms. Southard questioned the tax sharing arrangement in the industrial park; it was explained that the industrial park could not have been developed without Rutland city, as the city supplied sewage and water treatment, a brief discussion about the water and sewer in the industrial park followed. The funding of the Regional Chamber of Commerce and REDC was also discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10 minutes): There were no public comments.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

VT Alert Date Discussion: The Board agreed that a Wednesday or a non-meeting Monday would be best for the VT Alert presentation, and instructed the Administrative Assistant to follow up with VT Alert.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments/Resignations 2016: The Board reviewed a list of proposed appointments for 2016. The Administrative Assistant presented a letter from Robert Bixby, stating his interest in filling a vacancy on the Community Center Board of Directors, and staying the alternate representative to the Transportation Council. George Ambrose also spoke of the Board of Directors, and questioned if a five man board was

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necessary. Mr. Bixby asked if the Administrative Assistant would be handling the Community Center rental, and if not, suggested the Select Board keep the Board of Directors at five. After a brief discussion, the Board Chair stated that the Board would prefer the Administrative Assistant not handle the rental, to keep it separate from the Select Board. Selectman Wilbur motioned that the Community Center Board of Directors be kept as a five member board, and the vacancies be posted, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

At this time Selectman Congdon read the resignation letters of Mr. David Murray from the Community Center Board of Directors, and Mrs. Susan Potter from the position of Town Auditor. The Board accepted the resignations; Selectman Congdon motioned that the Administrative Assistant draft letters accepting the resignations with the Board's thanks, Selectman Knox seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Marjorie Southard expressed her interest in the Community Center Board of Directors, and submitted a letter stating her interest to the Select Board. After a brief discussion on the vacancies in the Board of Directors, Selectman Congdon motioned to accept Mr. Bixby's letter and appoint him to the Board of Directors, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Selectman Knox motioned to accept the letter of interest of Marjorie Southard and appoint her to the Board of Directors, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

A discussion on the Police Advisory Committee followed; Mr. Bixby stated that he would stay liaison if the Board wished. Selectman Congdon asked if anyone else were interested in being the Solid Waste District Representative, otherwise he would continue in that capacity. There was no interest.

After a final review of the appointments, Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the 2016 appointments (see attachment 1), Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. The appointees would be sent letters to confirm or decline their appointments.

Town Officer Education Conference 2016: The Administrative Assistant briefly described this conference, and the \$71 fee to register, as well as a free grant workshop she wished to attend. Selectman Knox motioned to approve Administrative Assistant attending the conference and the Town to pay the fee, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Selectman Congdon motioned that the Administrative Assistant attend the grant workshop, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer was not present at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT: The Administrative Assistant brought the following before the Board:

1. Liquor License Application for Loretta's: The Board chose to table this item so that it could be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
2. The Administrative Assistant detailed a complaint she had referred to the Health Officer pertaining to garbage being dumped into the Clarendon River from a property on Walker Mountain Road. The Health Officer had sent a letter to the Board stating that there was no health risk, but had submitted photographs of furniture and other debris on the bank of the river behind the afore mentioned property. The Board

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Chair instructed the Administrative Assistant to contact the Agency of Natural Resources with the issue as it dealt with a water way.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): Robert Bixby commented that the Salt Shed was looking good.

#### SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS:

Selectman Knox commented that the price per ton for solid waste disposal was increasing 12 cents, a brief discussion followed.

The Board Chair thanked the Board for reappointing him as chair, and welcomed recently elected Selectman Pinkowski.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:30 p.m., Selectman Knox motioned to adjourn, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Klopchin, Chair /s

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Robert Congdon, Jr., Clerk/s

These minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Heather Kent, Administrative Assistant, and were approved March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016.