

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR

Monday, December 28th, 2015

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Bixby, Clerk

Robert Congdon, Jr

Michael Klopchin, Chair

Arthur Knox (A)

Richard Wilbur

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING: Selectboard (4), Treasurer, Administrative Assistant. Also present were Cindy Davis, Marjorie Southard, and Doug Bradley.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Selectman Bixby suggested combining the Access Permit for Garvey's Nissan with Sean Garvey's Guest presentation, the Board agreed.

APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Selectman Bixby motioned to accept the minutes of December 14th subject to corrections or deletions, Selectman Congdon seconded. There were no corrections to the minutes.

HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was not present.

Mailbox Reimbursement: The Administrative Assistant brought before the board a request for reimbursement for a mailbox allegedly hit by a Town plow. Selectman Congdon moved to reimburse Terry Champine \$16.93 for the mailbox as it was before the Town's mailbox policy was in effect, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

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: George Ambrose, Act 46 Update. Mr. Ambrose was not present at the meeting.

GUEST: Sean Garvey, Garvey's Nissan Update

Mr. Garvey gave an introduction of himself and his business, and detailed to the Board the site plan for the proposed dealership, and stated that the Planning Commission had approved the site plans. Mr. Garvey detailed the difficulties he is facing with Act 250, particularly the 9L criterion; and stated there

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will be a hearing for the needed Act 250 permit, at which he desired as much support from the citizens of the Town as possible, and asked the Select Board to attend if possible. He advised that the Planning Commission was drafting a letter supporting him. Selectman Wilbur stated he would try to attend, as he supported business in the Town. Selectman Congdon commended Mr. Garvey for his diligence, and asked to be kept notified on the upcoming hearing. Selectman Bixby at this time asked to recuse himself from any input on the Garvey permit or discussion, citing a conflict of interest due to a personal connection with Mr. Garvey's attorney, James Goss. The Board Chair also asked to be kept informed of the hearing. Marjorie Southard stated that she would attend the hearing in support of Mr. Garvey. At this time Selectman Congdon moved to approve the Garvey Nissan access permit, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed, with Selectman Bixby recusing himself. Ms. Southard suggested that the Board write a letter supporting Mr. Garvey's Act 250 permit application; Selectman Congdon moved that a letter be drafted in support of the Garvey Act 250 permit, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed with no opposition, with Selectman Bixby recusing himself. Mr. Garvey thanked the Board, and stated he would find out what needed to be in the letter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10 minutes): Cindy Davis questioned if there was an alarm system in the Town Garage, she was informed yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan approval: Selectman Congdon read the signage page of the approval aloud for the public. Marjorie Southard questioned if the city water portion of the plan had been removed, she was informed it had. A brief discussion followed, the Board agreed they were satisfied with the final version. Selectman Wilbur made the motion to adopt the LHMP, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Selectman Congdon commented that it was important for the Board to always read and understand what was put before them to sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

PACE: The Administrative Assistant brought before the Town a request from PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy), asking to be put on the ballot so that the Town could become a PACE "community", and have access to low interest loans for energy improvements. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that more information was needed, and asked the Administrative Assistant to invite the program manager, Mark Kelley, to the next Board meeting. Selectman Congdon moved to table the issue until then, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

PACIF grant: The Administrative Assistant brought before the Board a grant from PACIF, to fund projects and repairs that would reduce insurance claims. Past recommendations for repairs to the Town Garage

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from PACIF were discussed, and the Administrative Assistant was instructed to speak with the Road Commissioner on what he believed was a priority for the grant.

Administrative Assistant trainings: The Board was informed of two free trainings the Administrative Assistant wished to attend, one January 6th on VOSHA regulations, and one February 2nd and 3rd on disaster recovery. After a brief discussion, Selectman Condon motioned to ask the Administrative Assistant to attend the stated trainings, Selectman Bixby seconded. Doug Bradley suggested the Board pay the Administrative Assistant for mileage, Selectman Congdon amended his motion to include mileage, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): There were no comments.

TOWN OFFICER REPORTS:

The Treasurer stated that she thought the Board would be able to conclude the budget discussion at the January 6th budget meeting.

The Administrative Assistant brought before the Board a proposed change in permitting fees proposed by the Planning Commission. The Board Chair instructed the Administrative Assistant to research the Select Boards purview on the permitting fees.

The Board Chair asked the public if there were any comments. Marjorie Southard questioned why the 9L criterion was brought up on the Garvey Nissan proposal, but was not mentioned in any route 7b central potential development.

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS:

Selectman Bixby reiterated his reasons for recusing himself on the Garvey Nissan discussion, and asked if the Congdon Farm drainage project was successful. Selectmen Congdon and Wilbur had not personally seen it, but Selectman Congdon stated he thought it was successful. A brief discussion followed, after which the Board Chair instructed the Administrative Assistant to draft a memorandum of understanding between the Congdon Farm and the Town in regards to the drainage project.

The Board Chair was reminded of a large tree on the intersection of Teer and Walker Mountain Road that had fallen on the telephone lines, and instructed the Administrative Assistant to contact the phone company.

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ADJOURNMENT: At 6:45, Selectman Congdon motioned to adjourn, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

SIGNED: _____ Michael Klopchin, Chair /s

SIGNED: _____ Robert Bixby, Clerk/s

These minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Heather Kent, Administrative Assistant, and were approved on January 11th, 2016.

APPROVED