

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING-REGULAR AND BUDGET

Monday, December 12th, 2016

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Congdon, Jr, Clerk

Michael Klopchin, Chair

Arthur Knox

Daniel Pinkowski (A)

Richard Wilbur

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING: Select Board (4), Treasurer; Robert Bixby, Marjorie Southard, Cindy Davis, Art and Gloria Menard, John McKenna, Sunny Young. Also present was Tom Markowski.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Select Board Meeting Regular and Budget – November 28th, 2016: Selectman Wilbur motioned to accept the minutes with corrections, Selectman Congdon seconded. On page three a misspelling of “scrape” was corrected to “scrap”. The motion passed unopposed with Selectman Knox abstaining due to his absence at the November 28th meeting.

Select Board Hearing for Parking Violation – November 28th, 2016: Selectman Congdon motioned to accept the minutes as written, Selectman Wilbur seconded. The motion passed unopposed with Selectman Knox abstaining due to his absence at the November 28th hearing.

Select Board Emergency Meeting – November 29th, 2016: Selectman Wilbur motioned to accept the minutes with corrections, the Board Chair seconded. Selectman Wilbur asked that “information given to Selectman Wilbur by the Sheriff’s Department” be corrected to “given to Selectman Wilbur by Deputy Ryan-LeBlanc of the Rutland Sheriff’s Department”. Due to Selectmen Knox and Congdon abstaining from voting due to their absence at the meeting, there was no quorum to vote on the minutes, and they were not approved.

GUEST: Tom Markowski, Recreation Fields: Mr. Markowski advised the public and the Board that Markowski Excavating would be participating in extending the taxiway at the airport, from which there would be excess material. He would like permission from the Board to expand the existing recreation fields, clear more area, and use the excess material or another recreation field, using the transfer station as an entrance. Plans were presented to the Board for review. A discussion followed on the details of the project, and the type of fill that was to be excavated and used. Marjorie Southard questioned whether or not Markowski’s had promised a baseball field to the Town, the Board Chair explained that the recreation committee makes the decision on what happens to the recreation fields. Signs for traffic safety were discussed, and Selectman Knox suggested flashing signs. Selectman Knox motioned to approve the excavation project with Markowski’s, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Mr. Markowski stated that he would update the Board as to progress. The Board Chair commented on the base of aggregate that Markowski’s had provided for the recreation parking lot, which had saved the Town approximately \$36,000-\$37,000. The Board thanked Mr. Markowski for coming.

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HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was not present.

The Board Chair updated the Board and public as to the meeting he, Selectman Wilbur, and the Road Commissioner had had with Mr. Jeff Grembowicz on his property regarding road grading errors. A follow up meeting was supposed to be scheduled, but the Road Commissioner had not yet contacted the Board Chair; the Board Chair stated he would follow up with the Road Commissioner and the Administrative Assistant.

Selectman Congdon informed the Board that the Road Crew was down two trucks, the 2006 and another undetermined one. A discussion followed.

Selectman Knox thanked the Road Crew for getting out early to plow the roads.

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.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Garvey's Nissan, Act 250 Hearing: The Board Chair detailed that the Hearing would be December 20th, at 9:00 a.m. at the site, and continued at the Asa Bloomer Building in Rutland; the Select Board would decide who would attend as the date approached. A discussion followed on Rutland Town's concerns, and 9L of Act 250. Marjorie Southard commented that the Town should support the business.

Tom Garden Request – Alfrecha Solar Array: The Board Chair advised that Tom Garden of TriLand Solar was requesting that the Select Board write a letter in support of this array to the Public Service Board, and commented that Selectman Pinkowski had been advised and agreed to abstain from the topic as he was the property owner of the site. The Board Chair read the drafted letter, to be signed by all Board members excepting Selectman Pinkowski. After a brief discussion, Selectman Congdon motioned that the Board sign the letter, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. Robert Bixby commented that Dan Pinkowski had gone above and beyond to notify the neighboring property owners of the array, and that he had no objections to the array.

Gary Ayers Letter – Signing: The Board reviewed a letter drafted in response to Mr. Ayers' continued objection to his parking ticket hearing decision of October 24th, 2016. Selectman Congdon read the letter aloud, and motioned to approve and sign the letter, Selectman Knox seconded. A suggestion was made to include the Administrative Assistant's hours, Selectman Congdon amended his motion to include the Administrative Assistant's hours, and Selectman Knox seconded the amended motion.

The Board Chair reminded the public and the Board that the donation of \$1 per person to REDC for the Marketing Initiative would be put before the voters as an article.

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NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: There was no report given.

TREASURER'S REPORT: There was no report given.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT: There was no report given.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): Robert Bixby questioned where the Garvey's Nissan entrance would be, a discussion followed.

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS: The Board wished all a Merry Christmas.

RECESS: At 6:43 p.m. Selectman Knox motioned to recess before the budget session, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

BUDGET – APPROPRIATIONS:

At 7:02 p.m., the Board reconvened for budget.

Sonny Young petitioned the Board for a truck load of sand for road maintenance, after a brief discussion, the Board agreed as long as it was not taken on a regular basis.

Recreation: The Recreation Committee Chair, John McKenna, presented the FY18 recreation budget. The future electric supply to the recreation fields were discussed, as well as the number of possible fields, and the possible uses. No changes were made to the recreation budget at this time.

Library: The Library budget was reviewed. Selectman Congdon inquired how many employees the library had, and was told two. No changes were made to the library budget at this time.

Community Center: The Community Center Budget was discussed, with the base budget of \$25,000 and an estimated \$14,500 for a wall repair. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to keep the base budget at \$25,000, and take the \$14,500 from the Community Center Fund. It was also agreed that \$3,000 would be put into the fund. Art Menard questioned the amount of money put towards the community center maintenance, versus the amount for the Town Hall, and pointed out maintenance issues with the Town Hall, including the foundation. After a lengthy discussion on the Town Hall, the Board agreed to get estimates for foundation work instead of repainting the two remaining sides of the Town Hall. The need for continuing maintenance was commented on.

Selectman Congdon mentioned to Robert Bixby and Marjorie Southard of the Community Center Board that the roof could be done in small sections annually, instead of removing all the slates in one year.

Town Garage: The Treasurer commented on the need for repair/replacement of the Town Garage, and suggested a year for engineering of the plans. A discussion on what was needed followed. Selectman

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Congdon commented that the garage needed to be made more energy efficient, and that the exterior could be blueboarded for greater R value. Other options were discussed.

Cemetery: Cindy Davis expressed her concern that the \$9,000 in the cemetery would not be enough for fencing. Placing an article in the warning for cemetery fences was discussed, as well as the type of fencing. The Board agreed to add another \$4,000 for the cemetery line, bringing the value up to \$13,000.

The Board agreed to defer wrap up and discussing the fund balance until January 9th, the first meeting in 2017.

Art Menard expressed his concern about the amount of spending thus far in the budget, and the amount that would be needed to be added to the grand list to account for that spending. The Treasurer explained that for every \$28,000 increase in the amount to be raised by taxes, it would add one cent to the tax rate.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:52 p.m., Selectman Congdon motioned to adjourn, the motion was seconded, and passed with no opposition.

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 on January 9th, 2017.