

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING- REGULAR

Monday, August 28th, 2017

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

Robert Bixby, Clerk
Robert Congdon, Jr.
Michael Klopchin, Chair
Daniel Pinkowski
Richard Wilbur

CALL TO ORDER: 6:02 pm

PRESENT AT MEETING: Select Board (5), Administrative Assistant, Treasurer, Alf Strom Olsen, Marjorie Southard, Cindy Davis, Road Commissioner, Dan St. Cyr from Clarks International, Ed Baker, Joel Baker, Kelly McNulty.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Selectman Bixby asked to add a discussion on the Highway Department Improvement, it was added under highway. Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the amended agenda, the motion passed unopposed.

APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Selectman Bixby motioned to accept the minutes, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was present and participated in discussion.

South Teer Road Maintenance: The history of South Teer Road, and the suggested need for a culvert were discussed. The Road Commissioner advised that he believed the water runoff was not caused by road runoff, but water off of the hill. The Select Board agreed to visit the site with the Road Commissioner before further decisions were made.

Truck Discussion: Dan St. Cyr from Clark's International spoke to the Board about the new diesel exhaust fluid engines in the International truck. Ed Baker spoke to his experience as a mechanic and his opinion on the new International trucks. The Board Chair asked what the advantage was to a tandem axle versus a single axle truck; Mr. St. Cyr spoke to the traction and gas mileage, Ed Baker spoke to the load capability of tandem axles. Marjorie Southard questioned the prudence in the potential purchase of a new International when the Town had had problems in the past. Mr. St. Cyr reiterated the changes that had been made in the International engines. Repairs done at a shop versus a dealer were discussed, and the need for a loaner vehicle when repairs were needed; Mr. St. Cyr advised that Clark's had loaner vehicles available. The Administrative Assistant advised the Board that she had contacted towns that had purchased newer Internationals, as well as the State, and that they were satisfied with their new Internationals. The question of whether a vote would be needed to purchase a truck on time, the Administrative Assistant advised that the lease/purchase agreement would not need a vote as it was not a loan. Selectman Congdon expressed surprise that information was already obtained, a discussion followed. The Treasurer suggested the Board look at other quotes from other brands. The question was

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asked as to how much the 2006 was worth and if rebuilt if it could make it through the winter. The potential lease/purchase agreement was discussed and amounts. Alf Strom-Olsen questioned if International could be approached and some of the money recouped from the 2006 and all the malfunctions, and asked to go on the record stating that he believed that the Town had been treated unfairly by International, Marjorie Southard agreed. After more discussion, Ed Baker suggested pursuing another engine for the 2006 truck to get it through the winter. The Board Chair asked if Ed Baker could get some prices for a new engine, and asked Dan St. Cyr to look around as well. Mr. St. Cyr also proposed a 2015 that had never been purchased.

Selectman Bixby motioned to move the discussion to guest, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

GUEST: Kelly McNulty, East Clarendon Parking Issue (OUT OF ORDER FROM AGENDA): Selectman Bixby recused himself due to conflict of interest. Mrs. McNulty expressed her frustration on parking occurring by her driveway. The owners of the property had put up jersey barriers and signs. After a brief discussion, the Board Chair asked the Administrative Assistant to see if the no trespassing signs are registered with the Town Clerk, and to speak to Christine Carrara, the owner of the property, about the issue. Selectman Wilbur agreed as liaison to contact the Sheriff's Department. The Board asked that the Town Ordinance be reviewed by the VLCT as to adding no parking signs. Selectman Wilbur motioned to draft a letter to Velco letting them know what is going on in their easements, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Highway Department Improvement: Selectman Bixby expressed his concern on some of the repair bills on some of the trucks, and motioned that a committee of three citizens on the operations and functions of the highway department be formed, Selectman Congdon seconded for discussion. The Board asked that it go on record that this committee would not function to eliminate a highway crew member. The suggestions of citizens of Alf Strom-Olsen, Randy Kinne, Roger West, Frank. Ed Baker was suggested, and he made a few suggestions, particularly competitive bidding. A discussion followed. Selectman Bixby amending his motion to include that there would be three members, and the new committee posted in town to see if there was interest, Selectman Congdon seconded the amended motion, the motion passed unopposed. The Administrative Assistant was asked to post notice of the new committee.

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: Kelly McNulty, East Clarendon Parking Issue (Previously discussed)

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10 minutes): Alf Strom-Olsen asked for the totals of the warrants.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tax Rate: The tax rate was reviewed by the Board. Questions were answered by the Treasurer in regard to the fund balance, and the education rate. Selectman Bixby motioned to accept the non-residential and

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homestead, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed. The Administrative Assistant was asked to post the tax rate. (Attachment 1)

Logging Revenue Placement: The Treasurer relayed the advice of the Secretary of State and VLCT to let the revenue lapse into the fund balance. The Treasurer advised that the amount of the revenue could be budgeted out the fund balance for next fiscal year.

Smith Button Pratt: The Administrative Assistant advised that the Town did not own the cemetery. After a brief discussion, the Administrative Assistant was asked to draft a letter to the person requesting the burial stating that the Board did not have authority to grant permission, and asking him to contact his family for arrangements. The Board asked the Administrative Assistant to prepare legal opinions as to the town's course of action on the cemetery for next agenda.

Personnel Policy Workshop Scheduling: A workshop was tentatively scheduled for October 18th.

Estimate for Porch Sealing: The Board agreed that two more estimates should be obtained.

NEW BUSINESS:

VLCT Annual Meeting: Selectman Bixby motioned that the Administrative Assistant be the voting delegate, Selectman Wilbur seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Transfer Station Reporting: Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the Town of Clarendon's Transfer Station Closure Plan, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

Hunting – Municipal Forest: The Board agreed that hunting will be allowed to continue in the municipal forest. Selectman Wilbur suggested that it be posted on the website as a reminder to residents that hunting was permitted in the forest.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: None given.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Selectman Wilbur motioned to approve the end of the year closure motions as presented by the Treasurer, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed. (Attachment 2)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT: The Board discussed a letter with concerns about the speed limits at the intersection of Route 7 and Shrewsbury roads, the Administrative Assistant was asked to notify Vtrans, the State Police, and the Sheriff's Department, with the caveat that the Sheriff's department would be made aware that Clarendon's hours were not to be used on this State Road.

The Board reviewed an agreement for a new copier that had been previously budgeted, Selectman Wilbur motioned to have the Board Chair sign, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

A brief discussion was had on speed carts, and the Administrative Assistant advised she would have more information at the next meeting.

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): None

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS: Selectman Bixby thanked the Board for allowing Kelly McNulty to move forward in the agenda.

Board Chair asked the Administrative Assistant to contact Tim Mumford on some excess trimming on the Edmund lot in West Clarendon Cemetery, and that there was a tree on the wire on Teer Road that needed to be addressed. The Board Chair also advised that on Walker Mountain Road before Gravel Pit Road, there was a basketball hoop on the road, and asked the Administrative Assistant to have the sheriff's department pay a call.

Selectman Congdon sent out prayers to Texas for the recent hurricane damage.

ADJOURNMENT: AT 8:40, 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 September 11th, 2017.

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Attachment 1.

Municipal and Educational Taxes

FY 2017

Homestead property tax
Homestead Education Tax \$1.3220
Town Tax Rate \$0.3923
Local Agreement Tax \$0.0022

FY 2018

Homestead property tax
Homestead Education Tax \$1.3311
Town Tax Rate \$0.4195
Local Agreement Tax \$0.0025

TOTAL HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX

FY 2018: \$1.7531

FY 2017: \$1.7165 FY 2018: \$1.7531

DIFFERENCE: +\$0.0366

Non-residential property tax
Non-residential Ed. Tax \$1.3267
Town Tax Rate \$0.3923
Local Agreement Tax \$0.0022

Non-residential property tax
Non-residential Ed. Tax \$1.3486
Town Tax Rate \$0.4195
Local Agreement Tax \$0.0025

TOTAL NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX

FY 2018: \$1.7706

FY 2017: \$1.7212 FY 2018: \$1.7706

DIFFERENCE: +.0494

DUE AND PAYABLE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2017

Approved by the Board of Selectmen August 28th, 2017

Posted August 29th, 2017

Heather Kent, Administrative Assistant

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Attachment 2.

Motions to Close FY17 – 8/28/17 Meeting

Motion to move \$65,147.32 from the Bridge Repair fund to the General Fund to cover the town's portion of the Bridge 11 repair.

Motion to allocate banking interest earned during FY17:

Equipment Fund	\$114.12
Reappraisal Fund	\$256.78
Community Ctr Fund	\$114.12
Restoration Fund	\$42.80
Bridge Fund	\$128.39