

TOWN OF CLARENDON, VERMONT

MINUTES

SELECTBOARD MEETING- REGULAR

Monday, October 9th, 2017

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:

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

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT AT MEETING: Select Board (4), Administrative Assistant, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Alf Strom-Olsen, Marjorie Southard, Edward Baker, Joel Baker, Ralph Ford, Mike Pedone, Matt Jakubowski, George Ambrose, Eric McLellan, Janet Keefe, Art Menard.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: The Board Chair asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Selectman Congdon motioned to add the Clarendon Fire Association under guest, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

APPROVAL OF SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Select Board Meeting Regular – September 25th, 2017: Selectman Condon motioned to approve the minutes subject to correction, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

Select Board Meeting Special – October 2nd, 2017: Selectman Bixby motioned to accept the minutes subject to corrections, Selectman Congdon seconded, the motion passed unopposed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

HIGHWAY: The Road Commissioner was not present.

Committee of Highway Function and Operations: The Administrative Assistant presented the board with a list of interested volunteers to the committee. Selectman Congdon motioned to appoint the list of interested candidates to the committee as read by the Administrative Assistant with Alf Strom-Olsen as the Select Board liaison or as designee, Selectman Bixby seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

The municipal roads general permit was discussed. Marjorie Southard voiced her concern about a brook she believed was not on the ANR map.

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: Clarendon Fire Association (ADDED TO AGENDA): Fire Association treasurer Mike Pedone explained that the association was in need of a new fire truck, and would like to ask the Town for a bond,

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of 10 years for approximately 400,000 dollars; neither the time span nor the amount were yet finalized. The merits of a new truck versus a used truck were discussed, Fire Chief Matt Jakubowski explained that used trucks often need a great deal of money put into them, and Mr. Pedone explained that fire trucks are usually made to fit the individual needs of the purchaser, and many used trucks are made with urban areas in mind, not rural. An example was given of a fire truck purchased by the association that had needed significant changes to make it ready for duty in Vermont. The process of bonding was discussed, in that it was legal but an external audit would need to be performed before the Town would be able to be bonded. The Treasurer stated her recommendation that it be put on the ballot as a separate appropriation, but advised that it would have to be voted on each year, an appropriation spanning several years in one vote was not possible. The external audit was discussed. The Board Chair asked about the possibility of the Fire Association becoming a municipal fire department, and asked that the fire chief and the Administrative Assistant look into it. Selectman Congdon asked how urgent the need was, and if any money was in the fire association's equipment fund. Chief Jakubowski advised that there were several trucks getting old that would have to be replaced; Mr. Pedone stated that there was about 40,000 dollars in the association's equipment fund. Association President Ralph Ford advised that this truck, if purchased, would be a lasting truck for about 30 years. The trucks the fire association already owns were discussed. The Administrative Assistant advised that December 6th was the day that the fire association was due to be discussed during budget; the association agreed to have something in writing for the Board by then. Chief Jakubowski advised that Wednesday the 18th at 6 pm the salesman would be coming to discuss the possible truck, and invited the Board to attend. The Board thanked the association for coming.

Selectman Congdon also thanked the fire association for their aid during his school's fun run the previous weekend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (10 minutes): Marjorie Southard stated her concern over an assessment of property acreage. The Select Board referred her to the Board of Listers.

OLD BUSINESS:

East Clarendon Road: The Administrative Assistant informed the Board that legal opinion on the no parking signs was that the exact location needed to be listed in the ordinance for it to be enforceable. Selectman Congdon motioned to discuss the ordinance amendment at the next meeting, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed with Selectman Bixby abstaining from voting due to a conflict of interest.

West Clarendon Chippenhook Fencing: The Administrative Assistant advised as to prices for fencing. Eric McLellan spoke to where he thought the fencing was needed. The Administrative Assistant was asked to look into a possible FSA grant for fencing, prices for pressure treated posts, and to place the issue on the next agenda.

Fuel Pre Buy: Selectman Congdon went over pricing as follows: \$217 compared to \$209 from last year for number 2 fuel. Propane prices were deemed off the charts, and would be discussed after October 16th. The Board agreed to wait a few weeks to see if the price would go down.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Grand List Correction: Lister George Ambrose spoke to the grand list correction and the reason for the correction, which was a foundation hole that had been overvalued. Selectman Condon motioned to approve the correction, Selectman Pinkowski seconded, the motion passed unopposed.

PLANNING COMMISSION: No report given.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer updated the Board on the progress of tax collection, and reminded the public that the due date was October 21st.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT: The Administrative Assistant presented the Board with color options for the Town Hall porch staining project and a color was selected.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (5 minutes): There were none.

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNS: Selectman Bixby expressed a concern about a gap in the concrete in the front porch.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:05 pm, 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 October 23rd, 2017.