

## **Approved**

Minutes of the October 25, 2011

Select Board Meeting

**Present:** Bill Callnan, Mary Just Skinner, Matt Dwire, Cindy Carlson, Mary Alexander, Peter Hood, Paul Cerminara, Bruce Jackson, Elizabeth Fortman, Penny Downen, Stephen Morabito

Meeting called to order at 5:34 pm.

### **Bruce Jackson, Elizabeth Fortman - Fire Department**

The Board had agreed to provide up to \$5,000 per year for an administrative assistant. For the 2011-2012 budget period the \$5,000 will be prorated to \$3,750. The Fire Department will appropriate up to \$2,000 for stipends for the fire fighters from their budget. This funding is on a trial basis to see how the program will work. The administrative assistant position will be paid the regular rate of \$12.03. The Fire Department is asked to use the Town Clerk's office for assistance in the administrative process. The Board is concerned about recruiting new volunteers to the Fire Department and wants the Department working on recruiting.

Penny Downen asks the Board how a 911 call would be routed to Middlesex Rescue for response. The original call goes to Capital West for dispatch. The dispatch service calls the Town in which the emergency is located. There may be people in Middlesex that can respond, but surrounding towns are also called. Middlesex has a fast squad, but no ambulance. Middlesex contracts with the City of Montpelier for ambulance service. If a member of the fast squad is in the area at the time of the call and could arrive at the scene prior to the ambulance they would make the effort.

Penny is concerned that no Middlesex responders showed up for an emergency call she made recently. There was no follow up call to see if she needed anything. The ambulance was at her property for several hours. Penny is advised that the fast squad does not have a protocol to make a follow up response. Penny feels that this is a courtesy and should be part of the policy. In Vermont, fire, police and ambulance calls are not encrypted, anyone with a scanner can listen to the calls. The call is not confidential. The Board recognized that there is a response problem. They are working with the Fire Department to implement improvements. Penny feels at least a phone call should be made to the caller to see if any assistance is needed.

Stephen Morabito asks the Board about law enforcement for Middlesex. Stephen feels that as law enforcement increases in communities, crime drops. He would like to see the Town contract with a law enforcement agency to drive around and be publicly visible. Stephen is advised that the Washington Country Sheriff's Department is traveling the roads for speed enforcement. The contract

with the Sherriff's Department is for speed enforcement only, not law enforcement. The Vermont State Police should have the resources to provide more effective law enforcement in communities. The Board will consider this proposal during the budget process.

### **Other Business**

Matt Dwire asks the Board for permission to improve approximately 800' of the class 4 portion of Zdon Road. He will have to improve the base of the road. The repairs will be done at his expense. Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman, has inspected the area and has approved the project. Matt is asked to provide a written description of his proposal for the Board's review.

### **Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman**

The Board is agreeable to Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman, request to use his personal cell phone rather than the Town's cell phone. His personal number would have to be published in the Town Report and other places. The Town will reimburse him the same rate at the Town cell phone costs or approximately \$31 per month.

Paul has meet with FEMA again on the Shady Rill culvert. FEMA will not cover the Shady Rill culvert because 50% or more of the damage has to have been a result of the flood. The Town can appeal the decision, but not until all the flood damage costs have been finalized. Paul will proceed with a State grant structure application for the culvert. An open bottom box culvert has to be installed to meet State requirements for the Shady Rill culvert. The Town could also install a temporary bridge in the event of an emergency.

Paul reports that the most recent repairs to the 2007 International Truck are complete and cost \$9491.13. Clark's Equipment will attempt to have International contribute to the most recent repairs. Had the Town purchased an extended warranty for the truck, the repairs would have been covered. Paul will see if an extended warranty can be purchased for the 2010 International truck. The Town should have a backup plan if this truck is in the shop this winter.

The Mad River By-Way kiosk has been installed at the Red Hen Bakery.

**Motion:** Bill Moves approval of a Driveway permit for Albert & Paula Kaiman. Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman, has recommended approval. Mary Alexander seconds, motion carries.

**Motion:** Mary Alexander moves to approve the minutes of the 10/4/2011 meeting. Bill seconds, motion carries. Mary Just Skinner abstains.

The Merchants Bank Electronic Fund Transfer Agreement is signed.

**Motion:** Mary Alexander moves to approve the Merchants Bank Highway Equipment Note in the amount of \$100,200 effective November 10, 2011. Matt seconds, motion carries.

Cindy asks the Board to authorize the order of printer validation hardware for the ACS recording system. The \$750 charge can come from the Restoration Fund. This hardware will save time and provide better accuracy in recording documents and provide confirmation of fees collected.

**Motion:** Matt moves to approve the purchase of the ACS printer validation hardware. Mary Just Skinner seconds, motion carries.

The Personnel policy that was approved at the 10/4/2011 meeting is signed by the Board.

The Town has received donations on behalf of the Walter Kelly Park Fund. The donations have been deposited in the Town's trust account. A plan for the park will be developed during the upcoming budget process.

A draft RFP for the Old Fire Station was given to the Board to review for the next meeting.

Peter has received requests from organizations asking for joint petitions for special article requests. Peter has also been asked if the \$200 limit can be increased. The Board is not in favor of accepting joint petitions. The Board feels that if an organization is asking for support, residents should support the organization via a petition. Cindy will contact the Town Attorney for guidance on accepting joint petitions.

**Motion:** Bill moves to increase the funding limit to \$250.00 from \$200.00 with a letter of request for Special Article funding requests. Matt seconds, motion carries.

Notice that the hearing before the Liquor Control Board for Middlesex Country Store has been cancelled.

The December Board meetings will be on December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Matt reports that Rumney School Board is obtaining a temporary storage unit since their current storage building is in poor repair. The Board proposes to give community tours of the school to show what the needs are for space. Matt recommended to the Rumney School committee that facts are needed about the proposed increase in school population.

Meeting adjourns at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Carlson, Assistant