

Minutes for the April 9, 2013, meeting of the Middlesex Select Board.

Present: Chair Peter Hood, Vice Chair Mary Skinner, Select Board members Mary Alexander and Steve Martin, Assistant Sarah Merriman, as well as Tammy Picard and Mike Pelcher.

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Tammy asked the Board for funding to install fifteen Neighborhood Watch signs she received for free from the Vermont State Police. At the March 26th Select Board meeting, Road Foreman Paul Cerminara estimated that the cost in labor and supplies to install the signs would cost approximately \$250/sign. Tammy said it might be pure coincidence, but homes on streets where there are currently Neighborhood Watch signs have not been burglarized.

Peter stressed that the Town really needed a “Neighborhood Watch,” not just signs, and that it would be ideal to have a member of the Neighborhood Watch organization on each street where the signs were posted. Tammy agreed and promised to invite volunteers with that in mind. Mike suggested that each sign have a “sponsor,” so to speak, a go-to person for a particular sign’s area.

Finally, it was decided that for budgetary reasons the town would split the cost of installing the signs over two fiscal years.

**MOTION: The Middlesex Road Crew will install half of the fifteen Neighborhood Watch signs between now and June 30<sup>th</sup> and the other half after July 1<sup>st</sup>.** Mary Alexander so moved. Steve seconded. The motion passed.

The Select Board discussed the April 8 letter (see, attached) sent by Jeb Spaulding, Secretary of the Agency of Administration, to the Board in which he promises that the State of Vermont will close the temporary secure residential facility on Route 2 no later than January 1, 2018. The letter required the Board’s signed approval.

Peter and Mary Just Skinner noted Rob Halpert, the Town’s attorney on this matter, assured them in separate conversations that signing this letter would in no way engage the Town in an ongoing lawsuit between the State and neighbors of the temporary facility, Brian and Amy Hannon, who are appealing its placement.

Mary Just Skinner said that Jeb also reiterated Halpert’s opinion that it was better that the State sign an agreement with the Select Board than to mandate the closing deadline in the temporary facility’s zoning permit. A signed letter with the Select Board is easier to enforce.

**MOTION: The Select Board will sign a commitment letter proffered by Vermont Secretary of the Agency of Administration Jeb Spaulding to close the temporary secure facility no**

**later than January 1, 2018.** Steve so moved and Mary Alexander seconded. Motion passed with the letter to be signed by Sarah Merriman in capacity as Town Clerk on behalf of the Middlesex Select Board, noting in writing that it was approved during a regularly scheduled Select Board meeting.

Peter explained that the new Town Hall well, which Johnson Artesian Well Drilling, Inc. dug to 585 feet on April 5, 2013, yielded 500 feet of water, i.e. 750 gallons. Peter decided a 400-gallon storage tank was unnecessary. The Town saved approximately \$700 by using existing lines to connect the new well to the old well, which has a relatively new pump and should not be abandoned. With check valves it is possible to use one or both wells. In the end, the total cost of the new well will be roughly \$3,000 above the bid Rick Purchase of Johnson Artesian submitted earlier in the year for a grand total of approximately \$15,000. No motion was required.

The Select Board discussed a March 26 request from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Committee that a member of the Middlesex Select Board and/or Planning Commission attend a May 23, 2013, CVRPC meeting that will review the Middlesex Town Plan. Steve Martin, who not only is a Select Board member, but also a member of the Planning Commission, offered to attend.

Sarah informed the Board that the Leonard Milford Scholarship for Rumney Memorial School fourth grader Bailey Morse is \$395 for one week of camp at Pease Farm. Peter said that's fine as long as there's enough money in the account.

**MOTION: The Select Board approves the expenditure of \$395 from the Leonard Milford Scholarship for Bailey Morse.** Mary Just Skinner so moved. Mary Alexander seconded. The motion passed.

The Select Board contacted Bill Callnan by speaker phone to approve the March 12 minutes. Mary Skinner so moved. Bill seconded. The Board also approved the February 26 and March 26 minutes.

All orders were signed.

The Select Board meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman  
Assistant to the Select Board