

Select Board Members

- Peter Hood, Chair
- Mary Just Skinner,
Vice Chair
- Mary Alexander
- William Callnan
- Steve Martin

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, October 8, 2013
5:00 p.m.
Middlesex Town Clerk's Office
5 Church Street
Middlesex, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-5915

Present: Select Board Chair Peter Hood and Vice-Chair Mary Just Skinner, Members Bill Callnan, Mary Hood Alexander and Steve Martin, along with Lister Dick Alderman and Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman

Call To Order

1. Peter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Updating the tax maps

2. Dick said he's been working with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission to revise the digital tax maps that were created in 2010. The new maps would incorporate necessary corrections and update property ownership as of April 1, 2013. They would be easier to navigate and include topography and property boundaries, Dick said.
3. The cost of the upgrade was \$1,675. As of the meeting date, \$750 remained in the Listers' budget for mapping. Bill said it would be possible to supplement this cost with monies from the discretionary fund.
4. **Motion: Bill moved to approve the expenditure of \$1,675 to upgrade the digital tax maps. Mary Hood Alexander seconded. The motion passed.**

Approving a merger between the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission and the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation

5. Peter requested an emergency vote on whether to approve a plan to merge the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission with the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation. As a member of a joint committee that last month recommended the merger, Peter urged the board to give its approval since Middlesex, like the other Central Vermont towns, had a seat on CVRPC's Board of Directors which was deciding that night whether to approve the merger. It would be simply one step in a long process to a final decision, Peter said.
6. **Motion: Bill moved to support the committee's recommendation for the merger. Steve seconded. The motion passed with Mary Just Skinner opposed.**

Choosing a Vermont Health Connect Plan to fund for Town employees

7. Peter said that under the new federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Vermont's counterpart, the Vermont Health Connect (VHC), employers with fewer than 50 employees – such as the Town of Middlesex – must decide whether to a) inform those employees that the Town will no longer be providing

health care insurance and return the money that would have been spent on premiums to their annual pay or b) offer to fund a plan up to a certain limit.

8. Peter suggested funding a VHC plan that was as close as possible to the town's current insurance - an MVP high deductible with a Health Savings Account (HSA). Unfortunately, an exact match wasn't offered through VHC, though Peter suggested funding the nearest equivalent, a Blue Cross/Blue Shield Silver HDHP with an HSA.
9. Under the BC/BS Silver HDHP, monthly premiums for individuals would be \$412.83 and for a parent with a child, \$796.76. This would be a savings of 8% over the current MVP plan and Peter said the extra money could be used to fund the HSAs as there were only four employees who received their health insurance through the town, one of whom was on a parent/child plan.
10. Bill said it made sense to sign an agreement to continue using Paige and Campbell as the Town's health insurance broker at least for one year, to aid with the transition.
11. **MOTION: Bill moved that the Town fund up to a Blue Cross/Blue Shield Silver HDHP, increase the Town's contribution to each participating employee's HSA by \$100 per year, and retain Paige and Campbell as the Town's health insurance broker for one year. Mary Skinner seconded. The motion passed.**

Executive Session

12. At 5:35 p.m., Bill moved that the Board enter executive session to discuss personnel matters. Mary Skinner seconded. The Board emerged from executive session at 5:50.

Pay Raise for Select Board Assistant

13. **Motion: Bill moved to increase the Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant's hourly wage from \$19/hour to \$21/hour effective Nov. 1. Steve seconded. The motion passed.**

OTHER BUSINESS

14. **MOTION: Mary Skinner moved to approve the August 27 Select Board Minutes. Mary Hood Alexander seconded. Bill and Steve abstained. The motion passed.**
15. **MOTION: Bill moved to approve the September 24 Select Board Minutes. Steve Seconded. Mary Skinner abstained. The motion passed.**
16. All orders were signed.

Adjournment

17. The Board adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Merriman, Select Board Assistant