

Select Board Members

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

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
5:00 p.m.
Middlesex Town Clerk's Office
5 Church Street
Middlesex, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-5915

Present: Chair Peter Hood, Vice Chair Mary Just Skinner, Select Board Members Bill Callnan and Steve Martin and Select Board Assistant, Sarah Merriman.

Call to Order

1. Peter called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Certification of the 2013 Grand List

2. **Motion: Bill moved and Steve second a motion to certify that there were no appeals of the 2013 Grand List. The motion passed. The certification was signed.**

Submission of the Final Audit for the 2013 Fiscal Year

3. **Motion: Bill moved and Steve seconded a motion to receive and accept the final audit report prepared by William Yacovoni for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The motion passed.**

Reappointment of Middlesex Representative to the CVSWMD

4. **Motion: Steve moved and Bill seconded a motion to reappoint Anita Krauth as the Middlesex representative to the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District. The motion passed.**

Approval of Liquor License Renewals for Nutty Steph and the Country Store

5. **Motion: Bill moved and Steve seconded motions to approve renewal of the liquor licenses for Nutty Steph's and The Middlesex Country Store. The motion passed and the applications were signed.**

Village Enhancement Grant Update

6. The Board discussed options available for completing a Village Enhancement Grant that was to fund replacing a section of guardrail on US Route 2 with box beam and install three "gateway" signs marking the entrances of Middlesex Village. After meeting earlier in the day with David Saladino of RSG consulting, Kevin Russell of Community Development Services and Chris Rea of VTrans, Sarah said that guardrails seem to be off the table due to limited funding. However, the Town could either proceed with the grant to install the three gateway

signs (a process that would include federal oversight, more time and increased bureaucratic costs) or finish the grant this summer by having the signs fabricated and installed at the Town's cost

7. Peter expressed disappointment about the guardrails since the major focus of the grant was to induce traffic calming on Route 2. The Board also discussed pursuing a bike path grant, but the estimated cost – at least \$300,000 - and the town's anticipated contribution – 10% - were deemed prohibitively expensive.
8. **Motion: Mary moved and Steve seconded a motion that the Town pick up the cost of the fabricating and installing the gateways signs so the grant can be closed. The motion passed.**

Proposed VHC B Easement for 191 and 195 Three Mile Bridge Road

9. The Board discussed documentation submitted by lawyer Elizabeth Egan from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for an easement it is seeking on 191 and 195 Three Mile Bridge Road, now vacant land the Town acquired through a FEMA buyout program after Tropical Storm Irene. The Board decided that since the FEMA deed already contained a restrictive easement, it was not necessary for the Town to hire a lawyer to review Egan's drafted easement.
10. The Board agreed to hold a public hearing on the proposed easement at 6 p.m. March 25, in the Town Clerk's Office.

Denial of Listers' Appeal of 2014 CLA and COD

11. The Board reviewed a letter February 19, 2014 from William Johnson, Director of Property Valuation and Review from the Department of Taxes stating that a representative from his division met with the Middlesex Listers and determined that there was no basis to adjust the Common Level of Appraisal or Coefficient of Dispersion which became effective on January 1, 2014. The Board agreed to support Lister Dick Alderman if he decided to appeal this decision to the Director of the Tax Department.

Other Business

12. **Motion: Steve moved and Peter seconded a motion to approve the February 11, 2014, Select Board Minutes even though Peter is the chair. This action was taken because Mary Alexander, who'd been the only other member present at the February 11th meeting, was not at the current meeting and was not running for reelection. The motion passed.**
13. All Orders were signed.
14. Peter adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman, Select Board Assistant