

Select Board Members

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

MINUTES

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

5:00 PM

Middlesex Town Clerk's Office

5 Church Street

Middlesex, Vermont 05602

(802) 223-5915

MINUTES

Present: Chair Peter Hood, Vice Chair Mary Just Skinner, Select Board Members Steve Martin and Liz Scharf, Road Foreman Paul Cerminara and Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman.

Call to Order/Amendments

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Executive Session

Liz moved and Steve seconded a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential candidates to fill the Road Crew position left vacant by Edmund Porter's retirement on September 30th and also to set hourly pay as well as other conditions. Paul attended.

Hiring Joseph D'Anna to Join Town Highway Department

Motion: Steve moved and Liz seconded a motion to hire Joe D'Anna as a member of the town Road Crew at a pay of \$16.75/hour contingent on passing a physical examination and passing a drug test. The motion passed.

Town Highway Updates

Paul said that in light of the fire department acquiring a new engine and not replacing a tanker at the Shady Rill station, it would be helpful if the highway department could store the excavator, chipper and backhoe this winter in the two other bays that the fire department would not be using. Peter said Paul should discuss this with the fire department to make sure of their winter plans.

Resolution to Cap Statewide Property Tax at 2015 Rates for Two Years

The Board considered a resolution being circulated among Vermont towns by the South Burlington City Council to ask the Legislature to cap statewide property tax rates for two years at 2015 levels. Mary said she wasn't comfortable approving what is also a platform for a statewide candidate. Peter said it was dangerous for a select board to take a political position three weeks before the election. Though Bill Callnan wasn't at the meeting, during an earlier select board discussion, he said he would approve the resolution only if every other board member approved it. The motion was defeated by a vote of three to one.

Assorted Business

- The Board discussed an October 1, 2014, letter sent by the FCC notifying the town of a pending license termination on one of its signals because the federal agency did not receive a Notification of Construction of a tower. Sarah said she discussed this matter with Karl Rinker on Tuesday, October 7th, the day after receipt of the letter. Rinker, president of Rinkers Communication which maintains the tower, said this was his mistake since he had assumed the license had expired due to problems with Canada. Sarah read into a record she drafted with Rinker to the FCC sent on October 8 requesting that the license be restored. **Mary moved and Peter seconded approval of the letter which the board unanimously passed.** However, Peter asked Sarah to clarify who used the signal, either the fire department or road crew, and perhaps draft another letter to the FCC explaining the circumstance.
- **MOTION: Steve moved and Liz seconded approval of the September 23, 2014 Select Board Minutes. The motion passed, Mary abstained.**
- All orders were signed.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.