

Select Board Members  
 Peter Hood, Chair  
 Mary Just Skinner,  
Vice Chair  
 Phil Hyjek  
 Steve Martin  
 Liz Scharf

**MINUTES**  
**MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD**  
**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**  
**4:00 PM**  
**Middlesex Town Clerk's Office**  
**5 Church Street**  
**Middlesex, Vermont 05602**  
**(802) 223-5915**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Chair Peter O. Hood, Members Phil Hyjek, Steve Martin and Liz Scharf. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell. Middlesex Budget Committee Members Bill Dorigan, Elias Gardner, Ruth Dockter and George Longenecker Sue Bettman, recording for ORCA, and Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman.

**Call to Order/Amendments**

Peter called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and welcomed Sue. The agenda was amended to include a discussion about an RB Tech bill and correspondence from Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman.

**2019-20 BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**Approving the 2019-20 Proposed Budget & 3% Wage Increases**

Responding to the Board's request from December, Dorinda presented a revised budget proposal that included 3% wage increases for employees, an 8% increase in employee health insurance costs and contributions to the discretionary and building funds of \$5,000 each. The building fund currently contains @\$29,000. Dorinda also increased the line item for town computer expenses. Bill asked if the MVFD got what it requested; the Board said each committee/entity received its request. Phil suggested adding another \$5,000 to the building fund. The Board agreed and approved of prepaying down some debt. Dorinda noted the highest rate on any bond is 3.1%.

**MOTION:** Liz moved and Steve seconded approving a proposed FY20 Town budget of \$1,187,891 that includes 3% wage increases for most full-time and part-time Town employees and reflects an increase of 2.36% over the previous year. The motion passed. The Budget Committee left the meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage**

The Board reviewed the 2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage which reflected the loss of .6042 miles of Class 3 roads after Bolio, Merritt, and the end of Chase were discontinued last year while Knapp and Warren were downgraded to Class 4.

**MOTION:** Steve moved and Phil seconded approving the 2019 Certificate of Highway Mileage. The motion passed and the Board signed the certificate.

**The 2018 Select Board Report**

This was passed over because the report was incomplete.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** Phil moved and Steve seconded approving the December 18, 2018 Select Board minutes. The motion passed and the minutes were signed.

All orders were signed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The Board reviewed an email the Road Foreman about the need for more winter sand and possibly acquiring a washer/dryer so the road crew could maintain their own uniforms. Dorinda noted there were a lot of advantages to uniform delivery and questioned the benefit of paying the road crew to wash, dry, iron and mend their own uniforms. Still, the Board agreed to consider the possibility.

Dorinda suggested asking the voters at the March 5, 2019 Town Meeting to approve four tax payments per year instead of two because doing so might help property owners budget their taxes. The Board agreed to add it to the Warning.

Peter adjourned the meeting at 5:13 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON JANUARY 22, 2019.

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PETER O. HOOD, CHAIR

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n/a  
MARY JUST SKINNER, VICE CHAIR

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PHILIP HYJEK

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STEVEN MARTIN

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ELIZABETH SCHARF