

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

MINUTES
MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, February 5, 2019
5:00 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 and Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman.

Call to Order/Amendments

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. There were no amendments.

Treasurer's Report

Dorinda suggested the Board add to its upcoming goals a change to the personnel policy regarding vacation time for Town employees. The current system is illogical because accrual starts in January, but each employee receives his/her full allotment of vacation time in May regardless. She suggested adopting a standard vacation policy: accrual of vacation time each week. That way, the Town won't be in the position of an employee leaving having already taken more than his/her prorated share of vacation time.

Peter said the issue has always been that employees want to take their vacations in the summer. This is especially true for the Road Crew which has a lighter summer schedule. The Board should consider allowing employees to "go into the hole" or borrow time in anticipation. Dorinda agreed to return with some numbers later so the Board could decide how to proceed.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: Steve moved and Liz seconded approving the January 22, 2019 Select Board minutes. The motion passed and the minutes were signed.

All orders were signed.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Board reviewed a letter from Chris Viens of the Waterbury Select Board and John Freitag of the Strafford Select Board asking local select boards to support a proposal being circulated in the Legislature to increase the taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel by 4 cents per gallon to make up for the level-funded state aid for town highways. Since state aid has not kept up with inflation or other costs, towns have been forced to raise town taxes to pay for repairing crumbling infrastructure. Peter noted much of the damage is done by heavy trucks which should pay more at the pump, though often they fuel up in cheaper locations outside of Vermont. The Board agreed not to take action on the matter at VLCT's Local Government Day at the Statehouse on February 14.

The Board responded to an email from Susan Clark of the Town Meeting Solutions Committee asking if the Town would pay for postage on the "new voter" letters she sends out each year. The Board approved.

Peter adjourned the meeting at 5:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2019.

PETER O. HOOD, CHAIR

n/a
MARY JUST SKINNER, VICE CHAIR

PHILIP HYJEK

STEVEN MARTIN

ELIZABETH SCHARF