

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

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

MINUTES

PRESENT: Select Board Chair Peter Hood, Vice-Chair Mary Just Skinner, Members Liz Scharf, Phil Hyjek and Steve Martin. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell. Mike Rouell. MVFD President Jeff Koonz and Chief Doug Hanson. Bandstand Committee Members Elliot Burg and Ron Sweet. Sue Bettmann recording for ORCA and Acting Select Board Assistant Cindy Carlson.

Call to Order/Amendments

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The agenda was amended to correct the reason for entering executive session. Instead of to discuss a personnel matter, it is to discuss matters of public safety. Peter added the following discussion items: grading the access road to Wrightsville Beach and the VT AOT's response to the Select Board's email asking the State to address speeding issues in Putnamville.

Executive Session

MOTION: Liz moves and Steve seconds entering Executive Session under 1 VSA § 313 (a)(10) to discuss municipal or school security or emergency response measures, the disclosure of which could jeopardize public safety. The motion passes and the Board enters Executive Session at 5:03 PM. Doug, Jeff, Dorinda and Cindy are invited to attend. The Board exits Executive Session at 5:45 PM. No action was taken. Peter said he will contact Mike to apologize for the lengthy session.

Obtaining Music Licenses for Copyrighted Music Played at the Summer Bandstand Series

The Board discussed information Elliot received that the Bandstand needs to pay \$750 in total fees to BMI & ASCAP and more to SESAC – unions representing artists protecting their copyrighted songs – in order for bands to play familiar, copyrighted music at the bandstand this summer. The total fees will range from \$1,000-\$1,500 per summer. Elliot said the bandstand does not have these funds. Peter asked about what risks musicians run if they don't pay the licensing fees. Ron said the municipality would be at risk since it operates the venue. Ron said even if the musician played his or her own music, if they were represented by one of the above PRO Music Rights organizations, a fee would still be required. There was no decision on paying the fee.

Returning to Executive Session

MOTION: Liz moved and Phil seconded resuming Executive Session. The motion carried and the Board entered Executive Session at 6:00 PM. The Board exited at 6:07 PM. The Board agreed in public session to explore what authority, if any, it has over the MVFD.

Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the financials as of May 31st. There was a question of deferred revenue that will be reviewed and discussed at a future meeting.

June 4th Welch Park Meeting Update

At a 4 PM Welch Park Association meeting, the members agreed that Benderson will assume control, maintenance and repairs for the well that serves its tenants, Consolidated Communications. Repairs on the well are estimated to be \$30,000. Carl Bailin – and other members from the Board – were unsure of signing off their rights to the well. Benderson agreed to send out a letter of agreement stating that at their costs and risk, they will perform the repairs while granting the Town and White Out, LLC until September 1 to decide if they want to maintain their interest in the well. If they do maintain their interest, then the Town's costs will be 15% of the repairs. The Association also discussed disbanding and how to divide remaining assets. The Association will meet via conference call at 4 PM June 12th for further discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: Mary moved and Phil seconded approving the May 21, 2019 Select Board minutes. The motion passed.

RB Tech Update: Phil said only one computer is running Windows 10. All the other Town computers are running Windows 7 and support for that software ends on January 2020. The Board agreed to discuss this further.

The Board discussed the upcoming June 28, 2019 School Meeting where Town voters will decide whether to grant an easement from the Middlesex Town School District to the Town for certain uses of Rumney School after it becomes property of the consolidated school district on July 1, 2019.

All orders were approved and signed.

Peter discussed a request from the Wrightsville Beach Association for the Highway Department to grade the access road and boat launch. Apparently, the Town has done this in the past. Peter asked that the Road Commissioner make a decision.

The Board discussed a June 3, 2019, email from Ian Degutis, VTrans Traffic Operations Engineer in response to the SB's concerns about Putnamville speeding. The Board agreed that a traffic study needs to be done on VT Route 12 and will respond to the letter as such.

Liz asked about Warren Road which was graded even though it had been reduced to a Class 4 Route. Steve said it shouldn't have been graded; that was a mistake and he will investigate.

Regarding the MVFD, the Board agreed it needed to work with the Fire Department and will research state statutes about what, if any, control the Board has on a separate volunteer fire department. There are two possible options to the current structure: 1) Contract with Montpelier (an expensive option) and 2) tell the 501C3 organization that is the MVFD that they are no longer permitted to use town-owned equipment. In that case, the Town would have to hire two professional firefighters, at least, whose responsibilities would include recruiting and supervising volunteers. Mutual aid would continue with any of these options. Mary asked that Sarah research bylaws and articles of association for the MVFD.

Peter adjourned the meeting at 6:38PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Carlson, Acting Select Board Assistant

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON JUNE 18, 2019.

PETER O. HOOD, CHAIR

MARY JUST SKINNER, VICE CHAIR

PHILIP HYJEK

STEVEN MARTIN

ELIZABETH SCHARF

DRAFT