

Select Board Members

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

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, May 27, 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, Steve Martin and Liz Scharf, Everett Coffey, Kim Bolduc, Ron Krauth, Treasurer Cindy Carlson and Select Board Assistant, Sarah Merriman.

Call to Order

1. Peter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Reappointing Ron Krauth to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

2. **MOTION: Mary moved and Liz seconded reapproving Ron Krauth to serve as the Middlesex representative to the CVRPC. The motion passed.** Later, Ron updated the Board about the Regional Planning Commission's activities.

Granting a Conservation Easement to VHCB on 191 & 195 Three Mile Bridge Road

3. **MOTION: Mary moved and Liz seconded granting a permanent conservation easement to the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board on .62 acres of town-owned land at what was formerly 191 and 195 Three Mile Bridge Road and designating Peter as the signee for the Board on the easement. The motion passed.**

Reconsidering Effective Dates of Major Capital Expenditures

4. Cindy asked the Board to reconsider acquiring major capital purchases effective July 1st of any fiscal year as that is before tax bills are issued and the town is particularly low on funds. Peter said that was a good idea and the Board agreed to keep that in mind in future acquisitions.

Appointing Two Representatives to the CVSPCAB

5. **Motion: Mary moved and Bill seconded appointing Kim Bolduc to be one of two Middlesex representatives to the Central Vermont State Police Community Advisory Board. The motion passed.**
6. Kim said she was interested in joining the advisory board as both a resident and business owner who was concerned about a rise in break-ins and state police response time. She said she would like to be a liaison between her neighbors and the state police and said the town needs representation on the CVSPCAB.
7. Though not a resident of Middlesex, Everett submitted a letter (attached) requesting to be Middlesex's second representative on the Board because he owns land in town. He was also a longtime member of the CVSPCAB in Waterbury until "local politics" resulted in the Select Board there not reappointing him this spring.
8. Peter expressed concern about appointing a landowner to represent Middlesex when the landowner was not an actual resident. He noted an example of a landowner who lived out of

state who would probably love to be on the Zoning Board of Appeals but that such an appointment would not be in the town's best interests. Peter said he did not want to set a precedent with this appointment and that the Select Board was not interested in correcting a perceived wrong in Waterbury.

9. Kim pointed out that the CVSPCAB position was simply advisory and that Everett brought lots of valuable experience.
10. Mary said Everett was unfamiliar with Middlesex and as a non-resident could not accurately represent a Middlesex point of view, so she was not in favor of appointing him. Bill said he liked the policy of appointing Middlesex residents only to town boards and committees and added he did not like getting mixed up in Waterbury politics. However, he said Everett did bring a lot of experience so he was conflicted. Steve said he supported Everett because he was well qualified and he didn't think Middlesex's issues were that different from Waterbury's. Liz said a landowner in town shouldn't be prevented from serving on this board simply because he wasn't a voter. She suggested that the policy should be that non-voters can serve on boards that are purely advisory if they are taxpayers.
11. **MOTION: Liz moved to appoint Everett Coffey to the Central Vermont State Police Community Advisory Board as the second Middlesex representative because he owns land in town, the CVSPCAB issues are regional, he is a resident of Washington County and the position is advisory only. Steve seconded. The motion passed.**

Update on Road Foreman Paul Cerminara's Status

12. Peter said Paul cannot be on the town payroll until the town receives written permission from his doctor approving him for light duty. After that, the Board should approve supplementing his worker's comp pay with pay for hours he actually works for the town. In the meantime, Paul should not do any work.

Proposed Ordinance Preventing Firing of Guns within 500 Feet of Neighbors

13. The Board considered an ordinance drafted at behest of a concerned citizen in town who was worried that neighbors were recklessly shooting guns near a house and that the bullets were in danger of ricocheting off rocks and hitting neighbors, especially children playing in nearby woods. The proposed ordinance would prevent firing guns within 500 feet of another house. Without such an ordinance in place, the state police would have no cause to respond to reports of gunfire, which is permitted night or day under state statute.
14. Peter said he didn't like drafting an ordinance for one person. Bill said he did not think such an ordinance would represent the will of a majority of Middlesex residents, many of whom fired guns as target practice in their backyards. The Board decided to pass it over.

Update on the Town Field by Rumney Memorial School

15. Bill said the town field near Rumney School was in such decline that it needed to be reseeded and repaired over the summer. That would include barring all sports activity on the land until the school reopened in August. Peter said a letter needed to be sent to Rumney and Community Connections apprising them of this and another letter needed to be sent to Onion River Soccer saying that the field is damaged and that the soccer club could not play on it again unless they sought prior approval from the board.

Other Business

16. **MOTION: Peter moved and Steve seconded two more driveway cuts for Matt Alberghini. The motion passed.**
17. **MOTION: Mary moved and Steve seconded approval of the May 13, 2014 Select Board minutes. The motion passed.**
18. **MOTION: Bill moved and Steve seconded approval of the April 22, 2014 Select Board minutes. The motion passed.**
19. **MOTION: Liz moved and Steve seconded approval of the April 8, 2014 Select Board minutes. The motion passed.**
20. **MOTION: Liz moved and Steve seconded approval of the revised March 25, 2014 Select Board minutes. The motion passed.**
21. **MOTION: Mary moved and Bill seconded the annual Financial Questionnaire from Treasurer Cindy Carlson after it was reviewed by the entire Board. The motion passed.**
22. **MOTION: Mary moved and Liz seconded expending \$360 from the Milford Leonard Scholarship to send Mika Millard to Sarah Seidman's for therapeutic riding lessons. The motion passed.**
23. However, the Board agreed that next year the procedure should more closely follow the specifications of Milford Leonard's will in that a representative each from the Middlesex Town School Board and the Middlesex Select Board should choose the candidate and that both the town and the school would increase awareness of the scholarship's availability.
24. All orders were signed.

Adjournment

25. Peter adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman,
Select Board Assistant