

Select Board Members

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

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, June 10, 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, Rumney School Director Chris McVeigh, Jason Merrill, Brian VanHoy, Treasurer Cindy Carlson and Select Board Assistant, Sarah Merriman.

Call to Order

1. Peter called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Resurrecting the Town Rec Committee and Repairing the Town Field

2. Jason spoke to the Board about the poor conditions of the town recreation field by Rumney School and suggested reinstating the town's Recreation Committee. He said the committee needed leadership in scheduling who used the field and how it should be maintained. Former members Mark Campbell and Tammy Joslyn were interested in joining a newly reformed committee, as was resident Justin Bourgeois.
3. Peter said the short-term plan was for the Road Crew to hydro-seed the field this summer after the school closed for the year and then rope it off so it could recover. He said the good news was that there was still \$1,676 left in the rec fund for the few weeks remaining in the 2014 fiscal year that could be carried over to the 2015 FY and added to the \$3,000 budget for that year.
4. Chris noted that the school's facility committee was reviewing renovations in light of a potential bond vote this fall. He said one idea was to provide parking on Shady Rill for attendees of sports event. This might require the school doing its own development of the field.
5. Peter asked Jason to submit a list of potential rec committee members to the Board which would then make formal appointments. Bill, who'd repaired the field as a member of the rec committee in the past, suggested soliciting donations for the field's repair at the annual autumn corn roast held there.
6. Later in the meeting, Brian, a former Onion River Soccer stopped by to say that the field was used hard in the fall of 2013, but only briefly in the spring of 2014 because the conditions were too poor. He said the field was all clay with little topsoil.

Preliminary Requirements to Turn Rumney School into a Red Cross Shelter

7. Peter said he spoke with Heidi Davis of Black River Design, which is drafting plans for the Rumney's renovation, about what would be required to modify the school into a Red Cross shelters. She had just met with George Sykes who is in charge of overseeing shelters for the Red Cross of the Upper Valley and he said that other than designating a 75-100 sq. foot heated space for a pallet of supplies, the layout of Rumney worked fine, even the kitchen. The question was what type of Red Cross shelter it should be. It was suggested that George meet with the Board if possible.

Update on Road Foreman Paul Cerminara

8. Steve said Paul was recovering well from his accident, that he was permitted to do conduct 22 hours of office work from home and hoped to be given a doctor's green light to do drive-by inspections of road conditions.

Allowing Road Crew Employees to Carry Over Accrued Vacation Time to FY2015

9. Due to Paul's accident and the resulting labor shortage, Steve asked the Board to temporarily waive a provision in the town's personnel policy stipulating that town employees not be able to carry over vacation from one fiscal year to another. Otherwise, a Road Crew employee would have to use two weeks of vacation before July 1 or lose it forever.
10. **MOTION: In light of Paul Cerminara's accident, the town's Road Commissioner is granted the discretion to permit the Road Crew to carry over any vacation to fiscal year 2015. Mary so moved and Peter seconded. The motion passed.**

Updating Town Road Maps and Reclassifying Roads with One House

11. Because the State of Vermont is requiring each town to update its maps to show every road according to class, including any trails, by 2015, it might be time for the Select Board to address an ongoing concern about town roads that lead to single houses. Steve said it is not cost effective for the town to maintain these roads which are, for all intents and purposes, private driveways. In an email submitted to the Board, Paul listed five roads to fall under this category: Chase, Merritt, Bolio, Colby and Warren.
12. Bill suggested establishing uniform criteria for roads that meet this designation. For example, a road that extends 1,000 with no other houses but one would be reclassified. After those specifications are created, Peter said the Board will readdress the issue and possibly agree to reclassify the roads according to a process laid out in state statute requiring sufficient public notice and public hearings.

Other Business

13. **MOTION: Bill moved and Steve seconded approval of two, one-year Merchant Bank notes of \$29,350 and \$118,289 respectively for equipment purchases. The motion passed and the notes were signed by all Select Board members.**
14. **MOTION: Mary moved and Liz seconded approval of a letter of agreement from the State of Vermont for Computer-Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) Cost Table Services. The motion passed and Peter signed the agreement.**
15. The Board reviewed a survey of all dogs licensed as of May 30, 2014.
16. The Board reviewed a request from Shred-Ex to hold a "shredding day" whereby for \$3/box, residents could bring items to be shredded to a Shred-Ex truck parked on town property. Bill said the town should promote the event through a posting in Front Porch Forum only.
17. **MOTION: Steve moved and Liz seconded approval of the May 27, 2014 Select Board Minutes. The motion passed.**
18. Sarah apprised the Board of changes to the public meeting law taking effect on July 1, 2014 due to the passage of House Bill 497.
19. The orders were not available to be signed. Individual board members signed them later.
20. Cindy presented the end of FY2014 financials. The Board decided to use some remaining money to pay down debt and would revisit the matter at the next Select Board meeting on June 24, 2014.

21. Peter called the meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant