

Select Board Members

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

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
Tuesday, July 11, 2017
5:00 PM
Middlesex Town Clerk's Office
5 Church Street
Middlesex, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-5915

MINUTES

Present: Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair, Members Phil Hyjek, Steve Martin, Liz Scharf and Chair Peter Hood by speakerphone. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell. Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman

Call to Order/Welcoming of Guests/Amendments

Mary called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. There were no additional amendments to the agenda.

Clarification on Financing the International Hx620 Tandem Truck and Plow

After being informed by Community National Bank that the new truck could not be financed over seven years, Dorinda researched other alternatives and found a one-year note at a 1.85% interest rate. If the Board agrees to this, then she will bring it to the next Select Board meeting. Phil asked if the Board would pay off one 7th of the principal per year. Peter said the advantage of a one-year note was flexibility. On a good year, the Board could use a surplus to pay off more of the debt. The Board agreed that it would prefer the one-year note at 1.85%

Highway Department Updates

The Board reviewed a written update from Road Foreman Paul Cerminara in which he stated that, after reviewing bids for winter sand trucking with Road Commissioner Steve Martin, they decided on Tim Stone Trucking to haul 4,000 yards of sand at \$5.25/yard by October 1, 2017. He wrote that Gravel Construction would charge the Town \$7/yard of winter sand provided the Town "pre bought" 2,000 yards this year. The same price would be applied to the remaining 3,000 yards. Though the Board has been reluctant to engage in pre-buys before, Peter said this situation was different because the pre-buy was in the same fiscal year. The Board agreed this was a good deal.

Town Computer Servicing

Peter recapped the meeting he and Phil had with RB Technologies on July 5th to review an assessment of the Town's computer systems. In essence, Peter warned the Board that it should prepare for unexpected expenses involved in upgrading the dated equipment. For example, the Town's four-year+ server is at capacity and Phil said it needs to be replaced now at a cost of approximately \$10,000. Peter said he would like RB Tech to submit its final proposal so it can be considered at the Board's next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: Peter moved and Steve seconded approving the June 27, 2017, Select Board minutes. The motion passed.

All orders were signed, though the Clark's Truck check was pulled since the note had not been issued.

Correspondence: Emergency Management Coordinator Paul Otenti requested the Board's permission to participate in a "table top" exercise on September 11, 2017, focusing on the Montpelier Police Department's capability to dispatch 19 communities they serve for an emergency response in the event that Capital West, the main dispatching center, needs to be evacuated. The Board said yes and appreciated his effort.

2017 Town-wide Reappraisal Update: Sarah told the Board that according to Appraiser Rich Lewis, the overall Grand List rose approximately 11% from \$200,163,900 in 2016 to \$222,744,000 in 2017, thereby bringing the Town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) to 100.5%. According to Rich, 7% of the 11% increase was based on market transactions (real estate sales), while the remaining 4% was due to adjustments made during appraisals.

Mary adjourned the meeting at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant