

**Select Board Members**

Peter Hood, Chair  
 Randy Drury  
 Phil Hyjek  
 Liz Scharf  
 Vacant

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022  
**REMOTE VIA ZOOM**  
Middlesex Town Clerk's Office  
5 Church Street  
Middlesex, Vermont 05602  
(802) 223-5915

**MINUTES.**

**PRESENT:** Peter O. Hood, Chair. Members Randy Drury, Phil Hyjek and Liz Scharf. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell. Road Commissioner Vic Dwire. Planning Commission Chair Sandy Levine. Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman took the minutes. The meeting was recorded by ORCA.

**Call to Order/Amendments**

Peter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The agenda was amended to include a CVFiber update.

**Steve Martin Resigns from Board**

Citing personal reasons, Steve began the meeting by announcing his resignation effective immediately. Members of the Board wished him well and thanked him for his eleven years of service. Steve left the meeting.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION:** Liz moved and Phil seconded entering Executive Session per 1 VSA § 313(a)(3) to discuss the appointment or employment an employee and to include Vic and Dorinda. The Board entered Executive Session at 5:07 PM. The Board exited at 5:39 PM. Phil, Randy and Victor will interview Road Foreman candidates next week in the Town Clerk's Office, Peter said.

**Highway Department Updates**

Vic said the Town is applying for a Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid program grant for up to \$20,000 which can be used to pay for culverts, ditching, stone fill and hydroseeding.

Vic said the 2018 International town dump truck was out of commission after fluid was found leaking from the transmission cooler. It's at Buzzi's Garage for repairs, but it's difficult to find a new cooler. The Board discussed potentially hiring a truck.

Center Road culvert bids: E J Hutchins's cost to install six culverts was bid at \$71,831 and includes multiple services, such as flag control and pickup and delivery of culverts; Kingsbury's bid is for less - \$48,450- but would not include traffic control and the Town would have to deliver the pipes. The Board discussed the difference. Randy asked about the Hutchins bid that does not include excavating or replacing the outlet side of over the bank. Vic said Hutchins is also paving Center Road where the culverts are being installed, so he recommends going with them. He said the Town will not do anything with the culverts over the bank. The repaving grant is for \$185,000 and there is \$259,000 in the paving fund, according to Dorinda. Vic said the entire repaving project, including addressing a portion of McCullough Hill Road, is estimated to cost \$420,000, therefore within the Town's available funds. Dorinda asked if it's worth going back to Kingsbury and asking them to redo bid to include the services Hutchins's bid provides. Randy asked if culverts have been purchased; Vic said the culverts were purchased last year.

**Special Select Board Meeting 4 PM, Wednesday, June 15, 2022**

The Select Board agreed to meet at the above date and time to revisit the culvert bids and, potentially, to approve the hiring of a new Road Foreman.

**Compensation for Co-Road Foremen Gary Lamell and Vic Dwire**

**MOTION (Withdrawn):** Phil moved and Randy seconded paying Gary Lamell and Vic \$30/hour. Motion passed. Dorinda asked if there are hour limits. The Board discussed Gary's role to check if he has a CDL and if he needed a drug-test to operate Town trucks. Dorinda suggested Gary operate the pickup and heavy equipment, but not the trucks. The Board previously decided the co-road foremen would be administrative functions. Victor said Gary has been working a full week. Vic said he has no idea how long he'll be working, maybe 20 hours a week. Randy suggested Vic work 120 hours during the duration of the interim road foreman job. That's 20 hours per week for six weeks. When he gets to 80% of that, the Board should revisit the situation, he said. Phil withdrew this motion.

**MOTION:** Randy moved and Phil seconded paying Vic \$30/hour for 120 hours over six weeks to act as co-interim Road Foreman with the understanding that if he gets to 80% of that number, the Board will revisit the situation, and paying Gary \$30/hour on an interim basis in a full-time capacity driving the pickup truck and operating heavy equipment. If he has a CDL and needs to drive trucks, the Board will revisit. The motion passed.

**Creating a Development Review Board and Approving DRB Members**

Sandy reminded the Board about the draft resolution to create a Development Review Board to replace the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the permitting duties of the Planning Commission. She spoke with members of both bodies about serving on the DRB and this is the upshot: ZBA members Peter Raymond and Stacey Skadberg will serve three-year terms on the DRB to expire in March 2025. PC members Mitch Osiecki and Sandy Levine will serve two-year terms on the DRB to expire in March 2024 and ZBA member Larry Rooney will serve a one-year term on the DRB to expire March 2023. Current ZBA members Roger Hirt and Charlene Bohl have agreed to serve as alternates for three-year terms expiring March 2025.

**MOTION:** Phil moved and Liz seconded adopting a resolution to establish a Development Review Board and to appoint the above members. The motion passed. Sandy left the meeting.

**Passing over 28 Rich Road Buyout Agreements**

The Board reviewed amendments to the ongoing Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the buyout of 28 Rich Road, the Voluntary Transaction Agreement with the property owner and a subgrant agreement with the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission to supplement the buyout. Randy said he wanted to make sure there was enough money altogether in the new agreement to pay for the buyout and asked Sarah to return to the June 15<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting with a breakdown, where it the agreements will again be up for review and approval.

**Treasurer's Report**

Dorinda said about 94% of FY 22 budget has been spent and there is still roughly a month to go. Highway wages are at 82%. In addition, with the two, co-road foreman covering during this interim period, the road foreman position has gone from 40

hours per week to 60. Randy asked about a potential grant to pay for mud mitigation. Vic said he hasn't heard. Dorinda said \$76,000 was spent on mud mitigation.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed the Bandstand Committee's proposal to build a storage shed on the Town Recreation Field at Shady Rill. Relaying a message from Committee member Paul Boffa, Peter said the shed will be constructed at the meadow's edge back against the woods across from the gazebo and will be placed on blocks. Elliot said the shed will be used to store Bandstand items currently in John Puleio's barn: sandwich boards, rugs and signs. The Committee will stick to 80 square feet so as not to require a zoning permit.

**MOTION:** Phil moved and Liz seconded approving an 80-sq-ft building in accordance with the Bandstand Committee's diagram and location on the Town Recreation Field. Dorinda asked about insurance. Elliot said the Committee has no expectation or need to insure the shed which will cost \$1,500 to build and store a few hundred dollars' worth of equipment. Sitting on blocks, it can be easily removed. The motion passed and Elliot left the meeting.

**MOTION:** Liz moved and Randy seconded approving the minutes of the May 31 and May 24, 2022 Special Meetings and the minutes from the May 17, 2022, and May 3, 2022 meetings. The motion passed. The minutes from the May 12, 2022, Emergency Meeting could not be approved because Steve resigned.

Phil said CVFiber may request an easement from the Town to install a junction box near the Town Shed. The Board encouraged CVFiber to draw up a draft easement to be reviewed by the Town attorney and then submitted for approval by the Board.

All orders were approved and signed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE REMOTELY APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON JUNE 21, 2022.

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PETER O. HOOD, CHAIR

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RANDY DRURY

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PHIL HYJEK

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ELIZABETH SCHARF

\_\_\_\_\_  
VACANT