

UNAPPROVED  
SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
MAY 14, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Montague, Thomas Wilson, Philip E. Mazzucco, Deborah Baker and Charles Rockwell.  
OTHERS PRESENT: Andrea Lenhardt, Arlene Bentley, William Meyer, Althea Lewis, Brett Lourie, Peter Pelton, Eugene Ceglowski, Donald S. Lewis, John LaVecchia, Susan Nichols, Susan Saunders, Jay "Skip" Wilson and Raymond Smith.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Co-chair Tom Wilson.

April minutes were reviewed. Motion by Linda, seconded by Phil to approve the minutes with one minor correction as noted. Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

1. The Listers and appraisers from NEMRC held informal grievance hearings yesterday and today. Formal grievances from property owners will be heard on May 20th and May 21st. There are sign up sheets for appointments to appear, and all grievances must be addressed to the Board of Listers in writing.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Cash on hand	04/01/2019	\$589,490.22
Receivables		42,951.67
Disbursements		41,555.15
Cash on hand	04/30/2019	\$590,886.74

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter from State Representative Robin Chestnut-Tangerman advising the Selectboard that Vermont students attending Salem and Granville schools are no longer eligible for the Dual Enrollment Program. For more information, Rep. Chestnut -Tangerman can be reached at 802-282-5535 or rchestnut-tangerman@leg.state.vt.us.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Highway Report: Road Commissioner "Skip" Wilson said the crew is still grading the back roads and have drawn all the chip seal to be used for paving Pawlet Mountain Road. Paving of Route 315 may happen next week.
2. Charlie reported that he and Don Lewis placed surveyor's pins to mark the boundaries of the Warner Hopkins Cemetery in West Rupert.
3. Two sealed bids were opened for mowing the Town Green for hay. \$240.00 was offered by Peter Pelton and Gene Ceglowski submitted a bid of \$200.00. Discussion of the bids, along with any suggestions made by Ray Smith, the volunteer Landscape Architect for the Town Green project. Motion by Linda seconded by Debbie to accept Peter Pelton's bid of \$240.00, good only for the year 2019. Motion carried.
4. A general plan was presented by Charlie on where the boundary lines should be for the two acres which the Town will convey to the Rupert Village Trust. Once the location of Sheldon Store's proposed septic system and the dimensions of the Town's storage building are known, then there will be enough information to go forward with drafting a survey map. Ray Smith also talked about where the future 15 to 17 car parking lot will be placed.
5. Tom said he installed three screens under the Town Office building to keep out the skunks. Unfortunately, before the last screen could be placed, a cat ran into the hole under the building. The neighbor will do a head count of her cats to see if the animal returned home.
6. A grant application for new sidewalks was considered by Tom, but it stipulated that we needed to hire an engineer, which would be expensive and unnecessary.
7. Zoning Board Administrator John LaVecchia looked into what other towns charge as a fee for permits to have a sign. Motion by Debbie, seconded by Phil to set the permit fee at \$10.00, which will cover the cost of recording the permit at the Town Office. Motion carried.
8. Linda said she liked Don Lewis' idea of establishing a Town Office Renovation Committee. Those volunteering to serve will be: Tom Wilson, Phil Mazzucco, John LaVecchia, Andrea Lenhardt and Debbie Baker.
9. Former Chairman Mark Lourie used to be the Board's liaison person for the Town's health insurance. Linda thought that Debbie was well qualified to fill that position. Debbie kindly agreed to serve. Motion made by Linda, seconded by Phil to appoint Debbie Baker as the contact person for VLCT/PACIF and MVP insurance. Motion carried.

10. It was the consensus of the Board to have Linda write a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Aldanondo about the large maple tree on the lawn of their home at 1105 route 153. The tree has deteriorated to the point of being a danger to the public and should be taken down. If the owners consent to the Selectboard's request, the tree will be cut down at the expense of the Town since it is near the highway.

11. Tom excused himself from the meeting and Linda chaired the discussion about pay raises for the Road Crew. Debbie had given Board members a comparison study she did of what pay and benefits packages seven other area towns were offering their employees. Skip Wilson gave his opinions also for the Board, and it was determined that the Road Crew's last raise was in January 2017. The Board made no changes to the benefits package, and there was a motion by Debbie, seconded by Phil give the Road Crew a raise of \$1.00 per hour, effective immediately, and consider another raise in January 2020. Motion carried.

Motion by Debbie, seconded by Charlie to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Montague  
Selectboard Clerk