

MEETING OF THE
STRAFFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
April 9, 2014

APPROVED MINUTES

Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 312 (b)(1) Selectboard meeting minutes include

- (A) All members of the public body present;
- (B) All other active participants in the meeting;
- (C) All motions, proposals and resolutions made, offered and considered, and what disposition is made of same; and
- (D) The results of any votes, with a record of the individual vote of each member if a roll call is taken.

Although meeting minutes have complied with 1 V.S.A. § 312 (b)(1), any additional information is included as a courtesy.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members of the public body present:

Rod Maclay, Chair, Tori Lloyd, Steve Marx, Brent Cadwell, and John Freitag, Members

Other active participants:

Lisa Kendall, Town Clerk; Jennifer Brown, Reporter Herald of Randolph; Dori Wolfe, Wolfe Energy; Ken Alton and Janet Cavanaugh , Energy Committee, and citizens: Alan Wylie, Melvin Coburn, and Kelly Hull.

1. CITIZENS CONCERNS: None
2. MINUTES: John made the motion to accept his minutes from 3/17/14. Steve seconded. 3/17/14 Minutes approved. All in favor. Tori Opposed. 3/17/14 Minutes approved. John made the motion to accept his minutes from 3/24/14. Steve seconded. 3/24/14 Minutes approved. Tori Opposed. John resigned as Recording Clerk and minutes will be taken by Tori. Brent made the motion for Tori to take minutes. Steve seconded. All in favor.
3. TOWN HIGHWAYS: It is unlikely the Town will receive a paving grant for 2014. Next year the Town may move beyond its current position of 14th among other the other 28 District 4 towns applying for paving grants. The Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways was signed by the Selectboard for January to December. Currently the Town is managing with a three-man crew. There is no immediate plan to hire the fourth position especially since the weather has not created significant road hazards this mud season. The four FEMA contracts prepared by Dewolfe are complete. The Selectboard signed the Northwood's Excavating, Inc. contract for Van Dyke Bridge replacement and Watson Bridge replacement. The two remaining contracts need to be signed by Daniels Construction and Tremblay Construction LLC and the Selectboard.
4. GENERAL:

Conservation Commission (CC) - Jared Jentisch was recommended to fill the vacancy of a 4-year term. John made a motion to appoint Jared Jentisch to the CC. Brent seconded. All in favor.

Development Review Board (DRB) – Martha Walke is currently an alternate and was recommended to fill a vacancy. John made a motion to appoint Martha Walke to the DRB. Brent Second. All in favor.

Energy Committee – Dori Wolfe with Wolfe Energy presented about the a local array project that came as a result of a grant opportunity to complete a 65Kw array that would be placed on Rod Maclay's property. The project is being developed by Wolfe Energy, and the grant would be under Strafford Energy LLC. This is a power purchase with no cost and no liability to the Town according to Dori. The Energy Committee has been successful in the past securing grants and would work on this grant as well. Dori stated she can show good community support through other projects and local funding is likely available. Dori is asking that the Town to sign a Letter of Intent (LOI) in order to show Town support when applying for the grant. The Selectboard will review the LOI, possibly revise it, and respond to Dori in a timely manner.

Recreation update – John reported the Vermont School Board Insurance Trust playground inspector Lyall Smith will inspect the recreation playground area. Maintenance of the recreation playground, also known as the Creative Preschool playground, will be included in the mowing contracts and Erin Masteller has been put in charge of this area. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns has recommended that the Town be an additional insured by Creative Preschool on their liability insurance due to the Creative Preschool's extensive use of the recreation area playground, located behind the Tyson Gym. Strafford Athletic Association is proposing rebuilding the tennis courts. Tennis courts will be replaced at a cost of \$115,000 sometime in the future. There is currently \$40,000 of SAA money to support the project. Donation request letters will go out soon. The progress of the tennis court replacement depends on the pace of fundraising and grant wards. Rod wants the Selectboard to be informed of progress and wants all funds to be on hand before the project is started

Lister Vacancy - Betty Jo Black was the only one who responded to the Lister Vacancy. Ms. Black is a veterinarian who lives on Miller Pond Road. In her letter of interest regarding the position, she cited her desire to serve the town, her computer skills, and her ability to work with people. Both Steve and Brent know her and spoke in support of her appointment. Tori made a motion to appoint Betty Jo Black as a Lister. Brent seconded. All in favor.

Constable Equipment Request – Ed Eastman wanted to a 7' 2" pole to assist in fulfilling his duties. John made the motion to approve spending \$143.00. Steve Seconded. The Constable job description was reviewed, and it was noted that enumeration for Ed was reduced by almost 50% from 2013 to 2014 due to the parameters of his job description.

After much discussion, no portion of the Town property mowing will be put out to bid with the exception of the Town Common and Town House area.

In preparation for the 2015 mowing season, when Town mowing may be put out to bid, Kelly Hull suggests that 16 mowings a season are reasonable for a scope of work for mowing. Further, he offered to help with preparing the scope of work for any future bidding. Bob Murray will be asked to mow the Recycling Center area between the stones and the split-rail fence; Shannon Higgins will be asked to mow the verge, to maintain the recreation area (preschool) playground, and the tennis court fenceline. Town Common, a two year

contract, will be put out to bid on April 11 on the listserve and posted on the website. Bids must be received no later than April 23 at 4:30pm in the Town Office.

Delinquent tax update – Lisa reviewed text of the new tax collection policy. It will be posted on the Town website. In addition, a hard copy will be at Coburn's and the Town Office, and it will be sent out with all tax bills.

Records Restoration- Lisa reviewed the needs for records restoration. Kofile is a records restoration company that provided a quote for a restoration of the Town's vital records. Every year the Town collects \$1200 in fees and has a Restoration Reserve fund of \$19,411.00. The projected 2014 cost for restoring birth, death, marriage, and burial permits/certificates between 1903 to 1917 is \$6,434. The priority is to restore the earliest records first.

Stone Soup submitted a liquor license renewal, and it was signed by the Selectboard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Lloyd

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 7 p.m.