

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 7, 2014, 6:00 p.m., Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Helen Ducharme; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Planning Commissioners Melissa Seifert, Faeterri Silver and Jon Groveman; Development Review Board member James Arisman; Librarian Susan Green; Historical Society President John Johnson; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault; Visitors Mike Dunn, , Dan Currier (Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission), Shawn White and Ann Smith (Friends of the Winooski River)

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair John Warshow

PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The Selectboard heard from Faeterri Silver and Jon Groveman about some typos and questions about the application process. Their suggested changes will be incorporated; there were no substantive changes to the proposed amendments. John moved to approve the amendments with the changes discussed, and put them on the Warning to be voted on at Town Meeting. Chris seconded – all in favor.

The members of the Planning Commission that were present discussed the survey that they have prepared for residents and property owners to give their opinion about current zoning and what they would like to see in the future. The Board discussed possible ways to get the survey to people. It was decided to post the survey on the website and have it available outside the cafeteria on Town Meeting Day (election law prohibits surveys in the polling place) and mail it to all property owners. Bobbi will get a quote to see how much it would cost to have it as an insert inside the town report. She noted that the town report is sent to voters, one per household, but does not include people who don't vote, and people who own property in Marshfield but live elsewhere. The grand list includes property owners but not those who rent; there is no single list of everyone connected to the Town.

The Public Hearing concluded at 7:00 p.m.

River and Erosion Projects: Ann Smith reviewed the three projects that the Friends of the Winooski have been involved with in Marshfield. The projects have been funded by grants and by the Friends. The first is outfall monitoring. They have looked at stormwater system outfalls during dry weather, and if they found flows, they tested for wastewater contamination. They did not find any wastewater connections in Marshfield but did find some issues with erosion and/or structural integrity. It was noted that most of the outfalls are along Route 2. When they prepare the final report, they will indicate which outfalls are the responsibility of the State and which are the responsibility of the Town.

The second project was an assessment of Marshfield's roads for erosion and sedimentation. Dan Currier explained the analysis that was conducted. No sites were found that are impacting surface water directly, but there are sites where minor erosion can be seen. He noted that of the towns he has

surveyed, Marshfield had the fewest number of sites, with the lowest scores, and this is an indication that the road crew is doing a great job. When the final report is ready, it could be used to apply for Better Backroads grants, or an Ecosystem Restoration grant from the Agency of Natural Resources. The Better Backroads grants require a 50% match that can be an in-kind match of town labor and equipment; the Ecosystem Restoration program does not require a match.

The third project was a bridge and culvert assessment for passage of aquatic organisms, geomorphic compatibility (whether or not the culvert is as large as the widest part of the stream or river during spring runoff), and retrofit potential. There are structures in Marshfield that do not allow passage of aquatic organisms. The Friends have been working on a project to try to retrofit two structures. They noted that the final report will be useful for planning purposes and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has grants available to protect brook trout habitat; the Town could apply for such a grant when it becomes necessary to replace one of the incompatible structures.

Ann also discussed an agreement that she would like to enter with the Selectboard regarding riparian buffer plantings at the Martin Covered Bridge. The Board has already agreed to the plantings, but did not sign the agreement because of language that suggested the Town might be responsible for maintaining the plantings. The proposed agreement will be revised to make it clear that the Town will not have to do anything but leave the plantings undisturbed. The agreement will allow the Friends better use of their resources. The Board will sign a revised agreement at their next meeting.

Library/Historical Society Collaboration: Librarian Susan Green prepared language for an article to be on the Warning for Town Meeting, asking voters to support the proposed collaboration. The Board agreed to place two articles on the warning – one will be for a one-time cost of renovating, and a second for the regular appropriation (including an increase for the increased rent). John Warshow suggested that the request for the one-time appropriation should be for \$5,000, to be used with the \$10,000 from an anonymous donor. This should be enough to build a wall to separate public vs. locked space and buy or build display cases.

Trucks: The Selectboard and Dan discussed the pros and cons of buying a 6-wheel vs. a 10-wheel truck, and whether to trade in the 2007 or 2009 truck. Clark's Truck Center offered a very large trade-in for the 2009 truck, which is smaller than the 2007 but 4-wheel drive. Dan noted that if the Town buys a larger truck, it won't be 4-wheel drive and will need tire chains. However the 2009 truck holds 3 yards, the 2007 truck holds 8 yards, and a 10-wheeler would hold 14 yards. He would like to get rid of the 2009 because it has not been reliable. Chris moved to trade in the 2009 truck and buy a 10-wheel International from Clark's Truck Center, and purchase the body from Tenco, for a cost of \$111,901. Helen seconded; all in favor.

Budget: The Selectboard finalized their budget. They noted that the expenses are lower than last year, but because of lower projected income and a lower budget surplus, taxes will be approximately 13% higher.

Personnel: John moved to increase pay for town personnel by 2½ %. Helen seconded – all in favor.

Borrowing: Bobbi reviewed the bids received for tax anticipation borrowing and investing. John moved to execute a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$497,000 from Community National

Bank, at an interest rate of 2.85%, and to invest the available proceeds in a money market account at an interest rate of 3.5% up to the amount of the loan. Excess funds may be invested at an interest rate of 0.35%. Chris seconded – all in favor.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll..

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the January 7, 2014 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
