

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, October 1, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Old Schoolhouse Common

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Present: Selectboard members Chris Martin and Helen Ducharme; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault; Planning Commissioner Michael Schumacher; Visitors Jason Hoover (Green Mountain Mapleworks), Charlene Tetreault, Winnie and Jerry Valenza

At 6:05 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chris Martin.

**Sugaring on Drew Mountain:** The Selectboard explained that the Town received complaints during sugaring season about the condition of Bailey Pond Road, from people who could not get to their camps on Turtlehead Pond. Dan explained that the road doesn't normally get a lot of traffic in the spring so it hasn't been a problem in the past. Jason Hoover is the owner of Green Mountain Mapleworks; they began sugaring Drew Mountain Associates land this year. He wants to work with the Town to see how the road can be kept open. He doesn't mind chipping in \$2,000 or \$3,000 per year to help with road maintenance. Everyone agreed that fixing a little every year would help minimize the problems in the long run. He will send a check for \$3,000 now, and sit down with the Board at the end of the next season to see how things look.

The second issue that the Board discussed is the taps that may or may not be on the Old Town Forest. The Board and Jason looked at the maps that the Town has. They differ from the maps that Jason was given by the landowner. The Board decided to defer action until they can meet with Drew Mountain Associates to discuss what can be done to clarify the boundaries.

**Paving:** Dan received a quote from Johnson Paving for the bridge approaches on Onion River Road (\$1,075) and John Fowler Road (\$965). The Board approved the expense.

**Roads:** Gordon Holt approached Dan to ask about cleaning a ditch that the Town installed on his property. Bobbi researched the land records and there is an agreement giving the Town permission to install the ditch and clean it when the Town deems it necessary. Dan will look at it and decide if it is necessary to clean it to help protect the Town road.

**Health Insurance:** Bobbi explained to the Board and the employees what the new insurance exchange will mean for the Town. Either the Town's expense will increase or the employee's expense will increase. Bobbi has asked Blue Cross to allow the Town an early renewal, which would postpone joining the exchange for 11 months. If the request is declined, the Board will decide what to do at their next meeting.

**CVRPC/CVEDC Merger:** Michael Schumacher came to the meeting to talk about the proposed merger. He reminded the Board that the upcoming vote is a vote to continue pursuing the merger, working on the bylaws. He feels that the CVRPC is working at cross-purposes with the CVEDC. The CVRPC tends to be conservation-minded, while the CVEDC focus is business. He stated that there are instances where two organizations like these are able to work together successfully. He stated that there are fears that the CVRPC resources will be taken up by the CVEDC, and the larger,

more urban towns will receive more focus and the influence of the rural towns will be diluted. Chris worries about the funding mechanism. He also doesn't feel that the proposed structure is going to work. Michael feels that there is room to work out the issues as the bylaws are drafted. He feels that both organizations could be more effective if they weren't working against each other. He also feels that we should be taking a regional perspective; what is good for the Central Vermont region as a whole will be good for Marshfield. He is in favor of a merger on a conceptual level but he doesn't think the details have been worked out yet. He suggested asking if certain items can be included in the bylaws, to favor small towns, before the vote is held. He feels that the Town needs to clearly articulate what the concerns are, and ask that the concerns are addressed in the new bylaws.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the October 1, 2013 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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