

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2015
TOWN OFFICES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Bruno, R. Combs, J. Hale, R. Spaulding, T. Etori

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Shea, Town Manager

Meeting called to order a 7:25PM by Chairman, J. Bruno with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. So voted.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL- DECEMBER 22,2014

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve the minutes of Dec. 22, 2014 as presented, seconded by T. Etori. All in favor. So voted.

J. Hale requested that the Manager's updated be copied and pasted into the minutes.

WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL

MOTION: T. Etori made a motion to approve warrants #0112 for \$48,076.84, # 0112Rfor \$257,620.99, #0108 for \$20,731.21, #1231 for \$5,532.81, #1224 for \$6395.32, #0108P for \$12,947.79, #1231P for \$11,525.42, #1224P for \$14,717.39. Seconded by R. Combs. All in favor. So voted

T. Etori had a question regarding the electric bills at both the new and old Fire Houses.
R. Combs replied that the air compressor and boiler are on all the time.

MOTION

T. Etori made a motion to approve warrant #0113R for \$578.90. Seconded by R. Combs. All in favor. R. Spaulding abstained. So voted.

MOTION

T. Etori made a motion to approve warrants #0108.1P for \$56.51, #1231.1P for \$565.01, #1224.1P for \$565.01. Seconded by J. Hale. All in favor. R. Combs abstained. So voted.

TOWN LANDS UPDATE- CHRIS STONE/COUNTY FORESTER

C. Stone presented updates on 3 town lots.

COON HILL LOT:

Wonderful wildlife habit, Limited timber resource, Scenic

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PENCIL MILL LOTS

Limited access from Pencil Mill Rd

One pocket of hardwood

Frontage on New Rd – lots of wetlands

CRYSTAL MEADOWS

Mixed Pines

Big Rocks

Lots of Deer

Dense Honeysuckle

Possible Recreations & Hunting

J. Bruno asked for C. Stone's recommendations. C. Stone stated that he will work on Management plans for the other two properties.

APPOINTMENT OF LISTER

MOTION

R. Spaulding made a motion to appoint Lois Witt as interim Lister for remainder of position until March elections. Seconded by T. Ettori
All in favor. So Voted.

J. Bruno asked K. Miller how far along the appraisal process was. K. Miller replied she could not answer that.

MOTION

R. Spaulding made a motion to appoint Valerie Waldron to the remaining term to the Rutland Region Planning Commission. Seconded by R. Combs. R. Spaulding, R. Combs, J. Bruno; T. Ettori abstained, J. Hale – No. Motion carries

SAND/SALT POLICY

MOTION

T. Ettori made a motion to accept the Castleton town sand/salt policy. R. Spaulding seconded. All in favor. So voted.

CONTINUED FY 2015-16 BUDGET DISCUSSION

M. Shea continued with presentation of the budget. It is still in draft format. If there are any questions or concerns please call or stop in and see M. Shea. It is a 3.5% increase over the 2014/15 budget.

J. Bruno asked what the increase was in a dollar amount. The citizens will understand a dollar amount easier. M. Shea stated it is about a \$103,000.00 increase.

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CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

R. Newton asked if there would be any action taken during the Executive Session. J. Bruno replied "yes", a tentative agreement, no finalization on McDermott & Jacien case.

M. Finnegan asked about the status of the sale of 556 Main Street. J. Bruno replied that they are still working on it, but it is not finalized.

M. Finnegan asked about the 90 days and if the building was winterized and closed. M. Shea replied that the 90 days is up on January 22, 2015.

J. Bruno replied that it has not been winterized or closed. The Historical Society asked to have it left heated and that they would pay for the fuel. The Historical Society has given their word, but not paid yet as a bill has not been presented to them.

P. Graziano asked if the town employee's salaries would be listed in the Town Report. M. Shea stated that it was not planned, he was not aware that it had taken place in the past. He states that report had not been generated yet, but will try his best to have it before the Town Meeting.

B. Taylor asked what had prompted the Board to bring in the County Forester. J. Bruno replied that C. Stone was asked to come down and look at the properties to possibly generate some revenue for the town. Also, to preserve Crystal Meadows for hunting, hiking and recreation. J. Bruno asked if B. Taylor was interested in the Coon Hill property. R. Taylor replied "yes".

MANAGER'S UPDATE

1. Snow Storm: On Wednesday January 7, 2014 FEMA representatives, Vermont Dept. of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security received a tour of the debris damages from this recent storm. If the total damages within Rutland County meet a specific damages threshold, the incident would allow for disaster monies to come to town. At this time we are waiting for updates. A special thanks goes out to staff for working together in gathering the detailed information needed, and formulating a comprehensive report within a very small time frame. If this is declared a disaster, it could bring several tens of thousands of dollars to us.

A THANK YOU to M. Combs and P. Eagan for their help with reports for FEMA.

2. Police Building Addition: (see presentation)

3. 2016 Warrant: On the topic of Sale of Town Lands, and Sale of Town Properties. It is possible that the town may desire the opportunity to sell town lands and/or properties. I would recommend that these funds be placed into the "Capital Improvements of the Town" fund. #2- Police Station would cost the residents 0.19/day for only 1 year.

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Also, note an Article will be needed for the construction of Castleton's New Police Department

4. Constables Mileage Expense Line: Moving forward with clarification, the Constables have requested approx. \$1,200.00 for mileage reimbursement. The IRS will not allow for this item and their vehicle insurance as it is.

Action needing: Would the Board consider reclassifying the personal vehicle insurance previously reimbursed to the constables as a taxable fringe benefit? This house keeping process will allow the Constables to be paid for their requested mileage.

MOTION

J. Hale made a motion to: reclassify the personal vehicle insurance as a "taxable fringe benefit". Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Previous Selectboard Motion Clarified

On the Board moved that, " . There has been some discussion and minor confusion how to apply a vacation day to employees uniformly within the organization. For the clarification purposes would the Board consider a revised motion to include:

Action needing: ... to clarify the previous motion made on November 24, 2014 to read... "Move to offer each full-time (40hrs/wk) town employee two extra vacation days"

MOTION

T. Ettori made a motion to revise the motion made on Nov.24, 2014 to read " to offer each full-time (40 hrs/wk) town employees two extra vacation days". Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Fire Station:

Vermont Municipal Bond Bank Requisition for: \$226,057.07

Change Order #5101 for a Copular at \$7,515.17

MOTION

R. Combs made a motion to approve for payment \$226,057.07, Requisition #3, series #3 for construction of new Fire Station. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion carried.

J. Bruno withdrew his request for Change order #5101 for a Copula for the new Fire Station upon input from citizens and firemen.

7. Wastewater Project: A + E two (2) options for construction engineering (Option A or Option B) Option A is full time (\$42,500.00) Option B is part time (\$31,600).

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OTHER BUSINESS – NONE

SELECT BOARD CONCERNS

J. Hale stated that someone asked if they could get a report on the Debt. J. Hale also asked about the roof repair of the Fire Station.

J. Bruno replied that he was there this morning and that the over drip had been taken off and repaired. He continued by stating that he & Mark have checked out the site again and made suggestions.

R. Spaulding asked about the fire at the corners and the article in the Herald. J. Bruno stated that a "Thank You" to the Fire Dept. for their quick response and saving an old building at the four corners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - REAL ESTATE

MOTION

R. Combs made a motion to enter into Executive Session for Real Estate with the board and the manager at 9:50 pm. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION

R. Spaulding motioned to exit executive Session at 10:00 pm with no action taken. J. Hale seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION

R. Spaulding motioned to Adjourn at 10:25 pm. J. Hale seconded. All in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted

V. Waldron

Date of Approval