

**Town of Castleton
Select Board
Meeting of July 8, 2013
Castleton Town Offices**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas Ettori, Cristine Smith, John Hale, Wenger Rehlen, Ed O'Shea

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Charles Jacien; see attached list

Meeting called to order at 7:01 by Chairman T. Ettori with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for Approval- June 17 & 24, 2013, 2013

MOTION

C. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from June 17th and 24th, 2013. Seconded by E. O'Shea. All in favor. So voted.

Warrants for Approval

MOTION

C. Smith made a motion to approve warrant 0709 for \$17,980.48, 0630A for \$128,632.57; 00702R for \$25,000; 0703 for \$7,435.45; 0628 for \$6,731.73; 0703P for \$15,148.10 and 0627P for \$16,351.43. E. O'Shea seconded.

E. O'shea asked what MDT was and C. Jacien stated that was Mobile Data Terminal for the PD.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

All voted in favor. So Voted

Fire Department Information

This was postponed to later in the meeting due to the Fire Department had not returned from a fire call.

Town Plan Public Hearing - Change of Date

Due to a conflict with the first hearing date of July 22 and the Pre-Bond Vote Informational Meeting on July 22, the Board decided to change the dates to August 5 & 12 at 7:00 pm.

The Board also decided that they would have a Special Meeting on July 24th to set the Tax Rate for 2013-14.

COIN DROP REQUEST

The Castleton Village School 8th grade class requested a Coin Drop on August 7th and October 19 to raise funds for their 8th Grade trip to Washington DC.

The Board decided to table this item until next meeting.

T. Ettori stated that the Board should establish a policy of Coin Drops and would like info for the next meeting.

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Request for Town Green Usage - Castleton Lions Club & Castleton Women's Club

MOTION

C. Smith made a motion to approve the request for the use of the Town Green for the Lions Club Annual Auction on August 7 & 8. J. Hale seconded. All in favor. So voted.

MOTION

W. Rehlen made a motion to approve the request for the use of the Town Green for the Women's Club Colonial Day on August 17, 2013. J. Hale seconded. All in favor. So voted.

Citizen's Concerns

J. Rehlen asked if the Town had contacted VLCT or Regional Planning to get their opinion if the Town needed for a variance for 556 Main Street.

C. Jacien stated that yes we do need a variance and the application will be before the DRB on July 16th.

T. Ettori stated that the Board had agreed to go through the process of applying. He feels that we should go through the application process to the DRB

J. Hale stated that this property falls under the definition of Essential Services and we are not applying for a Variance but asking for a judgment from the DRB on the issue of Essential Services. He continued on stating if we are an Essential Service than we are exempt from permitting requirements.

C. Jacien continued by saying if we interpret the definition then all governmental agencies, i.e a state colleges and that is the opinion of the same source. The schools and the college would be exempt as an Essential Services and we cannot afford that. C. Jacien continued by stated that we are the only Town in the area with that language and why it was put into our ordinance back in the 80's we do not know.

J. Hale stated the Zoning Ordinance specifies that this type of applicant has got to be dealt with in a particular way and it is a fact of law.

T. Ettori again stated that the Board directed the Manager to apply for the permit and that was what we are doing.

W. Rehlen asked if we file two (2) permits, one for Variance and one for Essential Services interpretation. If the DRB denies the interpretation of the Town being an Essential Service then we apply for a Variance.

MOTION

W. Rehlen made a motion to appeal the decision of the Zoning Administrators. E. O'Shea seconded. All voted in favor. So voted

J. Bruno asked if anyone has looked up the definition of Essential Services, he does not feel that a building is essential and an addition is essential.

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P. Graziano state the last year the Board received a letter from John S. Liccardi that the Town needed to follow its own Zoning Rules.

J. Rehlen asked about a meeting of the landlords, etc. T. Ettori stated that the meeting is being put together and would include landlords, college, police and liquor control.

Town Manager's Update

Paving - Paving has begun and currently Pike Industries has paved Staso & Drake Road, and Indian Point. They will be back in Town in August

2012-13 Annual Audit - This will begin on September 10.

Storm Damage - The highway department was out from about 8 pm to midnight along with the Fire Department. Extensive washouts on Piontek & Birdseye Road along with a driveway washing out onto to E. Hubbardton Rd.

Sewer Commissioners need to meet again to work on the budget, set the sewer rate and work on the Ordinance. Also, there is a need to meet again to work on the meters and sewer line.

T. Ettori stated that they would meet on August 5 at 6:00 pm as Sewer Commissions and at 7:00 for the Public Hearing on the Town Plan.

C. Jacien stated that they would still have to meet again to continue working on the Sewer Ordinance.

C. Jacien asked the Board for direction on policy for a Bond Vote. In the past there has been a support or not to support bond. He asked for support or non-support.

J. Hale & W. Rehlen stated that they should not take a position.

Select Board Concerns

E. O'Shea asked for a list of all properties that are not connected to the municipal system that received an exemption. C. Jacien stated that Jim Leamy, Health Officer could provide one.

E. O'Shea also asked about composting at the Transfer Station in the near future. C. Jacien replied that we planning to get composters from RCSWD

J. Hale asked about the Vtel tower that a comment is due by July 18th. T. Ettori stated that he received information from E. Kohler of Downs, Rachlin & Martin that the diameter of the pole is 28 inches at the bottom and 19 inches at the top. He also thinks that we should wait for RRPC to comment.

J. Hale stated he was looking into a Community Development Grant for the expansion of commercial district between Rte. 4 and Drake Road instead of Rural Residential.

T. Ettori stated the Department of Taxes information showed that the non-residential tax amount will be

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\$1.6358, this is an increase of about .04 cents and the residential rate will be \$1.5861 which is an increase of about .11 cents over last year.

J. Bruno explained that our sales of property are much higher in Castleton than in Fair Haven.

T. Ettori stated that the agenda is the Select Board Agenda and that if a motion is going to be made by a board member then the Select Board should know about it before hand.

The board recessed the meeting for 5 minutes until the Fire Department arrives.

The meeting resumed at 8:15 pm

Fire Department Information (tabled from earlier in the meeting)

F. Immel pass out maps of the town with information showing that the response time by the department is much quicker from the Rte. 30 property than the Elm Street property.

R. Cook stated that response time is not a consideration that he has fire insurance and it sounds like that the fire department is basing their information of response time. F. Immel stated that the response time from the new location is approximately 2+ minutes faster.

R. Adreon responded that the first priority of a firefighter is to save lives not structure. If we can get to your house 2-3 minutes faster than that is a plus.

J. Rehlen asked why we are not considering 2 locations for the fire department. We have a population density in the village with the college. Why can't we keep the present location and maybe build a new smaller station at the corners.

H. Goyette stated that if they had 2 stations, then there would be maintenance and manpower on both. The ISO rating requires more equipment, not just a couple of small truck.

J. Rehlen asked if there were companies that would analyze the fire department and give an opinion. H. Goyette responded that he had not heard of one.

N. Cameron asked what is the percentage of calls breakdown. R. Combs responded that about 95% of calls the fire department turn left off Elm Street.

Adjourn

Motion

J. Hale made a motion to Adjourn at 8:40pm. W. Rehlen seconded, so voted.

Respectfully submitted

Jill Potter

Date of Approval _____