

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2015
TOWN OFFICES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Bruno, J. Leamy, R. Spaulding, R. Combs, J. Hale

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Shea, Town Manager

Meeting called to order by Chairmen, J. Bruno with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to approve the agenda with the change of time limit from 45 minutes to 15 minutes for VTrans Rte. 30 update. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. So voted.

INFORMATIONAL/UPDATE-VTRANS RTE 30 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

N. Boyle informed the Board that Bridge #93 was going to be replaced. There will be a 28 day closure. Traffic will be detoured with signage. The town will be compensated for use of the local roads during the closure. The rails will be lowered after the replacement is completed. There will be 21 feet clearance between the top the rail and bottom of the bridge. There will also be sheathing installed so if the clearance needs to be changed to 23 ft. per REMA standards it can happen without having to replace the bridge.

J. Bruno stated a concern of frost damage with dropping the two feet to the sewer main that runs to the sewer station.

S. Burbank replied that they would be exposing the concrete that encases the sewer pipe and place the rigid insulation on that and back fill that up to the ballast.

R. Fay made a comment regarding that if the tracks were lowered there would be flooding issues with high water.

P. Burnham, owner of a restaurant on Rte. 30 North, had a concern about "local detour" signage. This is his busy season with tourists and wants to make sure that the public knows his restaurant is open.

J. Bruno stated that the town will do as much as possible with signage to keep traffic coming thru the town to support the local businesses.

H. Goyette wanted to make sure that the Fire Dept. is kept informed on what sides of the tracks are open.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL—JUNE 8, 2015

MOTION: R. Spaulding made a motion to approve the minutes of June 8, 2015, with addition of “part time Police Officer” position. Seconded by R. Combs. All in favor. Motion Carried.

LISTERS - OMISSIONS & ERRORS

L. Witt introduced J. Wilson as the new lister. She also stated that the Abstract Grand List was filed on June 18, 2015. On June 19, 2015 the Abstract Grand List was changed as follows: Castleton Comm. Seniors and Bomoseen Grange #273. Their contracts expired and were not petitioned, changed from Special Exemption voted to contract to non-residential.

Comcast- Cable companies are treated as personal property state wide, therefore, changed municipal taxable value from \$853,893.00 to \$891,500.00. The report of personal property value mailed to the town was missed.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to comply with the Lister’s 2014 Grand List Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending. Seconded by J. Leamy. VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

M. Combs asked about the status of the Historical Society’s tax exemption.

L. Witt replied that she will be talking to C. Wright about this. This was brought to her attention after the fact, and she will continue to research this.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to not penalize the Castleton Community Seniors or the Grange for the paper oversight, and that we ask for the Omissions and Errors as proposed for Comcast. No Second received. Motion Fails.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to accept the Errors and Omissions for the Town of Castleton 2015 Abstract Grand List recorded Thursday June 18, 2015. Seconded by R. Combs.

J. Leamy asked if the Board had the authority to abate under Statue. M. Shea suggested that the Board of Abatement has the power to abate. J. Bruno asked that this be looked into more thoroughly.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

GREEN LANTERN GROUP/SOLAR PANEL INFORMATION- SAM CARLSON

S. Carlson stated that the company has several sites in the state of Vermont. They develop solar projects called Commercial Scale Net Metering, about 500 Kilowatt projects in about a 4 – 4 ½ acre arrays. They contacted B. Carpenter about his property that abuts the acting Town Hall. The initial plan was presented to the Board. They will be sending out the 45 day notice on 6/9/15 notifying everyone involved that the company is looking to develop the project. They could officially file a Certificate of Public Good with the Vermont Public Service Board after the

45 day notification. Then the town has 2 weeks to make their views known to the Vermont Public Service Board. H40- Reset bill - has allowed all town Select Boards to have automatic intervener status at the Public Service Board.

S. Carlson stated that the one thing missing from the plan was landscaping that would be done along the parking lot and the street.

J. Bruno asked what would be used for screening. S. Carlson stated they would use vegetation like Arborvitae's. S. Carlson stated that they are ground mounted arrays. The bottom is about 3 ft. off the ground and the top part of the array is about 8 feet off the ground. They are fixed.

J. Bruno made a strong suggestion regarding the screening and would like to see White pines or some other tall trees.

R. Spaulding stated that the field can be seen entirely from the road when all the leaves are off the trees.

RECREATION COMMISSION UPDATE- AMY CLAPP & MARTHA CLIFFORD

A. Clapp addressed the Board stating that she wanted to Thank the school administrations for all their help. She stated that all the programs run at cost. The price point is \$10.00/hr. She will continue to collaborate with the schools and the administrations.

J. Bruno also Thanked A. Clapp and M. Clifford for all the help they do.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

L. Melendi stated that he was told by R. Ryan to ask the Board what the budget was for the buses.

J. Bruno replied that the Board did not know what the cost was, the School Board sets that rate. He suggested that R. Ryan is the person who will know that answer, as the costs go thru the Union.

T. Diane asked if there could be a special speed limit on our dirt roads. J. Bruno stated that maybe new signage "dangerous curve" or something like that.

**PURCHASE ORDER FOR APPROVAL- CFR- BOUND TREE MEDICAL
HIGHWAY- VAILLANCOURT TREE SVC- ABELE TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT
FIRE DEPT-FIRE DISTR #3: WWTF-UST CORROSION COMPLIANCE SVS**

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve P.O.'s #026912, #026913, #026918 for \$2232.23 to Bound Tree Medical. Seconded by J. Hale. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to approve P.O. # 036780 for \$4,000.00 for Vaillancourt Tree Service. Seconded by R. Combs.

M. Shea informed the Board that this money will be reimbursed 100% by FEMA.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve P.O. # 036778 for \$ 5,600.00 to Abele Tractor & Equip. Seconded by J. Hale.

J. Bruno questioned paying for something before we used it. J. Leamy questioned if this went out to BID.

J. Bruno replied probably not, due to the fact that we have used this company in the past, but that situations like this will be worked on in the future.

M. Combs replied we are only approving the purchase order, the invoices will be presented for payment after the services are completed.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve P.O. # 037037 for \$4,174.36 to Castleton Fire District #3. Seconded by R. Spaulding.

M. Shea and J. Bruno met with Fire District #3 for an explanation of these costs. Most of it was due to lack of communication between our civil engineer and the Fire District for the Fire House project. We did receive some monies back from the civil engineer. The tap fee was waived. The Fire District will buy back the fire hydrant, as a used one.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Spaulding made a motion to approve P.O. # 037038 for \$2,894.44 to UST Corrosion Compliance Services, LLC. Seconded by R. Combs.

M. Shea explained this is tied to the sewer project.

J. Bruno explained that it's a bag of material hooked to fuel tanks which prevents corrosion. It was not on any diagrams and no one knew it was there and had to be fixed. There was also be another bill for a follow up survey in September for \$400.00, required by the State.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to enter into a 5 year contract with Virtual Towns & Schools. Seconded by R. Combs. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Ordinance on Public Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages/Facility Rental Agreement:

Enclosed is a copy of on Public Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance and the DRAFT Facility Rental Agreement that was presented to you prior. I would like you to consider this as it is related to protecting the town from liability for groups that request to use town lands for private use. I also included is draft Tenant User Liability Insurance (TULIP) information. If you consider each of these, you be able to see how this may be needed to protect the town. I am advocating that a tool like this be implemented as soon as possible. (perhaps minus the alcohol section in the rental agreement).

M. Shea will get more information on the TULIP plan and costs etc. and how do surrounding towns handle this and bring it back to the Board.

New P/T Police Officer: Please welcome Scott Alkinburgh is our new part time police officer.

New Castleton Website: During your last meeting we had Millard Rose from Virtual Towns & Schools come to go through several of the things this new tool can do to bring people together. A purpose of a municipal website is that it should be a 24/7 virtual town office. This tool does this and more, this is why I am recommending it.

Wastewater FY-2016 Budget: Let's take another look...

I am hoping to bring before you a budget an acceptable wastewater policy on your July 27th meeting. Please see me before this such that your concerns will be in the version for approval.

Budget status update: After review the budget, I am seeing, and there should be no surprise that there are lines that are short.

Managing Municipalities	\$ 29,000
Collect, Cust, Dist Fund	\$ 5,000
Legal Services	\$ 2,300
Government Equipment	\$ 3,600

Info will be presented at the July 20th meeting.

Correspondence: Enclosed you will see a letter from Sandra Jackson

John Berryhill Architect Contract: I have before me a final contract between the town for the Police Station.

J. Bruno instructed M. Shea to put the project out to BID.

Citizens Petition: I have before me the Town Clerk Certified citizens petition for your consideration.

A & E follow up. M. Shea did get a final amount for a 10 year sewer and WWTF planning study for \$21,500.00. He will have more information regarding Grants for this project.

OTHER BUSINESS – NONE

SELECT BOARD CONCERNS

J. Hale questioned the procedure for the Castleton Community Seniors and the Grange. M. Shea stated that he did receive a letter from Castleton Seniors, which was forwarded to the Town Clerk, looking for an abatement. This will now go to the Board of Abatement. The Grange will be sent a letter regarding this issue too.

R. Combs would like to formally put the former Fire House property on Elm Street on the market.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to see if the Elm Street property was viable for a town hall, including a meeting hall and engage J. Berryhill for up to \$1500.00. Seconded by R. Spaulding.

J. Leamy stated that we already asked J. Berryhill to research places for this purpose.

M. Shea stated this is being done with no monies spent. Board members are to give M. Shea ideas of possible locations for a new town hall.

J. Hale withdrew his motion and R. Spaulding withdrew his second.

R. Spaulding asked about the pot hole issue at the old fire house and the Lee Lodge.

M. Shea stated that the board approved splitting the cost of the repair with the Lee Lodge. After discussion with Lee Lodge members and receiving an estimate (free) of about \$10,000.00. It is worth it to have it done right, paved and have it drain properly.

J. Bruno questioned the nail placement at Creek Rd. M. Shea replied the nails were placed about 3 weeks ago.

J. Bruno asked when are they coming back? We are willing to supply them with someone to hold the stick. M. Shea stated that they recommend after a major storm or winter or next spring.

J. Bruno stated the DI was plugged which caused the water to flow over the road. Since it has been unplugged there has been no problem

MOTION: R. Combs make a motion to accept the letter of resignation from K. Miller effective, 6/19/15. Seconded by R.Spaulding.

J. Bruno and R. Combs would like to THANK K. Miller for her years of service.

VOTE: All in favor. Motion Carried.

WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve warrants # 0622 for \$1,711,983.11, #0622R for \$149,101.97, #0618 for \$7,377.95, #0611 for \$7,581.25, # 0618P for \$13,772.15, \$0611P for \$12,673.63. Seconded by J. Hale. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to approve warrants # 0619P for \$548.73 and #0612P FOR \$548.73. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve Requisition #7 in the amount of \$14,397.59 to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to enter into Executive Session for Real Estate and Personnel, including the Town Manager at 9:45 pm. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Leamy made a motion to exit Executive Session at 10:00 pm. R. Spaulding seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to have the Town Manager write a letter to the Addison Rutland Supervisory Union offering to purchase the Village School for \$1.00 per the voters. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Leamy motioned to adjourn at 10:05 pm. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully

V. Waldron

Date of Approval