

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
SPECIAL SELECT BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 25, 2015
CASTLETON SENIOR COMMUNITY**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Shea, Town Manager, see attached

Meeting called to order at 7:50 by Chairman, J. Bruno.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – MAY 11 & MAY 18, 2015

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2015. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. Motion carried.

PURCHASE ORDER FOR APPROVAL

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve P.O. #035608 for \$7,500.00 to VFIS for CFR Insurance benefits. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: J. Leamy made a motion to approve P.O. 036885 for \$3,600.00 for salt shed lease from 6/1/15 to 5/31/16. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve P.O. 036888 for \$9,250.00 to RRPC. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

LISTERS-PVR EXTENSION REQUEST

L. Witt informed the Board that their advisor from Property Valuation and Review suggested they ask for a 30 day extension. This is a town wide appraisal and it is not known how many grievances will be filed.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to accept the recommendation to apply for a 30 day extension. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

2015-2016 TRANSFER STATION FEE DISCUSSION

M. Shea stated that he would like the Transfer Station to become self-supportive. There is currently a \$40,000.00 deficit.

Some discussion included:

- Attaining a scale and having bags weighed individually at drop off
- Having citizens drive over the big scale before and then after disposing of bags
- Increasing cost of bags
- Increasing cost of permits
- Increasing cost of demolition and solid products

- The traffic flow was discussed
- The setup of the transfer station was discussed
- Possibly giving 10 stickers free with purchase of permit at new price

M. Shea was asked to come to develop a plan with increasing demolition and solid costs to 7.5 cents per pound. Also with an increase to stickers to \$2.50 a bag and a permit price of \$30.00/year.

J. Bruno noted that if the sticker price was increased to \$2.50 new stickers would not have to be purchased.

MOTION: J. Hale motioned to raise the price of demo and trash by 2 cents per pound. R. Spaulding seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

H. Waldron stated he felt the citizens would probably not be happy with a \$1.00 a bag increase, and that maybe a \$10.00 increase in the permit fee would be reasonable.

T. Kearns asked the Board how building the new Police Station was “buying down the taxes” with the money from the school buses.

J. Bruno explained that building a new Police Station would increase the tax rate for the citizens, but using that money is not increasing the tax rate, therefore, buying the tax rate down for the people.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Municipal Planning Grant Authorization: This process is needed to complete the administration and funding for Castleton's 2014 Planning Grant.

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to authorize the Town Manager as the Grant Administrator of the 2014 Planning Grant. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Tax Title Sale: Pursuant to 32 VSA Section 5252 and your 7/28/14 Select Board vote. Please see the list of eight (8) properties and \$32,889.68.

MOTION: R. Spaulding made a motion to re-approve the Tax Sale List as provided. Seconded by R. Combs. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Police Station Project: The 5/12/15 Town Meeting vote authorizes that this project begin. I would like a Boards vote to get this going.

J. Leamy commented on how this could be done, as we have a 30 day waiting period. There is a petition to re-vote. We should wait for time limits to expire.

J. Hale stated that he was concerned about the 2nd petition and contacted VLCT. The controlling statute reads “a question voted on shall not be presented for reconsideration or rescission at more than one subsequent meeting within the succeeding 12 months except with the approval of the legislative body”.

Page 3 – SPECIAL SELECT BD MTG – 5/25/15

R. Combs stated he understands that if the petition is presented to the Town Clerk, and then conveyed to the Town Manager, the Board does not have to accept it or put it on the agenda, due to the 12 month time line.

J. Leamy stated that the Board is not saying they would not accept a petition if it was presented, it is just noted that they do not have to accept if by law.

MOTION: J. Hale made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to engage Architectural Services, permits, RFP for construction, and other items to complete construction of the Police Station. Seconded by R. Spaulding. **VOTE:** J. Hale, J. Bruno, R. Combs—YES; J. Leamy, R. Spaulding--NO. Motion Carries.

Fire Station Bond Update: This is provided in your packet.

J. Bruno questioned the \$39,024.11 balance. M. Shea explained that \$14,021.89 is what is left from the Bond, not counting CERT money.

R. Combs explained that the \$25,002.22 is a reserve account from 2 years ago.

Creek Road: Within your packet you received an email correspondence from Blair J. Enman, PE from Enman Kesselring consulting engineers. It is recommended that borings be done to realize a solution to what has occurred. I will add that if any grant monies or aid will be sought in looking for a permanent solution, this information will be required to consider seeking these funds.

Creek Road – J. Bruno suggested that a weight limit be imposed on the road, and also put the nails in for about \$1,000.00- \$1,500.00.00 to follow the movement of the road.

M. Shea told J. Bruno that the motion to proceed with the nails was made at the last meeting and would be happening shortly. He continued that there are barrels up to keep cars off the edge of the shoulder.

J. Bruno suggested that the barrels be moved closer to the road.

OTHER BUSINESS – NONE

SELECT BOARD COMMENTS- NONE

WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to approve warrants # 0525R for \$ 54,548.21, (excluding Millbrook & N-B-F Architects PC) # 0525 for \$ 53,660.85, # 0521 for \$ 6,899.23, and # 0514 for \$ 6,723.26, # 0521P for \$ 12,488.74, and #0514P for \$ 15,919.03. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

MOTION: R. Spaulding made a motion to approve warrants # 0522P for \$ 548.73 and # 0513P for \$ 548.73. Seconded by J. Leamy. All in favor. R. Combs – abstained. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

L. Witt informed that Board that K. Miller has placed her in charge of the Lister Dept. and that the

assessment changes are 11% around the Lake, and 9% town wide and other than lake properties went up 7%.

J. Hale asked W. Krajewski to complete a project to look at how the assessment was by town, by lake and by neighborhood to figure out where the changes were.

L. Witt stated that there is about \$7,800.00 left over in the Lister Budget and she asked the Board for an increase in her pay to \$14.00/hour and she would like it retroactive to March 3, 2015. She also asked for an increase to her pay as of July 1, 2015 to \$15.00 for her part time assistant treasurer position.

L. Witt also stated that she felt that she really needed help during the next few weeks with the end of the reassessment project. She had talked to Z. Ransom and he was willing to help out after he had completed his hours with M. Combs.

M. Combs stated this was the first she had heard about this possible situation. Z. Ransom had been training since the end of March with payroll and it is a very intensive training.

M. Shea stated that this decision should be discussed between M. Combs and Z. Ransom.

J. Bruno also suggested that L. Witt contact VLCT to ask for help with assessment as they have made the offer before.

L. Witt also informed the Board that the contracts for Castleton Community Seniors and Bomoseen Grange have expired for their tax breaks. They did not file a petition for this.

M. Shea did not notice the expiration and states that it is up to the organization to file a petition.

J. Leamy asked if anyone had notified them of the expiration date.

J. Bruno stated that the discussion regarding L. Witt's pay will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

ADJOURN

MOTION: R. Combs made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. Seconded by R. Spaulding. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Waldron

Date of Approval