

TOWN OF CASTLETON
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Minutes of October 22, 2018
TOWN OFFICE

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Bruno, R. Combs, J. Leamy, Z. Holzworth

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached listing

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by J. Bruno at 7:00pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: R Combs made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Executive Session added for Personnel and Real Estate added at the end. All in favor. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 8, 2018

MOTION: J Bruno made a motion to approve the minutes for October 8, 2018 as written. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Transfer Station Containers:

J. Bruno asked Town Manager for any recommendation as quotes were competitive. Manager recommends Wastequip, cost is lowest, and we know the quality of the product & service. R Combs makes a motion to authorize Town Manager to purchase 40 yard containers from Wastequip. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Development Review Board Appointment

J. Bruno asks if any one would like to make a motion regarding the letters of interest for appointment to the Development Review Board. R Combs would like to make a motion but first wants to confirm the length of term. J. Bruno states that the term is 3 years from the appointment date. R Combs makes a motion to appoint Patrick Keller for a three year term to the Development Review Board. All in favor. Motion Carried.

R Combs makes a second motion to appoint Bruce Longtin to the Development Review Board.

Discussion: Z Holzworth questions policy of when public servants resign they are not to be reevaluated for re-entry into other positions of service . J Bruno states that is not the policy and others have been

allowed to return in the past. J Leamey has concerns based on the comments that were made by B Longtin when he resigned. R Combs amends his motion for a 1-year term. Motion is approved for a 1-year term.

Constable Services and Fees: rate

Constables are looking for a rate of 19\$ per hour. Previous rate was \$18.62. J Bruno comments that Constables are elected officials, and the Select Board sets their budget. It is up to the Constables to manage their budget. J Bruno is not opposed to the increase. R Combs states that the constables were given a 2% raise that same as all the other part time town employees and/or elected officials. Full time employees were given a 3% raise because of the additional cost of health insurance. The 19\$ per hour would result in a 4% raise for the Constables and he questions the fairness. J Bruno states that their budget is not increasing, and if they give themselves this raise they still have only the rest of the budget to manage. J Leamy expresses concern that the other part time town employees were only given a 2% raise. J Leamy references the minutes where the board voted unanimously on the 2% & 3% raise across the board that it would be necessary to rescind or amend the motion to include the exception of the Constables. He also expresses concern that if departments can pay themselves as desired out of their budget, it is possible a department would set a high rate of pay and the budget would run out. J Leamy emphasizes a position of fairness and questions the members who have been approached individually about this issue. J Bruno expresses concern that if the Constables are unhappy what is to stop them from resigning. J Leamy states that any employee can resign and that is their choice.

R Combs questions whether there is past precedent for assigning rates of pay without undoing past decisions. In the past there were employees who received a pay change in mid-year? J Bruno states that it was the Town Clerk, Recording Secretary & Zoning Administrator. R Combs states then that there is precedent. J Bruno states he does not understand why the board seems reluctant to give the Constables a 38-cent raise. J Leamy argues that the bottom line is that it is 4%. R Combs makes a motion to adjust the pay rate to 19\$ per hour. All those in favor 2. Opposed 2. Motion fails.

Citizen's Comments

Joe Menez E Crystal Haven has an issue with the dust off 173. Dust is intolerable in the summer with all the traffic and in the Winter the road is slick. Joe shows the board his dirty air filter from his home and comments that his windows are covered with dirt. He cannot have his grandchild over due to health concerns about the dust. Z Holzworth question what is used. The Town uses Chloride.

M Jones will speak with Paul Eagan and try to find a way to control the dust. R Combs clarifies that most of the dust is coming from the Town Road. Joe Menez would like to make sure this moves forward. J Bruno encourages him to keep coming to meetings. Town will investigate solution.

Manager's Update**Projects Update:**

Float Bridge Project: Jethro has one truck running loads. He expressed a concern that the materials estimated for the south side may be inadequate. It has taken about 380 cubic yards so far, but the deepest areas are complete, so maybe it will work out, but not sure at this point. He has received some positive comments about cleaning up the roadway at the end of each day. He had one complaint from a resident about having to wait a couple of minutes while the dump truck unloaded on the causeway. Provided a copy of Patrick Griffin's field report along with an email exchange. This project will run over into the spring. Benefit is that we will see how things settle on the south side in the spring.

J Bruno asks about the underestimate of materials. Who is going to absorb the overage on material? M Jones states that it was built into the contract. J Bruno is concerned this is the second time Enman Engineering has made a poor judgement. Mentions they must have Error and Omissions insurance and maybe the Town should pursue this option if necessary.

Transfer Station -Water quality project is complete. Calling on Dan Gray to determine why the breakers are tripping and remove the old extension cord buried under the parking lot. Plans to install wire from the operations building across to the storage sheds above ground using poles that we have in the pit. The Operator's position was advertised and has open for 7 days. We have one internal candidate. Several positions to be advertised internally. Each for 7 days by union contract. J Bruno proposes a better plan for flow at transfer station. Agreed.

Sewer Project: Completion date pushed to 23rd and Belden's needs to push into November. Will be an additional 3-4 weeks to wrap up. Manholes on northwest corner of the intersection will be backfilled. There was an issue this week when it was discovered there was another sewer line coming across the intersection from another manhole over by the Token Glass shop. Belden was able to tie the old line into a new line, cement it, and get it into the new manhole at the northwest corner of the intersection. Next week (week of 22nd they will install a drainage culvert and electrical conduit under Route 4A and prepare the road for paving. They still need complete some tie-in south on Route 30 and seed some areas. The seeding in front of Hubbardton Forge came in nicely and may be ready to mow.

Zoning & Assessor- Interviews were conducted to hire a clerk that will work for both the ZA and Assessor. Four people were interviewed, by Jonas and Mary Jo. Their recommendation is to hire Darcy Van Noordt. Darcy will be kept under 29.5 so she will not fall into full time status but it is important to keep the position at 20 hours for reposting if needed in the future.

Grants and Aid- Susan Schreibman to put together a packet under the VTRANS Transportation Alternative Program for Staso Road and the Transfer Station. This is for a scoping study to help determine the whether the runoff from the sand and salt stores on Staso Road are getting into the

Pond Hill Stream and determine the best type of intervention. The goal is to seek funding next year to build a new sand and salt shed in a location that does not have any impact on water quality. M Jones states that the cost is around 200,000 for a new salt/sand shed based on other towns in the area that have recently purchased.

P Eagan, Susan, and M Jones are working with Rutland Regional Planning Commission, and others to find a way to finance and address the flooding on Seminary Street. Some of them met on Wednesday at Seminary Street for a site review and have developed some ideas on how to approach the problem, and what funding sources would be most applicable to pursue.

Better Back Roads Grant submitted. Project approved on Sugarwood. Staying on plan for infrastructure improvements.

Community Risk Reduction- In collaboration with the American Red Cross, First Alert, Campus Firewatch aid the Michael H. Minger Foundation, Castleton will participate in a Fire Safety Community Service Project. Beginning 11/1/2018, members of the Castleton Fire Department will conduct home fire safety visits to residents who sign up to have a home fire safety survey done at their home. This will help families with education and training on fire prevention and safety, as well as install smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in homes. Service cannot be performed in rental properties or commercial properties, which fall under the jurisdiction of the Vermont Division of Fire Safety. This is a town- wide project with an intent to reduce the risk of fire related injuries or death in our community. Three of every five home fire deaths result from fires in homes without smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms according to the NFPA. In fires where a smoke alarm was present, but did not operate, half of the alarms had missing or disconnected batteries. This is an opportunity to give back to a community that has always supported their firefighters and fire department. If a fire department can proactively get out there and educate and train residents to provide intervention and mitigate the possibility of a fire ever occurring, it is the best (and least expensive) thing a fire department can do for its residents when it comes to homefires.

J Bruno asks about the Generator Bid. We are waiting for a third bid. The budgeted amount is \$22,000. We will re post and if needed and continue to make this a priority.

Select Board Comments

None

Warrants for approval

Motion: R Combs makes a motion to approve warrants: 1022 \$101,999.17 1018 \$5,810.63 1011
\$28,436.73 1018P \$15,902.80 1011P \$14,695.44

All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion: Z Holzworth makes a motion to approve the following warrants:

1017P \$548.19 1012P \$548.19

All in favor. Motion Carried.

(signing of warrants)

Motion: J Bruno makes a motion to go into Executive Session for Real Estate. Motion carried.

Motion: At 8:18 PM J Bruno makes a motion to come out of executive session with no action taken.

Motion: J Bruno makes a motion to go back into executive session at 8:20 PM for personnel.

Motion: Motion to come out of executive session at 8:25pm with no action taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURN: 8:26 PM