

**TOWN OF CASTLETON**  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes of October 8, 2018**  
**TOWN OFFICE**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** See attached listing

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Z. Holzworth made a motion to approve the agenda as written. R. Spaulding seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 24, 2018**

**MOTION:** J. Leamy made a motion to approve the minutes for September 24, 2018 as written. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**POLICE UPDATE: CHIEF PETER MANTELLO**

P. Mantello stated the numbers for September were normal with no big jumps in numbers from August. With lake traffic down, the department will be focusing traffic patrol more on South St. and North Rd., rather than Route 30. He stated there have been more calls in general this year with 2200 calls so far compared to 1800 last year. He stated Belden advised the sewer line project will go until the end of October and Wilks will be paving in November. He stated the college has had normal activity to be expected. There will be a community night at FHUHS on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm regarding ALICE trainings and keeping the lines of communication open between parents and community and the school board. R. Spaulding asked if the department handled the CU football games. P. Mantello stated one officer usually spends 4-5 hours per home football game but for the Homecoming game October 20<sup>th</sup> there would be two officers because of the increased traffic from alumni.

**NET METERING: GREEN LANTERN GROUP UPDATE FROM SAM CARLSON**

S. Carlson advised there is a snag in the Castleton array construction. Sandlot Solar has an array in the GMP Solar Connection queue ahead of the Castleton array. The Castleton array cannot be done until

the Sandlot Solar array is built in Hubbardton. Sandlot Solar received their Certificate of Public Good in June and that is good for one year. The issue is that the Hubbardton array is 500kw and after GMP's feasibility study, they found there need to be upgrades to four substations financed by Sandlot Solar. Sandlot Solar has advised they will not be starting the project until spring, which will push the Castleton array completion back until August or September. He offered the alternative of the Town of Castleton buying net metering credits from the South Royalton array which would allow for credits to start being purchased in February 2019, rather than September 2019 which would save the town roughly \$3000. Everything else in the agreement would be the same. He wanted to ensure the Board understood that although it would be nice to say the town is getting solar credits from within, once the arrays are hooked into the grid, they are all the same credits and the town would not actually be getting the power that was being generated in Castleton. S. Carlson also advised it may be wise for the Board to wait until the WWTF UV light upgrade to see how that affects the energy being used which may result in the Town needing to purchase less credits. J. Bruno asked why Sandlot Solar was ahead of Castleton if they only received their CPG in June and Castleton has had theirs since spring. S. Carlson stated that Sandlot applied to be in GMP's Solar Connection queue before Green Lantern and advised that Green Lantern obtained the Certificate of Public Good very quickly because the Town labeled the area for the installation a preferred area for solar. J. Bruno asked if the delay would cause a lapse in the Certificate of Public good Green Lantern had obtained for the Castleton array. S. Carlson stated an extension would need to be filed which would add an additional six months and that it should be no problem to receive as the delay was out of Green Lantern's control. J. Leamy asked if the percentage in the new agreement would still be 12%. S. Carlson advised it was 12.5% and that it would still be the same in the new agreement. J. Bruno wanted clarification that this project would not be costing the town any money. S. Carlson clarified that it would be saving the town money because although they are purchasing the net metering credits, it is at a discount compared to regular electricity through GMP. R. Spaulding asked if the credits were able to rollover or if they expire. S. Carlson advised they expire after one year which is why it's important to ensure the Town is not purchasing more credits than it can use. R. Combs asked if GMP can state it will accept no more solar into the grid. S. Carlson stated that because it is already approved, GMP has to accept it now. GMP can say that no more can be accepted until the substations are upgraded with the Sandlot project. If Sandlot were to drop out, they would fall out of the queue and the Castleton project could move ahead since the feasibility study did not require upgrades for the project because it is only 150kw.

#### **TIM GILBERT: QUARTERLY UPDATE ON RUTLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE**

T. Gilbert stated the facility on Gleason Rd. has had some upgrades, including a new scale. He stated the District purchased a pickup truck to do their own plowing this winter as it has been costing around \$16,000 per winter to have it plowed by a third party. He stated the facility has seen a boost in activity due to the demolition of the Stewarts and McDonalds in Rutland. He stated he received clarification from the Agency of Natural Resources regarding per capita production of trash as requested by the Board. The ANR stated the 3.29 should be subtracted from the amount instead of added like the Board's previous numbers. He stated the numbers are calculated based on district instead of town, so there is no way to gather town specific numbers. The state only requires them to collect district numbers. R. Spaulding stated that Carl Mitchell used to look at his customer list and break the numbers down by town so he doesn't see why those numbers wouldn't be available. T. Gilbert stated he spoke

with C. Mitchell and he advised he only tracks the numbers by district as required by the state. R. Spaulding stated that there was \$699,000 in surcharges last year and \$746,000 in anticipated charges this year and where that increase is coming from. T. Gilbert stated he wasn't sure how those numbers were calculated, but speculated that it is done like any other budget and estimations are used based on the numbers coming in, such as the boost with the Stewarts and McDonald's demolitions and other economic improvements in the district. R. Spaulding asked if RCSWD discussed dissolving the district at the last Board meeting. T. Gilbert advised he did ask and they stated the Town could vote to leave the District and would not be bonded by debt. If the Town were to leave, it would forfeit the \$3 million in assets. The Town would not be eligible to take its equity if it were to leave. R. Spaulding stated he would to see getting the breakdown of the Town's numbers pursued.

#### **GENERATOR BID**

Both bids submitted were above budget. One was \$26,000 and the other \$32,000. There is currently \$23,000 budgeted. Kerry Fowler declined to bid. The two current bids are from Brookline and Rob Stubbins. M. Jones stated it would be ideal to have the generator in place for winter. J. Bruno stated he would like to see a third bid.

#### **DELINQUENT TAX POLICY**

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to accept the Tax Sale Policy as written. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

None.

#### **MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Float Bridge Project: The preconstruction meeting was held Oct. 2. Taconic Excavating, Enman & Kesselring, the Highway Dept, and M. Jones were present. Taconic advised they are still waiting for the fabric to be delivered which is coming pre-sewn. It was agreed that the road would not be left torn up for winter. J. Bruno stated it should be completed in the spring if it can't be finished before winter. He asked if the guardrails were being taken out. M. Jones advised they are being taken out in pieces where the work is actually going on and being replaced with cement barriers when work is not happening.

Transfer Station: The concrete pad was completed. B. Ward is fabricating metal rails for the bins to ensure public safety. Materials for the water quality project were delivered Thursday and that work will begin the week of 10/8.

Sewer Project: Both lanes of traffic should be open to the public the week of 10/8. No disruption to water is expected. The project should be complete by end of October.

Crystal Beach: The beach has been closed up for winter. Bids are being sought to repair the chain link fence that was damaged by a car next to Sucker Brook. They are also seeking new fence along Route 30 from Sucker Brook and a sliding fence at the north entrance to stop people from walking in from Route 30 without paying.

#### **SELECT BOARD COMMENTS**

R. Spaulding asked about the letter regarding a dog complaint on Blissville Rd. He stated in the letter it states there have been three complaints and no Board members have ever responded. However, this is the first time R. Spaulding has ever seen this complaint. J. Bruno stated it was in a packet a few meetings ago. M. Jones stated C. Forrest is currently responding to the complaint.

#### **PURCHASE ORDERS FOR APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to approve Purchase Order #041990 to Tolin & Sons Poured Foundations for the concrete pad at the Transfer Station for \$4,548.00. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to approve Purchase Order #042045 to Nortrax Power Plan for a Wainroy Swinger wrist for the excavator for \$3,150.00. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to approve Purchase Order #042214 to Camp Precast Concrete for a 1000-gallon light duty grease and oil separator for \$2,250.00. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

#### **WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to approve Warrants #1009R for \$650.00; #1009 for \$219,625.35; #1004 for \$17,870.32; #0928 for \$1,623,834.89; #1004P for \$14,964.69; and #0927P for \$17,628.84. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Z. Holzworth made a motion to approve Warrants #1003P for \$548.19 and #0926P for \$548.19. J. Leamy seconded. All in favor. R. Combs abstained. Motion Carried.

Regarding the net metering, M. Jones stated the Town was going to need to purchase credits from more than one array anyway and was going to purchase credits from Royalton before, so this would reverse the original plan and buy all of Royalton's credits and purchase more from the Castleton array once in place.

M. Jones stated he received a call from the Fair Haven Town Manager regarding possible collaboration regarding WWTF upgrades. FH Town Manager inquired about Castleton taking on Fair Haven's sewage,

however details needed to be received before he was going to formally present it to the Board. It was unknown if the intention was for a permanent or temporary basis.

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to authorize M. Jones to sign the new net metering agreement between the Town and Green Lantern Solar. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Z. Holzworth made a motion to enter into Executive Session for Personnel 1 VSA Section 313 to include the Board and Town Manager. R. Combs seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Z. Holzworth made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:45pm with no action taken. R. Combs seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Z. Holzworth made a motion to enter into Executive session for Labor Relations 1 VSA Section 313 at 8:46pm. R. Combs seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** R. Combs made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:52pm with no action taken. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

#### **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** J. Leamy made a motion to adjourn at 8:53pm. Z. Holzworth seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.