

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00pm
Castleton Town Hall
263 VT – 30
Bomoseen, VT 05732**

PRESENT: Jim Leamy, Chair; Richard Combs, Vice Chair; Zack Holzworth, Secretary; Robert Spaulding, Member; Joseph Mark, Select Board Parliamentarian; Michael Jones, Town Manager; Eliza LeBrun, Recording Secretary; Kathryn Paynter, Peg TV; Nancy Mark; Laura Jakubowski; Tom Kearns

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair, Mr. Leamy at 7:00 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Leamy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Holzworth made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Spaulding seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: 1/27/20

Mr. Combs made a motion to approve the Select Board minutes of 1/27/20. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion.

The following corrections were noted in the minutes of 1/27/2020:

- Page 2, first sentence, add “to” after Town Manager and before provide.
- Page 2, 9th paragraph, 3rd sentence ends in “theses” remove the extra s.

All were in favor and the motion passed.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no citizens comments.

TREE WARDEN QUOTES FOR REMOVAL OF DEAD TREES

Mr. Jones provided the Select Board with copies of 2 quotes received for the removal of dead trees within the Town of Castleton. A third company declined to bid. Mr. Jones recommended the Select Board approve the quote from Trees, Inc as the low bidder. Mr. Jones noted that service provided by this company has been good in the past.

Mr. Mark made a motion to approve the quote for the removal of dead trees from Trees Incorporated in an amount not to exceed \$2,215.00. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPLICATION TO THE USDA COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF THE CASTLETON UNIVERSITY CHILDCARE CENTER. MATTHEW MORIARTY

Mrs. Jakubowski attended the Select Board meeting in Mr. Moriarty's place this evening. Mrs. Jakubowski explained to the Select Board that Castleton University is applying for a grant through the USDA Community Facilities Program for equipment such as cribs and playpens to be used in the new childcare center. As part of the application process, the University was required to hold a Public Hearing. Inclusion on the Select Board agenda satisfied this requirement. The new center will be for children from birth to age 4. A director has been hired and the University is hopeful that the center will open in the fall. The center will be open to children throughout Rutland County. Costs have not yet been determined.

CASTLETON FREE LIBRARY: PLANNING GRANT, VERMONT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR HANDICAP ACCESS.

Mrs. Mark shared with the Select Board that the Castleton Free Library anticipates applying for a grant to assist with gathering early information for planning and designing a handicap access to the first floor. This grant would be used to pay for an architect for designs. If awarded, the grant would need to go through the Town then to the Library. There is currently a steering committee from the Friends of the Library that will assist with the process.

Mrs. Mark presented Mr. Jones with copies of sample MOU's for review.

LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL: SECOND CLASS LICENSE: HARBOR VIEW & JIFFY MART

Mr. Combs made a motion to approve the application for a Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages for McBell LLC d.b.a. Harbor View General Store located at 33 Creek Road, Hydeville, VT. Mr. Mark seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Combs made a motion to approve the application for a Second Class License to Sell Malt and Vinous Beverages for Global Montello Group, Corp. d.b.a. Jiffy Mart #454 located at 111 Vermont Route 30, Castleton, VT. Mr. Spaulding seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF CASTLETON AND SLATE VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Jones presented the updated contract between the Town of Castleton Police Department and the Slate Valley Union School District for a School Resource Officer. This contract is the same as the previous year except for the payment amount. At the end of last year there was approximately \$12,000 left over from the initial lump sum payment for hours the Castleton Police Department did not end up working. The school district indicated that they did not want the money back. At this time, Mr. Jones is looking for clarification on what the overage can be used for.

Mr. Combs made a motion to approve the Law Enforcement Contract between the Town of Castleton and the Slate Valley Union School District for the lump sum payment of \$75,296 for the period covering August 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Concerns were raised over why the School District does not want this money back. Mr. Jones will reach out to the School District again.

NET METERING AGREEMENT

Mr. Jones presented a Group Net Metering Agreement provided by Green Lantern Development, LLC for the Town of Castleton to enter into an agreement for net metering credits attributable to electricity generated by a system that will be installed by Green Lantern Development, no later than July 31, 2020, and allocated to the Town's meters (in accordance with the Allocation Instructions.)

Mr. Jones explained that there is no risk to the Town of Castleton. Mr. Jones also shared emailed information from Sam Carlson of Green Lantern that explain that Green Lantern has calculated that the Town has a total of \$35,203 of electricity expenditures eligible for additional solar net metering. Mr. Carlson also noted in his email that the total additional annual projected savings for the Town would be \$2,939 per year, bringing the total annual electricity savings for the Town of Castleton to \$8,855.

Mr. Mark made a motion to authorize approval of the Group Net Metering Agreement between Green Lantern Development, LLC and the Town of Castleton, VT as presented. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion.

It was clarified that by signing the agreement now, the Town of Castleton would lock in at the current rate for credits. It was also noted that handwritten corrections should be made in the following locations of the agreement and be initialed by the Town Manager;

1. Exhibit B – change NINETY five percent to only NINETY percent to match the number indicated in parenthesis.
2. In Section 14 – add the word “days” after 30.

Clarification was given that an exclusivity clause was redundant as the Town receives all net meter credits from Green Lantern Development.

All were in favor of the motion with the addition of the handwritten changes, the motion passed.

Mr. Combs made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Net Metering Agreement on behalf of the Town of Castleton. Mr. Spaulding seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Mark asked Mr. Jones to thank Mr. Carlson for his breakdowns as they were very helpful.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Mr. Jones provided his Town Manager's Report to the Select Board for discussion.

Mr. Mark asked for clarification regarding Mr. Jones' comments about the Transfer Station and Food Composting. Specifically, Mr. Mark asked if there would be an informational campaign for the public.

Mr. Jones noted that he will be meeting with a representative from Rutland County Solid Waste and a representative from Castleton University to discuss this further, but at this time the plan is to circulate information at Town Meeting as well as online through social media. Mr. Jones will be contacting the DEC for more information.

Mr. Jones also noted that he has spoken to Kevin Mulholland and Mr. Mulholland has agreed to sign the agreement so that the sidewalk can move ahead. Now the Town will need to apply for the Bike and

Pedestrian grant, The Town has already set aside the required matching funds but Select Board approval is needed to begin working with VTRANS to begin the application process.

Mr. Combs made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to move forward in preparing the Bike and Pedestrian grant application. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Jones also mentioned that he would like to include PFAS testing in the conversations about run-off from at the Transfer Station.

SELECT BOARD COMMENTS & Concerns

Mr. Spaulding had several concerns that he shared with the Select Board.

1. Mr. Spaulding would like the dollar figure and formula used to determine the charge to Hubbardton for the Transfer Station. As well as when this formula was created and by which Select Board.
2. Mr. Spaulding would like to know why there is heavy equipment on the rail trail. Mr. Jones answered that the State is replacing the surface of the entire trail from Rupert to beyond Castleton.
3. Mr. Spaulding would like to know who monitors smoke and CO2 detectors at rental properties. Mr. Jones explained that the Vermont Division of Fire Safety is responsible for rental properties, but they are behind on reviews. If there is a complaint filed or a property is sold, then the property would be reviewed immediately. The Town can assist with replacement of some smoke and CO2 detectors for residential homeowners.
4. Mr. Spaulding asked if the Town would consider Smoke Detector Training during Fire Safety Week. The Fire Department does offer this if the State Trailer is available.
5. Mr. Spaulding would like an explanation of the all types of liquor licenses in the State of Vermont from the Police Chief.
6. Mr. Spaulding would like a copy of the Police Department roster and a list of hire dates. Mr. Jones shared that one of the new hires in the Police Department dropped out of the academy on the first day.
7. Mr. Spaulding asked about finding out the cost of strobe crosswalk lights he has observed at other colleges. Mr. Jones has looked into these as they are the industry standard. Mr. Jones noted that these are very expensive, but he will be providing that information to the Select Board.

Mr. Leamy proposed that there be a Public Hearing to discuss SWAC and RCSWD on February 24, 2020 beginning at 6:30pm and ending at 7pm prior to the start of the regularly scheduled Select Board meeting. It was noted that the Sewer Commission had already been contacted and they were comfortable rescheduling their meeting. Mr. Combs noted that he would not be present for this meeting. All the Board members agreed to the Public Hearing.

Mr. Jones shared that he had found that it would only cost \$300 to fix replace the light switches in the Town Offices that seem to be on during the nights.

WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL

Mr. Holzworth made a motion to approve check warrant #0210 in the amount of \$78,186.39, check warrant #0206 in the amount of \$23,309.08, check warrant #0131 in the amount of \$6,030.94, check

warrant #0206P in the amount of \$15,956.42 and check warrant #0130P in the amount of \$15,459.38. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Mr. Holzworth made a motion to approve check warrant #0207P in the amount of \$678.15 and check warrant #0131P in the amount of \$678.15. Mr. Mark seconded the motion. Mr. Combs recused himself from the vote. Those remaining were in favor and the motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Combs made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:50pm to discuss personnel under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313 (a) (1) of the Vermont State Statutes with the Town Manager. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Mr. Holzworth made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:14pm with no action taken. Mr. Mark seconded the motion.

ADJOURN

Mr. Combs made a motion to adjourn the Select Board Meeting at 8:15pm. Mr. Holzworth seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted; Eliza LeBrun, Recording Secretary