

TOWN OF CASTLETON SELECT BOARD MINUTES
Monday, April 10, 2023 7:00 p.m.
Castleton Fire Station Community Room
273 Route 30N, Bomoseen
In-Person & Zoom Virtual Public Meeting

Zoom Meeting Recording Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/eJ2Trsk2n_3kCMVsuDHI1aGGBTNUig56KnSgIYYTyknbHDeWVp93e_HIVIH9BAv.6srOOvxVBfx8xG4B

PRESENT: James Leamy, Chair, Mary Lee Harris, Joseph Mark, Parliamentarian, Richard Combs, Michael Jones, Town Manager, See Attached List

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Melanie Combs, Bo Elliott Ramos,

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair J. Leamy at 7: 01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by J. Leamy.

J. Leamy welcomed David Blows Class.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ML Harris made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. J. Mark seconded. R. Combs suggested that the Fire Truck acceptance be inserted after the Regional Ambulance Service item on the agenda. **All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 27, 2023

R. Combs made a motion to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023 as presented. ML Harris seconded.

All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

CITIZENS COMMENTS & CONCERNS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

None at this time

REGIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE, REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT – Aleda Dutton

R. Combs made a motion to appoint Aleda Dutton as the Representative to the Board of Directors for the Regional Ambulance Service Representative for a term to expire March, 2025. J. Mark seconded.

R. Combs asked A. Dutton if she would be willing to come before them from time to time to give an update of the job they are doing. A. Dutton stated they are very busy and they are having a hard time finding people to work, and it is not just this agency, but State wide. They have purchased a bank building in West Rutland and will be open 24/7. **All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

FIRE TRUCK APPROVAL

R. Combs made a motion to authorize a payment for \$26,500 which is a ten percent of the purchase price for a 2001 Sutphen T95 with aerial ladder truck to be paid from the fire department vehicle reserve account and that the Town Manager be authorized to sign the contract. ML Harris seconded. R. Combs amended the motion to include Purchase Order #049983 to Forest Grove Volunteer Fire Department. ML Harris seconded the amendment. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM CDERAC FOR RETAIL CANNIBIS

M. McIntyre stated to the board that after the election they had Janet Currie meet with them regarding what needed to happen for her initiative to get retail cannabis sale approved in the Town. After lengthy discussion, CDERAC voted in favor of the letter being presented to the Board. They understand it will be a while before going for a vote, they prepared the letter.

R. Combs made a motion to accept and recognize the letter presented from CDERAC concerning retail cannabis dated

March 28, 2023. ML Harris seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

CRUSHING BID: Hunter Excavating, David Fabricius

B. Clark stated they sent out bid requests to three companies, only one replied. Had originally sent bids out for 10,000 yards, but reduced to 5,000 yards. Hunter will come for the 5,000 but he added .55 per yard for mobilization. Last time they crushed it was \$5.62/yd and this year it will be \$10.35/yd. This is still cheaper than buying it, which is \$15-\$16/yard. Total cost would be \$51,750 and they have \$36,982 budgeted. B. Clark wants to wait until July to do it so they can come up with the difference in unassigned carry over or budget surplus from highway department. **R. Combs made a motion to authorize the Town manager and the Highway foreman to enter into a contract with Hunter Excavating for crushing 5,000 yards of gravel at a cost of \$51,750 to commence after July 1 of this year. J. Mark seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.**

BRIGHTLY SOFTWARE, ASSET MANAGEMENT: David Fabricius

D. Fabricius understood the board would be possibly approving this proposal as presented at the last meeting. D. Fabricius briefly reviewed the proposal for assets. Total cost is \$31,000 and then \$10,000 on an annual basis. The \$31,000 was going to be coming from ARPA, but it may depend on the Brightly Software discussion as well. M. Jones stated they could look at the highway budget at the end of the year, and if there is a surplus, they could encumber what is left, and if not enough could also use some unassigned carry over for the difference. Also will have to look at crack sealing and painting of lines, but may have to wait until later in the fiscal year and see how it could be done without using ARPA funds. D. Fabricius stated this could wait 4-5 months if it means a few of the other things mentioned could be taken care of sooner. J. Mark questioned if the Fire District would also be an option for them to include their infrastructure. It doesn't have to be out of the question. ML Harris asked if the price would be more if they wait, and also if the Fire District would even want to talk to them about being included and sharing the cost.

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR APPROVAL:

Castleton Pizza Place & Deli, Inc./Blue Cat: 1st Class, outside consumption

Castleton Pizza Place & Deli, Inc./Birdseye Diner: 1st Class, outside consumption

Castleton Village Store.: 2nd Class & tobacco

Breting, LLC, Third Place: 3rd Class, 1st Class, outside consumption

R. Combs made a motion to approve the liquor licenses for Castleton Pizza Place & Deli, Inc./Blue Cat: 1st Class, outside consumption, Castleton Pizza Place & Deli, Inc./Birdseye Diner: 1st Class, outside consumption, Castleton Village Store.: 2nd Class & tobacco, Breting, LLC, Third Place: 3rd Class, 1st Class, outside consumption. ML Harris seconded. J. Leamy stated the police chief had no issues or concerns with any of the applications. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

MATTISON PROPERTY FOR SALE: Gravel

R. Combs stated he felt this should be in Executive Session since it concerned real estate. Brief discussion on whether the discussion should be in executive session. J. Mark felt it should have been moved to the Executive Session part of the agenda if that were the case. M. Jones stated that he was going to brief the Board on where this was at since it was discussed at the last meeting, and then request an Executive Session to further discuss if needed. M. Jones stated the property is on Staso Road, owned by George Mattison which is 9.72 acres and abuts the Town gravel pit. It has been listed and they are entertaining offers on the property. At the last meeting they discussed where the vein of gravel is and how much they are estimating is there. M. Jones feels any other information the board may want to hear should be in Executive Session. R. Combs asked how much gravel would be available. D. Fabricius stated they are estimating 10 years, which could save \$150,000 in gravel costs. Brief discussion on the property and its topography and any permitting needed or in place.

UPDATE ON CASTLETON-HUBBARDTON DISCUSSION REGARDING THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

J. Mark stated that they had a discussion at the last meeting about the jointly owned Castleton Village School. An offer to buy out the Town of Hubbardton was made and it was rejected. They are wanting more for their 11%. There was also a motion made to remove the property from the real estate market which also failed. An oversight committee was also created for two members of each town to make decisions on the building, and it's use. J. Leamy stated this may also be discussed in Executive Session to make a decision on the requests made from the Town of Hubbardton.

MANAGER'S REPORT

None at this time.

PURCHASE ORDERS FOR APPROVAL

R. Combs made a motion to approve Purchase Order #050139 to the Treasurer for the County of Rutland in the amount of \$42,452.76 for the County Tax Assessment for fiscal year 24. J. Mark seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

WARRANTS FOR APPROVAL

R. Combs made a motion to approve check warrant #0410R in the amount of \$650.00, check warrant #0328 in the amount of \$207.00, check warrant #0330 in the amount of \$5,609.74, check warrant #0406 in the amount of \$60,087.88, check warrant #0410 in the amount of \$392,187.03, check warrant #0330P in the amount of \$15,022.09, check warrant #0323P in the amount of \$15,655.24. ML Harris seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

ML Harris made a motion to approve check warrant #0331P in the amount \$612.53 and check warrant #0331 in the amount of \$202.87 and check warrant #0407P in the amount of \$612.53. J. Mark seconded the motion. R. Combs recused himself. All remaining members voted in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

SELECTBOARD COMMENTS and/or CONCERNS:

None at this time.

BRIEF RECAP & ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP:

None at this time.

7:50 PM - ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

J. Mark made a motion to enter executive session to include the Town Manager to discuss real estate. R. Combs seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 4-0.

8:46 PM - EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

R. Combs made a motion to exit Executive Session, no action taken. J. Mark seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0. (R. Spaulding joined the meeting via phone for Executive Session.)

J. Mark made a motion to ask the Town Manager to work with their attorney to prepare an offer on the Mattison property for a purchase price of \$120,000 and that there be three conditions: That the title be clear, that they get a warrantied deed and that they secure all required permits. R. Combs seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0. (R. Spaulding joined the meeting via phone for Executive Session.)

ADJOURN – 8:48 pm

ML Harris made a motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. J. Mark seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Allison Harvey

Recording Secretary

Transcribed from Zoom Recording