

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

December 7, 2015

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members Tim Green, Wayne Hurtubise, Chris Martel and Norris Tillotson present. Also present were Laura Ovitt, Joey Randall, Merle VanGeison, Ken Trask, Library Trustees Debra Atherton, Pam Hazen, Cindy Kasius, and Anntte Goyne, Library Director Susan Smolinsky, Listers Susan Fletcher, Eric Collins and Kim Collins, and Road Foreman John Nutting (7:50 PM).

Merle Van Geisen and Ken Trask discussed the possibility of the Berkshire Fire District connecting to the Richford Water system. During the discussion, it was determined that another meeting is necessary to determine the specifics of the proposal. Norris Tillotson will arrange a meeting with him, Mr. Trask, Mr. VanGeisen, and SOS representatives. Mr. Van Geisen and Mr. Trask left the meeting.

Lister Susan Fletcher advised the board that a new law impacting subsidized housing went into effect after the current Grand Lists was lodged. The law impacts the value of one property in the village. Susan advised a change in the current use law makes selectboard approval for changes no longer necessary.

Susan discussed the recent survey of the town hall and post office properties. The library currently owns the town hall and the town owns the library. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to have the listers contact Attorney Michael Gawne to take necessary steps to prepare deeds for the library and town hall properties. The motion carried. Susan Fletcher and Kim Collins left the meeting.

Annette Goyne, on behalf of the library trustees, presented their 2016 appropriation request, saying they are asking for \$2,000 more than the 2015 request. She and Susan Smolinsky reviewed the activities and services provided over the past year. Chris Martel noted the trustees have done a good job with their fundraising efforts. The trustees and Susan Smolinsky left the meeting.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the minutes of the November 16 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Linda Collins advised the board that the health officer appointment will need to be renewed by January 1. This is a three year position. The board determined to visit the website to understand the duties involved.

The board discussed the current trash contract and the general fund trash line item.

The board determined to have a budget meeting regarding employee wages and benefits on Wednesday, December 16 at 4:00 PM.

Laura advised that the generators need to be serviced. She was directed to contact Milton Cat and Ames Electric for quotes. Tim Green said he will check with NOTCH to learn who their service provider is.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Tim Green, to enter executive session at 8:03 PM to discuss personnel. The motion carried. Laura, Eric Collins and Joey Randall left the meeting.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Tim Green, to leave executive session at 9:00 PM. The motion carried. John Nutting left the meeting; Laura rejoined the meeting.

As a result of executive session, the board reaffirmed the \$15 per hour starting wage for highway employees with a CDL

The board determined to communicate with department heads re decisions made by the board.

Tim Green advised that, during the budget process, he wants to develop an economic development line item.

Linda Collins advised the board that they have received an invitation to the Beautification Committee's holiday gathering on Dec. 12 at 6:00 PM.

Wayne Hurtubise recommended reviewing the stump dump permit.

Chris Martel reported trash has been dumped illegally at the playground. The issue is being dealt with. The batting cage owned by the high school has been vandalized. The high school has been notified.

Tim Green thanked Marianne Hall for making arrangements for the holiday tree lighting. The Beautification Committee and the community assisted.

Tim reported the timer for the Davis Park lights is not working properly.

The boiler at the post office building was serviced this morning.

The emergency service building needs to be cleaned. Tim will look into making arrangements to have that done.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Laura Ovitt
Administrative Assistant