

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

**March 16, 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, Alan Fletcher, Sheila Record, Noah Pollack, Bill O'Brien and Darlene Gregoire.

Noah Pollack of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail discussed the paddle –peddle race to be held in conjunction with the River Fest in June. Racers will paddle to East Berkshire and peddle back to Richford on the Rail Trail. He has talked with the sheriff and AOT, and needs town permission for use of town roads. The conservation commission is okay with the race. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Linda Collins, to support the paddle-peddle race. The motion carried. Noah left the meeting.

Bill O'Brien discussed water issues at his Sweat Street property. He is looking for consideration for expenses. The freeze was beyond the curb stop, and the property had no water for more than seven days. It is currently connected to the hydrant. Bill will leave the bill with Laura. Bill left the meeting.

Darlene Gregoire, President of REAC, discussed the revolving loan fund loan which has a principal balance of \$15,000 and which is due in June. Darlene requested a three-year interest only extension. The board agreed to discuss the request later in the meeting. Darlene left the meeting.

Alan Fletcher discussed up-coming water bills and how to deal with people told to leave the water running to prevent frozen pipes. He said SOS has no insurance for thawing frozen pipes, and says the town has no insurance either. Joe Cahill will be contacted regarding a waiver for people to sign to allow the town to thaw pipes. A policy will be developed to distribute with the October bills. Alan and Sheila left the meeting.

Norris Tillotson discussed a bill presented by Denise Zoller who had frozen water lines. He said the water was frozen at the wall and is not a town issue. Laura will send a letter.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the minutes of the Feb. 16 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the minutes of the March 2 and March 5 special meetings. The motion carried.

Laura reported Sara Davis has resigned from the revolving loan fund committee. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to nominate Mike Smith to serve on the committee. The motion carried with a vote of 3 yes and 2 no.

Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Linda Collins, to approve the Annual Highway Financial Plan. The motion carried.

Wayne executed the contract for engineering services for the South Richford Road culvert with Ruggiano engineering.

Wayne reported the steamer has been repaired and is kept at the town garage. A new steamer has been ordered. It can be loaned but the borrower will need to exclude the town from liability.

John Nutting will be on vacation from March 23 through April 3.

Norris Tillotson reported seven people have been told to leave their water running to prevent freezing. Their bills will be adjusted to their previous winter consumption unless the current usage is less.

Tim Green reported a bill has been received for radios for the fire department. This bill is covered by a grant. Laura will request reimbursement.

A letter has been received from Lamoureux and Dickinson regarding engineering services for the rail trail extension. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Chris Martel presented a contract amendment for the sheriff to provide 30 extra shifts beginning May 1 and continuing as needed as long as possible, up to a total cost of \$8,700. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to accept the contract for extended coverage. The motion carried with Norris Tillotson abstaining.

Tim Green reported he will be attending workshops regarding the new universal recycling law.

Chris Martel reported the transportation advisory committee is prioritizing highway and bridge projects. The Main Street bridge should be either priority 1 or 2 – he expects to have voting results later this week.

The board determined to discuss Bill O'Brien's expenses at the next meeting.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to grant a 3-year, interest only, extension on the REAC revolving loan fund loan. The motion carried with 3 yes, Norris Tillotson voting no and Tim Green abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Laura Ovitt, Administrative Assistant