

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

**March 17, 2014**

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 and Sheila Record.

Tim Green discussed the municipal trash service, suggesting a possible 6 month extension of the current contract.

Chris Martel discussed animal control, saying there is an issue with the animal control officer not returning phone calls and not attending meetings when asked to do so. Chris will follow up.

Alan Fletcher reported the annual audit will be conducted on May 15.

Alan reported he will be sending tax sale properties to the attorney at the end of the month.

Alan suggested the board should discuss the education portion of property taxes regarding late filing penalties for homestead properties.

Norris Tillotson discussed expenses incurred regarding the water main break at Main & Maple Streets. The insurance will not be sending an adjustor. Norris will challenge the bill submitted by ENPRO, and will contact the insurance company.

Alan and Sheila left the meeting.

Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Norris Tillotson, to approve the minutes of the January 20 regular meeting. The motion carried with three yes votes, and Linda and Tim abstaining.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Norris Tillotson, to approve the minutes of the February 3 regular meeting. The motion carried, with three yes votes, and Chris and Tim abstaining.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the minutes of the February 17 regular meeting and BOCC meeting. The motion carried with three yes votes, and Wayne and Tim abstaining.

Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise , to approve the minutes of the March 3 special meeting. The motion carried, with four yes votes and Tim Green abstaining.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the minutes of the March 10 special meeting and BOCC meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Linda Collins read a letter from the Richford Firefighters Association nominating fire engineers as follows: Ken Pigeon – Chief, Paul Martin – 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant, and Dale Pigeon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant. Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Tim Green, to approve the nominations as presented. The motion carried.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Tim Green, to appoint Sara Davis to a 2-year position on the Richford Revolving Loan Fund Committee. The motion carried.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Tim Green, to appoint Suzanne Rhodes to a 2-year position as a Richford Community Fund Director. The motion carried.

The board discussed the need to appoint a Town Service Officer. Tim will post a notice on Front Porch Forum.

Laura reported Ken Pigeon cannot now accept the position of Emergency Management Coordinator, because that position comes under the Fire Chief. Paul Martin will be asked to accept the position.

Linda Collins distributed a list of town-owned properties provided by the listers in 2010 for the board's information.

Linda read a letter from Joe Cahill stating the hearing regarding his motion to dismiss in the Whitfield v. Town of Richford Selectboard will be held March 28 at 9:30 AM at Superior Court in St. Albans.

Wayne Hurtubise reported he and John Nutting meet with FEMA officials on March 14 regarding the December ice storm damages. The Town will be applying for funds as a small project. The Town will be working with Ron Pentkowski. All debris will be hauled to the stump dump. FEMA will accept the work that has been done, and will be dealing with what needs to be completed.

Wayne reported no future FEMA funding after the ice storm incident will be available until the Board completes training for disaster management.

Wayne presented the Town's ranking for the state Class 2 Roadway Program (26<sup>th</sup> of 29) and the Highway Structures Program (16<sup>th</sup> of 29). The ranks are the result of funds received in 2009 and 2008 respectively.

Wayne reported a letter has been received from the Montgomery selectboard thanking the town for assistance during the ice storm by lending a truck.

Tim Green reported he will prepare a Request for Proposal for electricians for the library roof.

Tim reported he met with Kathy Benoit regarding ambulance transport fees.

Chris Martel reported the board needs a contact person for the Christmas lights in Memorial Park.

Chris reported he is talking with Sunray regarding upgrading the River Street cameras.

Norris Tillotson presented the lease agreement between the Town and L.F. Hurtubise & Sons, Inc. for haying the sewer plant land. The board agreed to allow reseeding on the property.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Tim Green, to execute the contract. The motion carried, with Wayne Hurtubise abstaining.

Norris presented the VTel Wireless Prefiling Notice regarding the installation of a telecommunications facility at 81 Green Avenue.

Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to recommend approval of the project by the Vermont Public Service Board. The motion carried.

Norris reported he received VTel's supplement to the 45-Day Advance Notice: Viewshed Maps and Photographic Simulations.

Tim Green noted VTel should submit a "notification" permit application relative to the project exceeding bylaw height restrictions. No approval is necessary because the project is on town land.

Norris reviewed the cash balances for the water and sewer plants. Water meter reading will begin April 1, with the intent to distribute bills by May 1.

Norris reported he purchased a 5,000 pound pressure-washer for the water and sewer plants. He discussed buying a trailer to for its transport and carrying tools and a water tank.

Norris reported he would eventually like to purchase a 4-wheeler with tracks to be able to keep the water intake open and free of ice, and would like the trailer to be able to transport the 4-wheeler.

Chris Martel reported he has received calls regarding REAC's request for an appropriation, asking whether REAC is a branch of the town. Chris explained that REAC is a private organization as explained in their annual report and in the selectboard's newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Laura Ovitt  
Administrative Assistant