

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

April 6, 2015

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members Tim Green, Chris Martel and Norris Tillotson present. Also present were Laura Ovitt, Terry Leonard, David Mahoney of Vermont Connections, John Libbey, Sheila Record, Alan Fletcher and Tim Smith, Bill O'Brien and Kathy Lavoie of Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation.

David Mahoney introduced Vermont Connections as a computer services and IT company. He explained some of the services they offer and named some of the towns they deal with. Mr. Mahoney left the meeting.

Alan Fletcher presented an arbitrage note for the board's action. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Linda Collins to approve the note. The motion carried.

Alan reported he has been getting inquiries about when the stump dump will open. The board determined it will open May 2.

Terry Leonard reported she has been getting complaints about accumulation of trash, particularly behind the laundromat and across the street with a private owner. Terry was advised to contact the zoning administrator.

Alan presented a letter regarding a winter water policy. The board will consider this at a later meeting. Mr. Fletcher, Ms. Record and Ms. Leonard left the meeting.

Tim Smith, Executive Director of FCIDC, gave an update on recent activities. They are working on an outreach effort into Canada to attract businesses. Kristen Hughes is working with diversified agriculture to improve marketing skills. They worked closely with Maple Mountain Woodworks, which, unfortunately, failed.

Kathy Lavoie, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board, reported she works closely with Richford and Enosburg high schools with people up to age 25 finding training and apprenticeship opportunities. They average 60 placements per year. The recent job expo in St. Albans had 70 tables and 400 – 600 people attending.

Mr. Smith and Ms. Lavoie left the meeting.

Bill O'Brien discussed his recent water issues at South Main and Sweet Streets. Norris Tillotson said the town will hold-up on reimbursing his expense until the cost of repairing the hydrant is known. Mr. O'Brien said he doesn't believe the cost of the hydrant should be his responsibility. Mr. O'Brien left the meeting.

John Libbey said the hours in Memorial Park need to be changed. The ruckus is starting already. Tim Green said he is now in charge of parks, and will look into the situation.

Laura reported REAC needs a construction easement on Main Street from May 18 through August 28. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the easement. The motion carried, with Tim Green recusing himself.

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

Laura reported Greg Campbell's term on the Conservation Commission expires this month. Motion made by Linda Collins, seconded by Tim Green, to reappoint Greg Campbell to the commission. The motion carried.

Deborah Green's appointment as Town Service Office expires April 15. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Linda Collins, to reappoint Deborah Green. The motion carried.

Linda Collins reported she and Tim Green met with the zoning administrator to discuss her duties. Linda read a letter from attorney Michael Gawne regarding zoning issue. Tim Green will meet with the zoning administrator about the issue.

Chris Martel reported the contract for the Davis Bridge replacement has not yet been awarded.

Tim Green reported that maybe a contract has been awarded a contract for the Main Street Bridge. They are looking for office space.

Tim Green reported the oil separator tank at the emergency services building was full and froze, causing a back-up into the building. ENPRO removed 8 barrels of sludge, which is now being tested for metals. The board discussed ENPRO charges regarding the Sheltra issue last winter. Tim suggested negotiating with ENPRO.

Chris Martel reported a 'not guilty' plea was entered regarding the East Richford dog abuse case. The family has been restricted from having animals.

Chris reported a dog was recently found tied to a tree in the woods with food left out of its reach. Animal control took the dog to the humane society.

Chris Martel reported a bike tour with approximately 1600 bikers will pass through town on August 5. Arrangements will need to be made.

Norris Tillotson reported 7 water line breaks have been repaired, Also, 7 water lines have been thawed. Norris discussed the Sweat Street issue. They were unable to tell where the problem was due to frost.

The board determined a letter will be sent to Bill O'Brien stating the board will readdress his issue at the May 20 meeting after the ground thaws and they are able to know the extent of the damage. The board discussed future repairs and preventative maintenance.

Tim Green reported he has discussed the Town Hall heating system with John Mercy. This is an old system in need of repairs. Mr. Mercy will evaluate the system and make recommendations this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Laura Ovitt
Administrative Assistant