

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

**August 17, 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, Bruce Wetherby, Chuck McAllister and Planning Commission members John Libbey, Mark Waterhouse, Sherry Paquette, Mary Robinson and Tammy Ryea.

Bruce Wetherby discussed the current trash contract, saying he is now picking up more recycling and less trash. The recycling price has increased \$10.00 per ton. He asked for an increase of 25 cents per bag beginning with the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to increase the quarterly household trash rate to \$75.00 per quarter beginning Oct. 1, 2015. The motion carried.

Bruce said some bags are very overweight, requiring two people to load them. The board agreed such bags should not be picked up.

Bruce asked that recycle information be distributed again. Bruce and Chuck left the meeting.

John Libbey reported the planning commission wants to apply for an \$8,000 municipal planning grant to look into housing code options.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Tim Green, to approve applying for the planning grant. The motion carried.

Linda Collins gave the planning commission a letter received from a Swanton resident regarding wind/solar projects. Linda said the planners are doing a good job.

Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise to approve the minutes of the August 3 regular meeting. Tim Green noted a correction to state that approval for a common dumpster on River Street is revoked effective October 1. Norris and Wayne amended their motion to include "as corrected". The motion carried.

Laura explained the board needs to formally approve the applying for renewal of the Designated Village Center. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Linda Collins, to approve the application. The motion carried.

Laura noted the next regular meeting falls on Labor Day. The board agreed to move the meeting to **Tuesday, September 8.**

Wayne Hurtubise reported North Avenue has been dug out and replaced.

The highway department is working on sidewalks.

The bridge on North Branch Road is coming along well.

The storm drain on River Street has been cleaned. Tim Green reported it is working very well.

The board discussed road work that has been done at the intersection of Liberty and Troy Streets. The area will be patched when paving is done if there is enough material.

Tim Green reported a possible issue with a storm drain at the old school on Intervale Avenue.

Word has been received that tenants have painted wheel rims on the side walk on Elm Avenue, leaving a lot of overspray on the sidewalk. The landlord will be sent a letter stating the sidewalk needs to be cleaned.

Chris Martel discussed the current mowing contract, stating that the mower has requested a 3-year contract at the current price. The board agreed, suggesting a cost-of-living increase should be included.

Tim Green reported the town does not have a park ordinance, but does have a park policy. An ordinance will be developed to be ready next spring.

Tim reported arrangements are being made for a conference call to move work on the rail trail forward.

Tim Green reported John Mercy will be evaluating the heating system at the town hall.

Chris Martel reported a homeless person has returned to Richford. He will contact the sheriff.

Chris discussed a letter received from Attorney Joe Cahill regarding a vacant property on Brook Street. After discussion, the board agreed to prepare a health order.

Robert McAllister joined the meeting at 7:50 PM to discuss heating oil costs.

The board determined to request bids for heating oil for municipal buildings prior to winter.

Tim Green will prepare a 3-year contract for municipal trash collection to be ready by September 17, 2015.

Norris Tillotson reported a bid has been received from ECI for fixing the leak in the water line under the Main Street bridge for \$75,000. He will recruit more bids.

Norris said work is progressing well at the sewer plant.

Radio reads for meters at Blue Seal, Kaytec and the Border Patrol station have been installed.

Chlorine pumps have been replaced at the water and sewer plants.

Linda Collins discussed a bill received for replacing a pool damaged by a fallen utility pole. The board agreed to not pay the bill.

Norris Tillotson discussed the proposal for energy efficiency street lighting, saying Franklin has installed such lights. He will go to Franklin to evaluate.

Chris Martel reported a hearing notice has been received regarding Randall Shepard for August 19 at 9:30 AM.

Norris Tillotson discussed the condition of the pump station road relative to the REAC Main Street project now in progress.

Linda Collins reported Mary Robinson has resigned from the Northwest Solid Waste Management District board. The board will advertise for a candidate.

Tim Green discussed the overtime/comp time policy. This will be on the agenda for the Sept. 8 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Laura Ovitt  
Administrative Assistant