

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

August 3, 2015

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members Tim Green, Wayne Hurtubise, Chris Martel (7:23) and Norris Tillotson present.

Also present were Laura Ovitt, John Libbey and Donny Marcy.

Donny Marcy reported the ditch running from Missisquoi Manor to the area behind his house is full and his yard floods when it rains. Norris Tillotson suggested that, when construction on Liberty Street is done in the spring, a culvert could be installed that will connect the ditch to the storm drain.

Donny reported two incidents when a firefighter was driving carelessly when reporting to the station.

John Libbey noted there are no trash cans in Memorial Park. Tim Green said there must be recycle cans available as well, and he has ordered the appropriate labels.

John noted the sign in the park needs to be changed to state the correct hours.

John reported a man has been walking the streets with his pants half off, which is a violation of the indecency ordinance.

John reported a basketball hoop is blocking the sidewalk on River Street.

Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the minutes of the July 20 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to approve the minutes of the July 20 Board of Control Commissioners meeting. The motion carried, with Tim Green abstaining.

Linda Collins reviewed the recent revisions to the Town of Richford Municipal Plan. A map was added to depict the Designated Village Center. Language was added to the Economics section stating that NRPC assisted REAC with obtaining an EPA grant to conduct an Area Wide Brownfields Assessment. Also noted is the redevelopment of the former Sweat Comings property into the Main Street Mill. Punctuation has been corrected in the policy portion of this section. An addition was made to the Land Use Plan Policies stating "Continue to support the development and redevelopment of mixed use structures that reinforce traditional settlement patterns within the Village Center.

Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Linda Collins, to approve the revision of the Municipal Plan. The motion carried with Norris Tillotson abstaining.

Laura reported that the Republican Committee has nominated, and the governor has appointed, new members to the board of civil authority/justice of the peace. Joyce Wetherby will fill Bill Wright's slot and Dan Newton will fill Allen McMurphy's slot.

Laura reminded the board that a bike tour will be passing through the village on Wed., August 5. The organizers have been advised that the optional route will require a detour due to bridge work.

Wayne Hurtubise reported the bridge placement on North Branch Road has started, and will probably take longer than expected.

Wayne reported the highway department has negotiated a deal with Leach for crushed gravel.

Work on North Avenue started today.

Wayne presented a driveway permit application for Mike Hemond on McAllister Road. Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Linda Collins, to approve the permit. The motion carried.

Tim Green reported the fire department needed fuel on Friday, but did not have access to the town garage to turn the pump on. He suggested setting up a charge account at the Jolley Store if the price is comparable to that being paid now.

Linda Collins said she has received reports of vehicles getting flat tires on the Corliss Road due to the gravel being used.

Chris Martel reported a portion of the headstones at Richford Center Cemetery will be cleaned at the expense of the Association.

Summer camp is closing Friday, Aug. 7.

Tim Green discussed the rail trail, asking why it is not moving forward. Laura said the easement process needs to be completed, and it is her responsibility to see that is finished.

Linda Collins reported she has received reports of young people hanging out at the former health center. This has been reported to the sheriff.

The Efficiency Vermont municipal lighting program was discussed. Norris Tillotson suggested changing 10 – 12 lights to get a comparison of cost and effectiveness.

Tim Green said the sheriff needs to enforce park hours. Chris Martel said the sign needs to specify the ordinance.

Tim reported on a complaint regarding 4-wheelers driving on the sidewalk on Main Street. Chris will follow up.

The board discussed a trash issue on River Street. Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to rescind the approval for a “common dumpster” at 60 River Street due to non-compliance, and beginning Sept. 1, 13 Troy Street will be returned to the municipal trash system. The motion carried. A letter will be sent to the property owner

Bruce Wetherby will attend the August 17 meeting to discuss the municipal trash contract.

Norris Tillotson reported the water and sewer systems are working well.

Chris Martell reported he will not be available for the August TAC meeting. Tim Green will plan to attend.

The board discussed a letter to be sent to the property owners at 302 South Main Street. The board determined to add the equipment was “replaced with fixtures without consideration of depreciation”.

Tim Green reported the town is purchasing a new 2014 ambulance tomorrow. USDA has agreed that a grant, if approved, can be used to repay a loan from the revolving loan fund.

The board discussed a concern raised about the driveway at 102 Main Street. A letter will be sent with copies of the easements pointing out the maintenance agreement and the parking arrangement for space behind the town hall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Laura Ovitt
Administrative Assistant