

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

September 15, 2014

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order with members Tim Green, Chris Martel and Norris Tillotson present. Also present were Laura Ovitt, Alan Fletcher, Sheila Record and Albert Perry.

Alan Fletcher reported that 272 Troy Street has been in a bankruptcy agreement that included delinquent water/sewer and taxes. The attorney can remove the municipal bills from the agreement. Then, if not paid, the town can put the property up for tax sale. The board agreed by consensus to have the attorney remove the municipal bills from the agreement.

Alan discussed 60 Noyes Street, saying the owner has reneged on his bankruptcy agreement with the court. The court will need to determine how to handle the issue.

Alan presented two proposals for water/wastewater rates for 2015. Neither proposal makes allowances for delinquencies or vacant properties. Both proposals have a decrease in the base rate from the current rate. Proposal #2 includes \$5.00 above the necessary rate for both water and wastewater, but is still a decrease from the current rate.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Norris Tillotson, to approve proposal #2 with the additional \$5.00 added to both the water and wastewater base rates. The motion carried. The combined base rate will be \$236.07 for residential (down from \$261.68); \$354.10 for commercial (down from \$392.51) and \$2,360.70 for industrial (down from \$2,616.74).

Norris Tillotson reported the estimate for the roof at the wastewater plant is \$9,400. The roof will have a 5/12 pitch.

Alan and Sheila left the meeting.

Albert Perry reported on behalf of REAC that Andy Hoak of Ruggiano Engineering has been retained for the environmental and construction oversight at 111-113 Main Street. REAC is requesting a temporary easement on Main Street, to be designated using jersey barriers and a temporary fence. Construction is due to begin on or about October 1. The board agreed to the temporary easement.

Albert discussed purchasing fill from the town for the project. The board advised the request was approved at an earlier meeting. Mr. Hoak will need to coordinate with John Nutting.

The board requested that plywood be placed under the jersey barriers to protect the pavement. The board determined Mr. Hoak should contact the Superintendent for ECI.

Albert left the meeting.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the minutes of the Sept. 2 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the minutes of the Sept. 11 special meeting. The motion carried.

Linda Collins reported that the water damage issue at 302 South Main Street has not yet been settled, but is being handled by the insurance company.

Chris Martel reported that the brush at the Troy Street Cemetery has been cut. Some trees need to be removed. He will meet with Claude Desautels to ask for an estimate.

Bruce Buller is in the process of shutting down the playground. There has been more vandalism there.

Tim Green reported he is getting bids for cement repair at the town hall and post office.

The vault project is now on the back burner – the project can be done in cold weather.

The library roof needs to be addressed before there is snow fall.

Chris Martel reported the monthly animal control officer report has been received.

The sheriff has submitted a 3-year contract – 2015-2018, and a 1-year addendum for 2019. The board determined that “pending approval of the town’s annual budget” needs to be added to section two of both documents.

Tim Green reported the trash service is adding a new customer on Intervale Avenue.

Norris Tillotson discussed the FEMA reimbursement for the repairs at the water intake. Laura reported she has emailed Jim Cota, but has had no response. She resubmitted all of the documentation today.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Laura Ovitt
Administrative Assistant