

**Brandon Select Board Meeting
October 13, 2015**

NOTE: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and / or approval at the subsequent board meeting.

In Attendance: Doug Bailey Seth Hopkins, Tracy Wyman, Devon Fuller

Also in Attendance: Dave Atherton, Richard Baker, Daryl Burlett, Kathy & Wayne Rausenberger, Linda & Jeff Stewart, Bernie Carr, Phyllis Reed, Frank Spezzano, Carol Reed, Bill Moore.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Doug Bailey - Chair at 7:05 pm.

a) Agenda Adoption - Motion by Hopkins / Wyman to adopt the agenda with a switch of #5 and #8 discussions with each other. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

a) Select Board Meeting Minutes - September, 28, 2015

Motion by Fuller / Hopkins to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2015 Select Board meeting, as written. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Town Manager's Report - Mr. Atherton reported on the following items:

- He and few others attended training regarding federal wages on the town office project.
- A few people attended a VLCT budget seminar which was very well done.
- The first budget committee meeting was held and it went fairly well.
- The wastewater garage renovations are done and include a new roof, new garage doors, a heater was installed in the chemical building and rewiring of the rest of the lights.
- An ad was posted for the assistant wastewater operator.
- Last week, Mr. Moore, Mr. Burlett, and Mr. Atherton attended the Town Fair.
- Thanks to Donald Furnari for framing the Brandon, VT poster in the Town Hall basement and the Kennedy Park sign, which was sealed so water can't get through. He thanked the donations by the Furnari's.

Mr. Atherton reported on the following Recreation items:

- Adult costume dance scheduled for 10-24 to support the Brandon Area Christmas project and the Estabrook fund.
- The committee is planning Spooksville.
- Mr. Moore attended a Governor's Conference on parks and recreation.
- Mr. Moore is trying to assemble the Estabrook Park Playground Committee.

- There was a meeting with Tony Clark at Blueberry Hill regarding the Brandon XC Ski Program. There is good collaboration.
- The batting cage and field are being torn down for winter
- Ballet is back in Brandon with classes starting Oct 17.
- There is a new location for the town ice skating rink. It will be at the Wheeler Road flood property that the Town bought out.
- Mr. Moore is working with the town webmaster, Jackson Whelan, creating a recreation custom on-line registration page.

Mr. Atherton reported on the following Economic Development items:

- Need Revolving Loan Fund Committee appointments - later in the meeting.
- Next barnraising - Nov. 5
- There is updated information on the Economic Development webpage on grants, etc.

Mr. Atherton reported on the following Public Works items:

- They will be putting up new fencing and taking down the jersey barriers in front of the water down by the barber shop. This is with help from the Chamber.
- There has been cross training from highway to wastewater.
- They hope to do some paving next week.
- The Union St rail crossing came out nice.

Mr. Atherton said the town received a letter from Bob and Joan Thomas thanking everyone who made the dedication of the deck possible.

4. Comments for Items not on the Agenda

Linda Stewart said she read the union gave 10% on their benefits. She asked for other details of the union contract. Mr. Atherton said there hadn't been pay raises in a few years. The contract included an increase of 1.7% based on cost of living. 10% of health insurance contribution was added. There was a lot of cleaning up of outdated language. Hopkins said they straightened out some job descriptions. Bailey said no pay raises were retroactive. Atherton said the step program was added back in. Fuller said the Recreation Director position is no longer covered by the union since the person is a director of a department.

Carol Reed said she is looking after her late sister's house at 73 Maple St. She lives in Leicester. She said there was no money left when her sister died for the house. There has been an abatement on the water bill. No water or septic is being used. She said the house has been unoccupied for over 1-1/2 years. Ms. Reed says she is trying to stay current on the property taxes and is asking for an abatement to be granted on the sewer bill since there has been no use. There was discussion on prior conversations Ms. Reed had with Mr. Atherton and with Ms. Gage. Ms. Reed was advised to make an appointment with the Board of Abatement and Mr. Bailey said he will follow up with her.

Bernie Carr said Efficiency Vermont could be helpful with lighting at the wastewater building. They should be consulted for anything having to do with lights, energy, or heating.

Bernie Carr said the money going to the fence from the Chamber was originally Brand-Aid money that was fundraised by the Chamber to help with the businesses after Irene. More money trickled in years later and the fund built up to \$1700. This is a perfect project for those funds.

Richard Baker said the handicapped accessible button for the town hall basement door will be installed.

5. Town Office Project - Mr. Atherton said two weeks ago, we met with Smalley Construction three times to discuss some engineering options in order to keep costs down. There is concern to not go over budget. They have talked to the mechanical engineers about the same and we are waiting for those numbers. We met with them last week. Smalley is scheduled to start on the 19th. They don't see a problem with the negotiation part of the contract that would hold us up.

6. Errors & Omissions - Grand List - Mr. Atherton received a list from Dolores Furnari. There were some entries that needed to be changed.

Motion by Fuller / Hopkins to accept the Errors & Omissions of Jonathan Pauls, Joseph Bressette, and Daniel & Laurie Celik.

Mr. Atherton said these changes should add approximately \$51,000 to the grand list.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Fuller / Hopkins to accept the Errors and Omissions for Tracy Wyman.

Tracy Wyman recused himself from the discussion and vote.

Motion passed with one abstention (Wyman).

7. FEMA Projects / Segment 6 / Bridge 114 - Mr. Atherton said the Segment 6 project is moving forward with about 12 rights-of-way being completed. There is nothing new for bridge 114. It is under historic review for the railing. With regard to FEMA projects, the Newton Rd. buy-out was approved. They approved a 75% share of \$116,678 which means our portion is 25% or \$38,893, which will be provided for under CBDG grants. Accordingly, 100% of the total project cost will be covered. They ordered the Phase 1 study on it. It is for purchase and demolition.

Atherton said there will be some things needing review with regard to Segment 6 for the next meeting. The Cobb Hill project was approved and we have received the money.

8. Revolving Loan Fund Committee

Motion by Hopkins / Fuller to appoint Frank Spezzano to the Revolving Loan Fund Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2018. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hopkins / Wyman to reappoint Karen Lynch to the Revolving Loan Fund Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Motion passed unanimously.

Recess:

Motion by Fuller / Wyman for the Selectboard meeting to recess at 7:40 pm for the Board to convene as Board of Liquor Control Commissioners. Passed unanimously.

The Selectboard reconvened at 7:42 pm. Selectman Devon Fuller left the meeting at 7:42 pm.

9. Fiscal

Motion by Hopkins / Wyman to approve the following purchase orders and warrants:

- a) P.O. 51885 to Champlain Valley P & H for Diesel Fuel - not to exceed \$23,000
- b) P.O. 51886 to Champlain Valley P & H for Heating Fuel - not to exceed \$15,200
- c) P.O. 51910 to Florence Crushed Stone for Winter Sand - \$25,120
- d) P.O. 51911 to Dido's Trucking for Trucking of Winter Sand - \$9,600
- e) P.O. 51912 to Markowski Excavating, Inc. for Winter Sand - not to exceed \$35,000
- f) FY 15/16 General Fund Warrant - October 13, 2015 - \$126,620.63
- g) FY 15/16 Wastewater Fund Warrant - October 13, 2015 - \$11,830.92

Motion passed unanimously 3-0

10. Executive Session

Motion by Hopkins / Wyman to enter into executive session at 7:44 pm for the purpose of discussing the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(3) of the Vermont Statutes. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Hopkins / Wyman for the Board to come out of executive session and return to public session at 8:15 pm. Passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

Adjourn

Motion by Hopkins / Wyman to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Janet Mondlak