

SelectBoard MINUTES - Thursday March 28, 8 am

Attendance: Chrystal Cleary, Steve Hall, Michael Jeffery, Michael Morfit, Karl Pfister, Kimberly Eckhardt, Hal Wilkins, Chuck Sweetman, John Ogden by speaker phone

- Lister Chuck Sweetman is here to inform the Selectboard that the Listers have decided that the Town Wide reassessment will be next Spring (2020) and that the Listers would like to continue again with the same consultant they used last reassessment in 2014. Listers estimate the total to be about \$25K for the coming assessment, (including extra Lister compensation). The Town budgets an amount for this annually to build up to enough in the Lister account, which with her Treasurer hat on, Kimberly noted was at \$18K already.

- Michael Morfit is here to observe the SelectBoard in action, and suggested that he'd like to see more detail in the minutes, and from Town Officers, such as a written statement from Chuck on the previous subject rather than a verbal request.

- Karl Pfister is here to offer the possibility of selling his land on Nichols Rd (parcel 80 on the tax map) for the purpose of a Town shed/sand & equipment storage. Zoning Admin Hal Wilkins will walk the property with the SB members when the snow melts a bit more. Some recap of past property inquiries was made, including the van Wyck parcel (also on Nichols) and the Harris/Gourley parcel off Ridge Road.

- Karl also has a suggestion that for mud season stockpiles of gravel might be left at the Buffum Hill and Cody Road log landings to save the truck driving back and forth, and maybe a few shovelfuls of gravel in the nearby soft spots could tide some areas over.

ITEM: Roads: Mud Season update- With the cold nights, and Jay's work, the roads have been firming up a bit.

Roads have been posted for a couple of weeks now, Andrea Ogden used to have list of local service companies with big trucks that she'd message to remind them to schedule their Landgrove customers early in the morning when our dirt roads are most solid. Kimberly will check with Andrea when she comes in later today for that contact info. Steve would like to include TAM and Casella, and a reminder next year should be sent to residents to remember to top off their oil and propane before mud season to minimize delivery trucks at that sensitive time.

Getting on paver's schedule for spring: the apron in the Hollow- Steve has emailed Brent White about this, but will probably do so again as he's received no confirmation/response.

ITEM: Technology Overhaul progress- New computers, networking equipment and software have been ordered for the Office from Silloway Networks of Rutland, but the computers are backordered. Chrystal has a call with Chris at Silloway today at 10AM to go over some network stuff and will ask him what the ETA on the machines is. Delay in getting Kimberly set up is problematic.

Kimberly requested a switch to NEMRC software for accounting, which is GAAP compliant for government use and leaves an indelible accounting trail. (a one time cost of \$7200) QuickBooks, and its payroll add-on would run about \$615, there are workarounds and

additional steps needed to make working with QB close to NEMRC.

The Selectboard noted that the cost difference is quite significant, and citing the Vermont League of Cities and Towns report 1/4 to 1/3 of Vermont Towns use QuickBooks, that we stick with what the Town has been using (QB) for a few months to a year and then reassess the needs when the treasurer has been in the job awhile and worked with our accounts.

-ITEM: Window Restoration Project update : Black Sash Restorations, who reviewed the window restoration project, cannot perform the actual work but recommended two contractors who can. John Ogden will contact both of them for estimates to compare.

- ITEM: Telecom- Hal is working out a date for Consolidated Communications (and possibly Comcast) to present a plan for wiring the Town. Hal will email the Board members to choose a date for the Consolidated presentation, in April or May.

- Michael Morfit proposes that a small workgroup might be formed to make the search for sites for the Town Sandpile/garage more efficient and sustain momentum better than the approach we take right now.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM
Submitted by Chrystal Cleary