

SELECTBOARD MEETING
April 8, 2010

Present:	John Quinn	Gary Estus
	Dave Tilton	Nanette Rogers
	Bob Bancroft	

Guests:	David Brisson	Conrad Racine	Eric Henshaw
	Greg Barrows	Leni Jorschick	Tom Moreau
	Michelle DaVia	Maurice Rathbun	Ted & Michelle Pelkey

The meeting was called to order by David Tilton at 7:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Conrad Racine, David Brisson and Eric Henshaw were present to ask permission on behalf of a group of residents, to submit an article for the next newsletter regarding the revote on the school budget. The article would consist of facts only, be nonpolitical and the Selectboard would have total editorial rights. Dave is concerned about the article being one sided. Conrad pointed out that the School Board is allowed to publish articles, and he believes that sometimes in the past they have been biased. Bob understands Conrad's comments but expressed concern over setting a precedent. John stated that he was declined in the past to use the Town's bulk rate to distribute an article but feels this situation is different due to a petition being handed in. He feels it is okay if the Board has complete editorial oversight and that the Board may want a disclaimer attached to the article. Dave stated that he's not sure if the Board knows the facts to editorialize, adding that both sides should be able to submit articles. The Board agreed that the article should be distributed to the School Board for their review. The group requested any articles from proponents be forwarded to them for review as well.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to entertain the idea of publishing the group's fact only article in the May Newsletter contingent on the article being no longer than one page; that the article be fact based only; that the Board reserve the right to editorialize and reject the article; and that a draft be circulated to the School Board and proponents, seconded by John Quinn. Dave Tilton amended the motion to add that an article from the other side will also be solicited for the Board's consideration. Motion passed as amended: 3-0.

CSWD BUDGET

Tom Moreau from the Chittenden Solid Waste District was present to seek support of CSWD's budget. Tom explained that the operating budget is decreasing by approximately 0.6%. The largest contributing factors are a change in health insurance coverage to a Health Savings Account and an increase in recycling. The capital budget is increasing by approximately 2.6%. The Board is interested in exploring offering large recycle carts to residents. These carts have worked well in other communities.

Dave Tilton made a motion to approve the Chittenden Solid Waste District's operating and capital budgets, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

TED AND MICHELLE PELKEY

Ted reiterated his thoughts from the previous meeting of not needing a Home Occupation permit because the equipment on his property is not from his business. He feels he has been singled out because there are other structures and businesses in town without permits. Mr. Pelkey requested that the Board hire a new Zoning Administrator. The Board explained that this meeting is in regard to his violation and the need for him to be in compliance with the Town's regulations. They will look into whether there is an issue with other non-complying structures. They advised Mr. Pelkey that an Executive Session will be held at the end of the meeting to decide how to proceed. A letter will be sent to the Pelkeys advising of the Board's findings. Ted stated that if the Board told him he needed a permit he would get one, but will refuse to pay the fine stated in the Board's March 18, 2010 letter.

MOWING QUOTES

The Board reviewed mowing quotes for the Town Common, Town Office, Town Library, the area near the statue, the small area known as the KP lot and the Brick Meeting House. Greg Barrows was present from the Brick Meeting House Society to review the quotes.

	<u>Town</u>	<u>BMHS</u>
Diamond in the Rough	\$2,496.00	\$552.00
King's Property Maintenance	\$1,600.00	\$400.00
Bartley Property Management	\$2,000.00	\$400.00
Northern Property Management	\$1,495.00	\$782.00
M & J Lawn Care	\$2,600.00	\$1,040.00
Fresh Winds Farm	\$1,880.00	\$380.00

Leni Jorschick stated that Dave Bartley has done an excellent job the past two years.

Dave Tilton made a motion to accept the quote submitted by Bartley Property Management based upon satisfaction of performance the past two seasons and price, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed 3-0.

Leni asked that next year's solicitation letter include a request for a separate quote for sweeping gravel off the common.

SELECTBOARD INSTITUTE

Dave provided a brief summary of topics covered at the Selectboard Institute he attended in March.

TRAIL ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

The Board made amendments to the Trails Ordinance for review by the Town's attorney. They would like the attorney to craft language to address the issuance of licenses for residents who are were performing maintenance to a trail for access to their property prior to the effective date of the Ordinance and those who are seeking permission to perform maintenance or upgrade to driveway status.

SALT SHED

Bob updated the rest of the Board on the site visit for the proposed salt shed. Dubois & King had submitted seven alternative sites. Alternative seven seemed to be the best fit due to a southern exposure and for operational efficiency. The building would be located on the north

side of the driveway before the clearing. A wetlands specialist needs to conduct a site visit as well as the State and a structural engineer.

GREEN UP DAY DUMPSTER

The Board agreed to have a dumpster delivered early to accommodate students at the school picking up garbage on Friday, April 23rd.

MCDONALD ACT250 QUESTIONNAIRE

The Board completed an Act250 questionnaire relative to the McDonald subdivision off Plains Road.

FEE SCHEDULE

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the amended Fee Schedule, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

GRAND LIST ERROR & OMISSION

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the Error & Omission submitted by the Listers and to be filed in the 2009 Grand List, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

ROAD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Bob Bancroft made a motion to appoint, as recommended, Gordon Gebauer, Staci Pomeroy, Celeste Gaspari, Matt Wamsganz, Marilyn Thomas and Amy Dunn as members of the Road Committee, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

ROAD SCHEDULE

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the Road Schedule for April 10, 2010 through April 23, 2010, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

ROAD PERMISSION FORM

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve an application submitted by Mark Horton to bury a utility line across Osgood Hill Road, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

BILLS/CORRESPONDENCE

Bills were approved and correspondence was read.

MINUTES

Dave Tilton made a motion to approve the March 25, 2010 minutes as amended, seconded by Bob Bancroft. Motion passed: 3-0.

PENDING AGENDA ITEMS

The Board updated the pending agenda items list.

EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

The Chair approved Excess Weight Permits for Ron Weston Excavating, Curtis Lumber, Norman Snider, Vermont Well & Pump, I.H. Charbonneau & Son, Mobile Mini, Chevalier Drilling Company, Cain Transport, A. Johnson Company, Darryl Hayden.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bob Bancroft made a motion to enter Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and personnel, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0. People in attendance

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were John Quinn, Bob Bancroft, Dave Tilton. Gary Estus, Maurice Rathbun and Nanette Rogers were present for a portion of the Executive Session.

The Board exited Executive Session at 10:47 p.m.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to send a letter to Ted and Michelle Pelkey reaffirming the Board's position stated in its March 18, 2010 letter. The letter, contingent upon review and approval of the Town attorney, will provide 7 days from the date of said letter to remit \$726.00 to the Town and apply for a Home Occupation permit and building permit, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

ADJOURN

Bob Bancroft made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Quinn. Motion passed: 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David A. Tilton, Chair
Westford Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Clerk