

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting

7:00 pm

Tuesday, July 2, 2013

Town Offices

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Pam Marsh, Roger Boise, Kathleen Ready, Charlie Roy, Treasurer, Barb Torian and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Zoning Administrator, Dave Wetmore, Jim Moulton, Wayne Marcelle and Ed McGuire

AGENDA RESULTS:**VISITORS BUSINESS:**

1. **Jim Moulton from ACTR** – ACTR has proposed temporary changes to the Tri Town bus service in New Haven, Bristol and Vergennes. ACTR hired a consult to advise them on how to make their routes more efficient and less stressful. In his report he said coming to the Town Office Park n Ride was slowing the drivers down and stressing them out, because it put them behind schedule. ACTR is proposing to move the location to Town Hill Road in front of the Village Green Market. Jim thought he should approach the Selectboard first, and then approach the owners of the Village Green Market. He said ACTR's main concern in safety and reliability. Jim gave a history of ACTR, and explained how much they've grown since the VTRANS expansion grant in 2010. Jim said New Haven has a bus coming from Vergennes, Bristol or Middlebury every half hour. New Haven is the busiest stop for the Tri Town buses. They count every boarding as a ride, but cannot give any numbers regarding how many New Haven residents use the bus. They do an annual survey to get an idea of the towns their riders come from. The Selectboard stressed their concern for the people of New Haven who would have to walk from the Park n Ride all the way to the VGM to catch the bus. It is dangerous to cross Route 17, even with two crosswalks. Traffic moves along too fast and visibility isn't the best; and it is a long walk for some riders. Charlie Roy pointed out that the consultant for ACTR has the timing down to the minute, when they need to consider traffic, weather or even an accident. Jim said they try to predict reasonably well, and used to have a built in cushion. Now they are looking at how to get that cushion back; and relieving the drivers of stress. ACTR does not know what the creative solution for all of this is; possibly they will have to increase the routes from 60 minutes to do the tri-town run, or decrease the number of bus runs or off route stops. ACTR had approached the New Haven Congregational Church, and they were agreeable to ACTR using the parking lot, but ACTR did not want to have to go through the DRB for a change of use permit because of time constraints. ZA Dave Wetmore said either the Church or the

Store would need a permit because the bus traffic would still be considered a change of use. Neither one of these places are designed for this type of traffic, nor are there any public amenities available. At the Town Offices there is shelter and power. Dave said from a zoning perspective, any site change requires a change of use. Kathleen Ready stressed to Jim Moulton that the Selectboard feels this change is a very bad idea. Bus service should remain where it is the safest – this is our town center at the town offices. Kathy Barrett said when ACTR first spoke of this interim change they had a 6 - 7 week plan, and they were trying to push things through. She asked if ACTR will have a solution in the next 6 – 7 weeks. Pam Marsh added ACTR is a good and needed service. She said it is optimistic to think the buses will not encounter any traffic issues from here to Middlebury, Bristol or Vergennes trying to do the loop within 60 minutes; the bus drivers are speeding as soon as they leave. Pam said ACTR should go to at least 75 minute routes. The Selectboard wants New Haven to continue to have the ACTR bus service, and feels reduced service for the time being at the Town Offices is the solution.

After much discussion, the Selectboard told Jim Moulton that ACTR is not permitted to stop on Town Hill Road in front of the Village Green Market because of traffic and safety concerns. Reduced service will continue to come to the Town Offices until ACTR can find a solution to their problem. Once they have a solution, ACTR should come back to the Selectboard and present it. The Selectboard feels there should be a public hearing before any permanent change is made.

TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:

2. **Dog Warden, Wayne Marcelle** – He attended a Dog Warden workshop back in June. He said there are significant changes from the state, which would require our Town Dog Ordinance to be updated. For example, it is now a civil matter when a dog kills someone's sheep. (Formerly, the Town could be held liable.) Wayne can seize the dog, but the rest of the matter is between the owners of each animal. He said if the Selectboard has any questions, Garrett Baxter at VLCT is willing to help redrafting the ordinance. Wayne said he will be starting the Dog Census next week. Pam Kingman added there are only 8 people who still need to license their dog(s). Barb Torian suggested when redrafting the ordinance, to add fines on those who do not license on by April 1st.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 7/2/13, in the amount of \$27,906.30, seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no

2. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the pay order in the amount of \$433.50, for the Listers' mailing dated 7/2/13, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the payroll for the week ending 6/30/13, in the amount of \$5,071.61, seconded by Charlie Roy. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Boise)
4. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/22/13, in the amount of \$3,098.98, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 5 yes / 0 no
5. Pam Marsh made a motion to allow Wayne Marcelle a 5 hour per month charge on his time sheet to cover phone calls and paperwork, etc. Seconded by Kathleen Ready. 5 yes / 0 no

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. **Road Update:** With so much heavy rain, the crew has had to take care of a few washouts, and culverts.
2. **Equipment Update:** The new truck will be ready in about a month.
3. Roger is getting a price quote from D&F Paving for in front of the Town Hall.
4. Roger recently had a run in with a Hunt Road resident. on Hunt The resident told Roger and the Road Crew that making a place for the water to run within the town right of way was illegal. He also insisted that Hunt Road was only a 1 rod road, when in fact it is a 4 rod road.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the Nash Bridge Scoping Report, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
2. The Listers have asked for an additional 14 day extension; Kathy Barrett spoke with Kermit Blaisdell and signed off on the extension. Property owners will be notified of the reappraisal of all properties on July 9th, with Lister grievances July 23 – 27, 2013. The tax rate will be set at the August 6, 2013 meeting.
3. VT Gas update on gate station – Kathleen Ready will be going to tour an existing gate station. She reiterated the letter to the PSB from the Selectboard and the Planning Commission stated the decibel level at the gate station shall not exceed 35.
4. Pam Marsh made a motion to go with the Target vinyl flooring for the entrance to the Town Hall, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
5. Volunteer recognition – Pam Kingman will put together a list of names of volunteers.
6. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the town purchasing a package of dishwasher soap each year to reimburse the Beeman School lunch program, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Summer meeting schedule – The Selectboard will meet on Thursday, August 1, 2013 to set the tax rate.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

- 1. Defer the minutes of June 18, 2013 to the next meeting on July 16, 2013.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. Kathleen Ready would like to reconsider the application to the Conservation Commission submitted by Mark Krawzyck. Pam Marsh thought the Selectboard should take the time to review the statues for Conservation Commissions before going any further, and also contact the CC Chairman, Dean Percival.

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Clark mediation is set for Thursday, July 11, 2013 in Middlebury @ Langrock, Sperry & Wools office.
- 2. Phelps Engineering, Inc. – Act 250 Application for New Haven Highway Storage (Dupoise)
- 3. Sheriff's Dept. – Activity Logs

Adjourn: 9:20 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

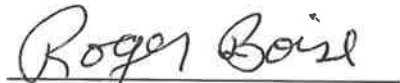
Approved:



Chair, Kathy Barrett



Vice Chair, Pam Marsh



Roger Boise



Kathleen Ready

Charlie Roy