

**Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, June 4, 2013**  
**Town Offices**

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

Absent: Chair, Kathy Barrett and Charlie Roy

Visitors: Louise Parker from the Vermont Dept. of Public Service, Eileen Simollardes from VT Gas, Jim Walsh and Rick Shappy

**AGENDA RESULTS:**

**VISITORS BUSINESS:**

1. **Louise Parker from the VT. Dept. of Public Service** - VT Gas filed a petition to extend their natural gas pipeline from Chittenden County in the Addison Natural Gas Project. The VT Dept. of Public Service is required to come before every town's governing body along the proposed route to discuss the pipeline route and to see if there are any issues. VDPS takes a look at the aesthetics, economic gain, and public safety for this project, recognizing that New Haven will have a gate station on the north end of town. The Selectboard has filed a letter of support and the town attorney has been involved.

**Eileen Simollardes from Vermont Gas** – Came to answer any questions in regards to the pipeline.

**Jim Walsh** handed out copies of the letter that was put in for exhibit on January 30, 2013 to the Public Service Board by the Selectboard and Planning Commission. Jim raised some issues that he wanted to make sure VT Gas would be sure to do what they have already agreed to:

- Provide training materials for the New Haven Volunteer Fire Dept.
- Gas line needs to be buried under 4' of cover.
- Gate Station on Plank Road – The parcel where they proposed to locate the gate station appears to be part of a larger parcel which is in the process of having development rights acquired by the Vermont Land Trust. Selectboard members wondered how VT Gas gain the needed R.O.W. if the development rights are indeed transferred? Eileen said she will look into it. It is assumed that VT Gas will have to work with Vermont Land Trust as well as the landowner. Eileen said gate stations require purchase of the land and not just an easement. VT Gas is currently in negotiation with the landowner.
- Discussed the value of the project which is estimated at 90 million; and what the depreciation value will be over a 20 year period.

- The gate station design, location and how it will impact New Haven was discussed. Kathleen Ready has concerns about the decibel level emitted from the gate station. She is also asking how the landscaping will be used effectively to help reduce decibel levels and to make it more aesthetically pleasing. She would like to be involved in the whole process of the gate station installation. Generally speaking the town is in favor of the project. Kathleen said her main concerns are the noise, landscaping, safety and overall impact of the gate station. The gate station will have the most visual impact of the project. The gate station will increase the town's grand list about a million dollars. Eileen did not know what the decibel level will be, she will look into it. Eileen said the design for the gate station in New Haven is complete, but landscaping is not. She said sometimes they wait until the gate station has been installed, and then decide what the best landscaping would be for that particular station. Louise Parker added that the Public Service Department has hired a landscape architect for the entire project. She added on September 11, 2013 the Public Service Board and VT Gas will be conducting site visits along the pipeline route, and the Selectboard is invited to join them.
- Emergency Management Coordinator Barb Torian asked about public safety, given the co-location of the pipeline near the high voltage electrical lines in the VELCO corridor. Eileen said VELCO has very strict guidelines they adhere to. VELCO and VT Gas need to be respectful of how they behave in each other's R.O.W.s. She added there are protocols for emergency response crews, she would be glad to talk about it. VT Gas will provide training to local fire, first response and emergency personnel, although they won't buy equipment.
- The pipeline will be taxed on the actual cost of the pipeline that is in the ground, plus the gate station. The estimated value of the transmission pipeline alone is \$1 - 2 million per mile. Whatever New Haven's tax rate is, it will be applicable to VT Gas's structures (pipelines and gate station) for the town. The initial taxes are based on what the cost is to build, and then the depreciated value of the pipeline and structures. Eileen said some towns use the "Handy Whitman Index" which provides information on utility costs over time. However, VT Gas does not use the Whitman Index. Eileen said she reports the net book value to every municipality. There was some discussion that the value may depreciate for income tax reasons, but that the functionality of the pipeline and gate station would remain the same, so that property taxes should not decline over the years.

- Blasting - any structure within 600' would have a pre blast and post blast foundation inspection. The same would apply to any wells within that area.
- Eileen assured the Selectboard that the amount of money they are to receive from the Ti Paper Mill would not lower the project cost or lower the tax revenue for New Haven.
- Eileen will contact Kathleen about gate station / estimated tax amount and the VT Land Trust location.

**2. Town Energy Coordinator Rick Shappy** is here to discuss the possibility of putting solar panels on the south facing roof of the Town Hall. Rick has contacted Paul Lekstutis from Cross Pollination, and he is willing to help by writing the specs for the project.

- Solar panels would be roof mounted, which is easy to do on a standing seam roof.
- Town can lease the panels as opposed to owning them outright. The panels are usually warrantied for 20 years; at that time the town will have the option to purchase them. By leasing the panels, the company who installs will be in charge of the installation, hook up, maintenance and dismantling if it comes to that.
- The immediate cost of the town's electricity won't go down, but it will be billed at the current rate, even if the cost of electricity goes up. That is when the town will see the savings.
- Rick doesn't know if there are any monies needed up front.
- The project would go out to bid. The company the town chooses will get the tax break, and our lease payment.
- Kathleen Ready made a motion for Rick Shappy to request LN Consulting to design the specs for the proposal to place solar panels on the Town Hall roof. 1) Specifying town owned. 2) Specifying town leased system. Motion seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no. The proposal would then be put out to bid.

#### **TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:**

1. Roger Boise made a motion to issue the Dog Warrant, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no. This is required by state law and means that unlicensed dogs can be picked up and destroyed if their owners refuse to license them.
2. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve signing the May 29, 2013, letter from the Listers to file for a 21day extension for filing the Towns abstract Grand List. Motion seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no

3. Riverside Cemetery – Quote for headstone repair. Kathleen Ready made a motion to postpone this until the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no
4. Beeman School and Town Hall Custodian, Gerhard Meyer will be on vacation from June 12 – the middle of July. He will leave cleaning supplies and garbage bags in the custodial closet.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 5/25/13, in the amount of \$3,147.32, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no
2. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/1/13, in the amount of \$2,955.48, seconded by Pam Marsh. 3 yes / 0 no
3. Pam Marsh made a motion to ratify the payment of \$2,749.44 representing the incorrect amount transferred by the bank for payroll for the week of 5/25/13, with the understanding that employees will reimburse the town upon receipt of their next paycheck. Motion seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no \*\* All employees have been notified of the error and have agreed to reimburse the Town. Treasurer, Barb Torian has written individual letters to each employee.
4. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 6/4/13, in the amount of \$49.11 for the purchase of bank deposits, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no
5. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 6/4/13, in the amount of \$7,966.06, (included are attorney Hill’s education training costs, which she will be reimbursing the town \$120). Motion seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no
6. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 5/27/13, in the amount of \$6,787.50, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no

**ROAD COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:**

1. **Road Update:** Installing culverts on East St.
2. **Equipment Update:** The truck they are selling is in need of a new battery.

Part Time Position on the Road Crew has been filled. Roger hired Howard Adams from N. Ferrisburgh; starting pay will be \$14.00 per hour. He will be starting on Monday. Mr. Adams was hired outside of a normal Selectboard meeting by an informal poll of three Selectboard members. In the future, when hiring an employee, it should be done at a regular or special Selectboard meeting to which the entire board is invited

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Cobble Road Agreement – Middlebury asking for original signatures again, so the Agreement can be recorded in their Land Records. This was already approved on April 2, 2013. Pam Marsh signed on behalf of the Selectboard.

2. Farnsworth property on Main St. has been transferred to Tim Goyette. All the fines and taxes have been paid. Kathleen Ready made a motion to accept Zoning Administrator, Dave Wetmore's letter setting forth the terms under which the transfer would be made, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Salvage Yard Permit from Floyd Bartlett – The Selectboard is required to hold a public hearing prior to signing off on any salvage yard permits. The public hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Town Offices.
2. Kathleen Ready made a motion to write a letter of support to the Vermont Land Trust, which is considering purchasing development rights for several properties in New Haven, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no
3. Roger Boise made a motion for the Addison County Fair & Field Days to have a motor vehicle permit for demo derbies and tractor pulls during the week of August 6 -10, 2013, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no
4. Kathleen Ready made a motion to allow the Addison County Fair & Field Days use of the town generator for the week of August 6 – 10, 2013 with the requirement that they are responsible for any damage to the generator, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 0 no
5. Application to Conservation Commission from Mark Krawczyk. He seems well qualified, but is not a resident of the Town. Pam Kingman will write him a letter thanking him for his interest and when he moves to New Haven the Selectboard will consider his application.

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

1. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the minutes from March 4, 2013, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no
2. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the minutes from May 20, 2013, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 0 no

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Discussed the Special Town Meeting minutes, they are currently available in draft form to the public, but are still a work in progress. Unfortunately, when Lanny Smith plugged in the microphone, the tape recorder got unplugged, making it much harder to write up the minutes.

**MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Vermont Cares – Bicycle Fundraiser through New Haven on June 8, 2013
2. State of VT – Ag. of Administration – FY14 PILOT payment

- 3. State of VT., VTRANS – 2013 Bicycle & Pedestrian Program
- 4. VT Environmental Court – Clark
- 5. Comcast – Courtesy Services

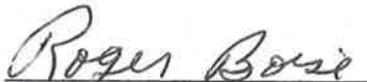
Adjourn: 10:00 pm

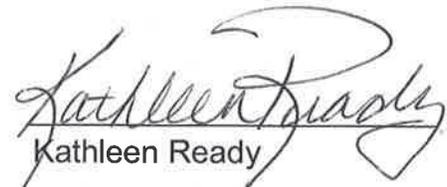
Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

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Vice Chair, Pam Marsh

  
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Roger Boise

  
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Kathleen Ready