

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting

7:00 pm

Town Offices

Tuesday, June 7, 2011

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

Absent: Charlie Roy

Visitors: Steve Dupoise, Rick Shappy, Harvey Smith, Jessica Bowen, Marianne Tricou, Harold Tricou, Bill Edson, Brian Goodyear, Claire Dykstra and Ron Sunderland

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. **Health Officer, Steve Dupoise, Jessica Bowen, Marianne Tricou, and Harold Tricou** – Jessica had called the Town Office about Roger and Marilyn Farnsworth's abandoned house because there is a currently a family of foxes living in the house. Pam Kingman suggested she call Steve Dupoise and Animal Control Officer, Wayne Marcelle. Jessica lives next door to the Farnsworth house and is concerned because they are getting bolder every day and are coming across her property where her small children play. Steve feels like this is out of his jurisdiction; feeling it was more of an animal control issue. Kathy Barrett suggested having Steve Dupoise write a letter to the Farnsworth's, informing them of the foxes living in their house and if they don't take care of it the Selectboard will condemn the property. Pam Kingman said the Board had written a letter about 2 years ago asking the Farnsworth's to clean up the property, but there was never any response. Kathleen Ready suggested contacting the State Health Officer. Discuss options, Kathleen will contact the State Health Officer and report back to Steve. Depending on that outcome, Steve may write a letter to the Farnsworth's and have our Animal Control Officer sign it too. Roger Farnsworth's father, Ira, has been paying the taxes on the property for the past several years; it may be worthwhile to contact him about the situation. Another concern is the proximity to Beeman Elementary School.
2. **Health Officer, Steve Dupoise** – Was contacted about **Clarks property on North St.** the neighbors complained about an odor. Steve visited the site, he found an old liquid manure pond that was stinky because of the very wet spring we had. Clarks is aware of the situation and are working on filling the pond in. Steve will go back again next week and check the progress.
3. **Area Rescue Squads: Bristol, Middlebury and Vergennes** – The Selectboard contacted all of the rescue squads to discuss the possibility of contracting with them in the future. All three Squads cover mutual aid. All heavy rescue is through each individuals Town's Fire Departments. The State requires that a minimum of two medically licensed personnel respond to each call.
 - **Bill Edson from Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association** covers the smallest area in New Haven. They are requesting \$2.00 per capita which they estimate will be 1/3 of New Haven's population and the cost of the mutual aid they provide, bringing the total amount to around \$1,800. Middlebury's Board of Directors has just approved raising

the fees to \$3.00 per capita for the upcoming year and \$4.00 for the following year, although New Haven will be one year behind all the others because our contract will be new. (MVAA uses the Dept. of Health population census to verify the numbers.) New Haven is the only town they share coverage with. MVAA is made up of mostly volunteers; they do have 17 paid employees, including a 24 hour paramedic. Bill Edson explained how emergency services all fall under the same umbrella. They receive reimbursements from insurance whenever possible. Medicare has reduced its reimbursement rate to about 60% and Medicaid's reimbursement rate is even less. They all supplement their shortfalls by fundraising, private donations, and private insurance, etc. Middlebury unsure of how many calls they responded to in New Haven last year.

- **Brian Goodyear from Vergennes Area Rescue Squad:** They cover about 70 households and would be asking for \$5.00 per capita. Total amount would be around \$1,000. Vergennes Rescue Squad members are all are volunteers. Vergennes is unclear about how many calls they had last year.
 - **Ron Sunderland and Claire Dykstra from Bristol Rescue Squad:** They cover the majority of New Haven; they would be asking for a flat rate of \$5,000. They also cover the 5 town district which includes the following towns: Bristol, Monkton, Lincoln, Starksboro and New Haven. They ask for the same amount from all the towns except Bristol, who provides them with about \$15,000. Claire Dykstra said each time they pull the rig out to go to a call, it cost them roughly \$600. This is from wear and tear on the vehicle insurance, gas and supplies. Bristol relies on all volunteers, too. Bristol had 30 calls to New Haven last year, and 35 calls already this year. She added that sometimes they get called out, they treat a patient on site, and then the patient decides they don't need to go to the hospital. When this happens the ambulance cannot bill anyone for the call because they did not transport.
 - All agree that entering into contracts with each town would an easier way to budget. This way the Rescue Squads do not have to petition for the funds, and they and the towns can depend on a set amount. The Selectboard appreciates all these folks do for us as volunteers.
 - Brian Goodyear from Vergennes Rescue had a copy of a draft contract he handed out. Pam Kingman will email a copy to the Town Attorney for review. Bristol and Middlebury will forward their draft contracts ASAP.
4. **Energy Coordinator, Rick Shappy** – Bids for the **Town Hall gymnasium ceiling** were due on Friday, June 3, 2011 by 3:00 pm. At 5:00 pm, members Tim Bouton, Suzy Roorda and Rick Shappy opened the two bids that were received and reviewed them. Rick is here tonight to give the Energy Committee's recommendation to the Selectboard. The two bids received were from:
- **Structural Energy Conservation - \$43,429.00 total**
 - **McKernon Green Design / Build - \$48,694.00 total**

It is the Energy Committee's recommendation that the Selectboard award the bid to SEC for \$43,429.00. Jared Moats the owner of SEC has intimate knowledge of the building and the

project.

Pam Marsh made a motion to award the bid to SEC in the amount of \$43,429.00; monies to come from the Reserve Facilities Fund to do energy repairs in the Town Hall, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

Roger Boise made a motion to approve the retainer of 20% required by SEC to secure the contract in the amount of \$8,685.80, seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no .

Rick has spoken with Fire Marshall Joe Bedard about the required permit from the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety. He emailed the permit to the state on Friday and used his own money to pay for it. Kathleen Ready made a motion to reimburse Rick Shappy for the payment of the State Permit in the amount of \$240.00, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

Pam Marsh made a motion to approve paying the invoice from Artisan Engineering in the amount of \$500.00, related to their work on the structural elements of the insulation/ceiling work, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no.

Rick is somewhat concerned about the acoustics in the gym. The new ceiling will be 9 inches higher than the old suspended one, and it will be sheetrock. Rick plans on holding on to the panels from the suspended ceiling just in case they are needed acoustically.

5. **Harvey Smith – Culverts on Lime Kiln Road** seems to always be an issue especially with such a wet spring. Roger Boise met with Edward Bessette and Harvey Smith. Harvey called NRCS, but was told they could not do any work unless it is requested by the Town. Harvey gave Road Commissioner, Roger Boise the number and Roger spoke with Pete Lossman at NRCS office in Middlebury. Mr. Lossman came out and walked the road with Roger and the neighbors to get a better idea on how to direct the water flow so no one's property gets washed out. There was some confusion by the neighbors about stakes the Road Commissioner had put up to mark the town's R.O.W. Harvey said he had no intention of trying to stop the project, he just wanted to be included in the discussions and informed of the decisions. Discuss the issue of town's people abusing the towns R.O.W with farm crops, electric fencing and flowers.
6. There was also a discussion on the issue of town's people encroaching on the town's R.O.W. with farm crops, electric fencing and flowers. Katie Reilley will put an article in the July newsletter about this matter.
7. **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District:** Pam Marsh, Harvey Smith and Rick Shappy attended the last energy meeting at ACRPC, where they learned about legislative changes to address concerns previously held by bankers regarding priority of the PACE lien vs. the mortgage. One of the major changes would mean the PACE district would become a junior lien holder instead of the senior. Harvey said he is still unclear about what the regulations would be for the town; he didn't want the town to act as a banker. Pam Marsh is interested in signing up for the Quick Start program to receive all mailings. There is a form the Board would need to fill out in order to receive the mailings. The form says it will provide the town with more information, then if the Board chooses to join, they would be better informed. Kathy Barrett had some reservations about having to join the Quick Start program to get the information. She wonders why the information isn't just available. She also questioned where the money would come from. Pam Marsh made a motion to sign up for the Quick Start through PACE, and have

Pam Kingman sign the form on behalf of the Board. Seconded by Kathleen Ready. 2 yes / 2 no (Barrett and Boise). No vote, motion is defeated. Barb Torian asked Harvey Smith why the state set it up this way. Harvey said it allows for cash flow, the PACE program acts as the bank. He added this this could be a way for towns to kick start clean energy. Barb Torian said she has a lot of questions about the program, she feels it is not a good idea for the town to be funding now. She wondered why Efficiency Vermont wasn't funding the program. She feels it could be putting municipalities in jeopardy by putting another loan out there. Pam Marsh suggested that those who voted no ought to attend an upcoming meeting to get more information.

TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:

1. Town Hall front porch repairs – The support beams under the front porch had rotted. Roger Boise asked Randy Fairbrother to do a temporary fix, which cost \$194.83
2. Town Hall application - Kathleen Ready made a motion to allow VELCO use of the cafeteria on Thursday, June 9, 2011 @ 7pm to hold a public hearing on the new shunt reactor to be placed at the New Haven substation. Seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Payroll – Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 5/21/11, in the amount of \$3,462.13, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
2. Payroll – Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 5/28/11, in the amount of \$4,384.61, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 1 abstention (Boise)
3. Payroll - Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 6/4/11, in the amount of \$4,637.70, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
4. Pay Orders - Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 6/7/11, in the amount of \$33,226.14, seconded by Kathy Barrett. 4 yes / 0 no

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

1. **Roads Update:** Three new culverts have been installed on Sumner Road, and one small one at the end of the Ash's driveway. Sawyer Road also has some new culverts and one installed at the Sawyers farm entrance. On South Street, Tim Goyette's driveway culvert needs an extension.
2. Discussion about putting together a 5 year road plan. Roger will talk to Katie Reilley about it. Kathleen Ready thinks it would be nice to have a plan in place for Town Meeting, it shows the voters what the future plan will be for road work. Barb Torian mentioned that she and Katie have been putting all the road information into the GASB system, it is a slow process.
3. **Equipment Update:** Had a small problem with the backhoe; it has been fixed under the warranty.
4. **Roadside Mowing bids:**
 - David Miner - \$9,720 for the season, includes two mowings
 - Ernest Coddling - \$9,500 for the season, includes two mowings

Roger Boise made a motion to award the bid to Ernest Coddling for \$9,500, two passes; seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no
5. May need to vote on replacing a truck at town meeting.

6. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve a road access permit for Jon Christiano on North St. to be used strictly for agricultural purposes, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
7. Barb Torian – Since we've been discussing a planning theme, she would like the Board to look at driveway access. With the Fire Dept. getting bigger equipment, the size of the driveway entrance needs to be taken into consideration. The Board suggested she contact the Planning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Meeting schedule for July: The Selectboard has decided they will only meet once in July and that will be on July 12th at 7 pm.
2. Road name off South St. (where Danyow, Ward and Flynn live) Roger Boise made a motion to approve the name "Ironhorse Road", seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no
3. Barb Torian – Is concerned about several driveway signs people have put up that closely resemble our road signs. It could start getting very confusing for emergency response personnel. This is an issue that should be addressed in the Zoning Regulations.
4. Addison County Fair & Field Days – Fireworks display permit: The Selectboard would like to request a certificate of insurance before signing off on the permit.
5. Addison County Fair & Field Days – Town Participation in their annual parade: the theme being the 250th Charter birthdays. Pam Kingman has passed a copy along to the 250th Committee.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve minutes from May 17, 2011, seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no
2. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve minutes from March 29, 2011, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to go into executive session at 9:35pm, to discuss possible litigation, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes/ 0 no
Pam Marsh made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:50 pm, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. VTRANS/Program Development Division: Minutes from the Local Concerns meeting on the Nash Bridge.
2. Regional Broadband Planning Initiative
3. VLCT – Health Trust Board – Insurance Carrier choice
4. PSB – Public Hearings – VELCO Shunt reactor
5. Vt. Sec. of State – VELCO petition for Certificate of Public Good
6. List of Appointed Officials for 2011

Adjourn: 9:50 pm

Respectfully submitted:

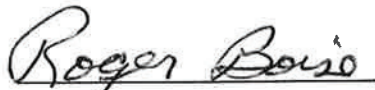
Pam Kingman

Approved:



Chair, Kathy Barrett

Vice Chair, Pam Marsh



Roger Boise



Kathleen Ready