

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
6:45 pm
Town Offices
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Pam Marsh, Roger Boise, Kathleen Ready, Charlie Roy, and Clerk, Pam Kingman
 Visitors: Road Foreman, Chris Nelson

Kathleen Ready made a motion to go into executive session at 6:45 pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no

Pam Marsh made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 7:00pm, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no

Meeting opened to public at 7:00 pm:

Visitors: Treasurer, Barb Torian, Tim Bouton, Francie Caccavo, Jim Walsh, Jim Gallott, Steve Dupoise, Victor Bolduc, Therese Fafard and Steve Wark from Vermont Natural Gas

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. **Therese Fafard** – She and some other members of the PTO are seeking permission to paint the cafeteria and hallway in the town hall. They have chosen warm / calming colors, and the paint will be non-toxic. Beeman principal, Steve Flint has offered for the school to purchase the paint. Therese said they are hoping Martins Hardware will give them a good deal. Parents of Beeman kids are volunteering their labor, along with supplying all the paint brushes. Therese and her husband will oversee the project; they are hoping to brighten up the space. Kathleen Ready made a motion to allow the group to paint the cafeteria and hallway, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no
2. **Steve Wark from Vermont Natural Gas** – They are looking to expand into Addison County; they currently serve Chittenden and Franklin Counties. Vermont Natural Gas (VNG) had to petition the Public Service Board in order to consider this expansion. The PSB gave them the green light to explore it. Mr. Wark distributed a handout on the possible expansion project, and an overview of the company.
 - In 1965 VNG purchased an existing gas pipeline, took it off line, and rebuilt it as VNG.
 - All the gas comes from Alberta, Canada via the Trans Canadian Pipeline.

- Vermont is like a donut hole, as the system stops in Hinesburg and Shelburne.
- They are closely regulated and held to high safety standards.
- Cannot change their rates without going to the PSB.
- There is 700 miles of distribution lines made of steel; that have barriers to protect them from corrosion.
- Add odorant as a safety feature.
- Do fly overs, using infrared cameras to detect leaks. As well as walkers called “sniffers” to detect any odor indicating any leaks.
- Lines are buried 36” – 48” deep.
- Try to stay within the existing rights of way.
- VGN provides gas to 36% residential; 28% commercial and 36% industrial customers.
- Addison County Regional Planning Commission does not like the Route 7 corridor, as they fear it will create strip development.
- The pipeline would go in where it serves the greatest number of customers. It would not extend lines to homes that are remote.
- Routes considered viable from Monkton are North St. to South St. up River Rd across Rt. 7 to Belden Falls Rd into Middlebury; or the Route 7 corridor; or in the VELCO corridor. All going into Middlebury.
- If New Haven says they do not want the pipeline. VNG would petition VTRANS to use the Route 7 corridor.
- Transmission line would stop in Monkton. Distribution line would go from Monkton to Middlebury.
- Discuss how VNG would be taxed, and if people’s property values would increase if the pipeline is on their land.
- At 8:00 pm, the Selectboard thanked Mr. Wark for his presentation. There will be a public meeting on the Vermont Natural Gas expansion in the Town Hall on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, from 7 – 9 pm. All are encouraged to attend.

TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:

1. Liquor and Tobacco License:

Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the Liquor license for COCO Mart, seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no

Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the Tobacco license for COCO Mart, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no

2. ACRPC – Regional Plan adopted December 14, 2011. Selectboard members will take and look at it individually.

3. Prevent Child Abuse – Pinwheel Garden – The Selectboard chose not to act on this at this time.
4. Elevator (Lift) Grant – The Secretary of State’s Office has agreed to an extension until March 29, 2012. Kathy Barrett signed the Standard Grant Amendment.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

1. SIMPLE Plan – There is an option to make the 3% Selectboard contribution retroactive to January 1, 2012. Kathy Barrett made a motion to make the 3% match at the time the employee starts to take out the plan. Seconded by Charlie Roy. 3 yes / 2 abstentions (Ready/Marsh)
2. Tax Anticipation Note – Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve taking out a line of credit at 1.85%, with Peoples United Bank, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Charlie Roy made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/11/12, in the amount of \$3,664.38, seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no
4. Charlie Roy made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/18/12, in the amount of \$4,114.91, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
5. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 2/29/12, in the amount of \$6,453.22, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no
6. Charlie Roy made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 2/21/12, in the amount of \$15,316.36, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT:

1. Road update – Things have been quiet. Filling some pot holes and cutting brush while weather permits. Road Crew burned a brush pile at DeMers Park. Roger has fixed the gate for Riverside Cemetery, and will hang it up soon.
2. Equipment update – No major problems. The Town of Bristol has put a truck out to bid. Roger would like to consider putting a bid on it. Kathleen Ready made a motion to go into executive session at 8:30 pm to discuss a contractual matter, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no. Pam Marsh made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 8:45 pm, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no. Pam Marsh made a motion to authorize Roger Boise to bid on the Town of Bristol’s truck, seconded by Charlie Roy. 5 yes / 0 no

Pam Marsh made a motion to hire Eric Boise as the new road crew member, subject to his references being appropriate, seconded by Charlie Roy. 4 yes / 1 abstention (Boise)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Town Meeting preparation – Pam Kingman has gotten permission from the Beeman Principal to use their microphone and speaker during Town Meeting. The Selectboard has had requests for them to be up on the stage for the meeting, but the board feels it is too high; and think the issue is more with whether people in the audience can hear what is being said. Using microphones should make it better. The Board did discuss the possibility of using risers if we could find some to rent.
2. March meeting schedule will be on Tuesday, March 13th @ 7pm and Tuesday, March 20th @ 7 pm.
3. National Multiple Sclerosis Society will be holding a bike race on August 11th & 12th. They are asking for permission to use River Road through the Mills into Bristol. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the bike ride, seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/31/12, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 1 abstention(Roy)
2. Charlie Roy made a motion to approve the minutes from 2/7/12, seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

1. VLCT – Selectboard Institute training
2. Vt. State Dept. Taxes – Final Reconciliation of April 1, 2011 Grand List.

Adjourn: 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman


Approved:



Chair, Kathy Barrett

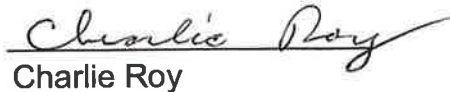


Vice Chair, Pam Marsh



Roger Boise


Kathleen Ready


Charlie Roy