

SELECTMEN'S AGENDA AND MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2011

1. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present were: Yves Daigle, Jacques Couture, Richard Degree, MaryLou Jacobs, Connie LaPlume, Mike Piper, Scott Dunn, Yvan LaPlume and LaDonna Dunn

2. Review minutes of last meeting

Motion by Jacques, 2nd by Yves to accept minutes as read. So moved.

3. Non-employee work agreement

Fred Satink, VLCT, provided the town with a copy of this agreement which he suggested all non-town employees sign. The signed agreement will protect the town from liability if someone gets injured during the course of providing a service to the town. Lynn Danforth and Yvan LaPlume will be asked to sign the agreement.

4. Tropical Storm Irene Aug. 27th agreement

Selectboard members were given a copy of the agreement Yves signed and returned to FEMA. To date we have not received any monies for the April 2011 flood. MaryLou will contact Chris at AOT to get a status update.

5. VLCT dues 2012

Yves read a letter from VLCT regarding the 2012 dues. Our expected bill for 2012 will be \$1270 which reflects a 3 ½ cent per capita increase. The town will have to keep this in mind when preparing the 2012 budget.

6. Report from VLCT insurance inspection of our buildings - Jacques Couture

Jacques met with Fred Satink and surveyed all the town properties. Fred was complimentary about the way the buildings have been maintained. Jacques reviewed the Action Plan that was submitted to the town by VLCT with the Selectboard members. Connie suggested that as compliance issues are completed they be marked off on the master list at the town clerks office. Once items are completed we will send a letter to Fred.

7. Update on garage repairs

Yves reported the painting of the garage is complete. Both chimneys have also been completed. The wood flue is stainless steel lined and the oil flue is clay lined. Howard Starr did the chimney work totaling \$4,469. Troy Overhead Doors has been contacted to do the repairs on the garage doors. The insulation project will be started next. Richard reported Green Mountain Power will provide and install a pole at no charge to the town. Richard will provide the light and the town

will bring power to the pole. This will eliminate the problem with the staining on the building due to the spiders and insects that are attracted to the current wall mounted light.

8. Agency of Transportation Class 2 Roadway Grant

MaryLou stated \$95,765 has been received from AOT which is the states share of the paving costs. The total cost of paving was \$119,707.

9. Green Mountain Power – Good Neighbor Fund

Yves read a letter regarding the wind project's Good Neighbor Fund. It stated that Westfield will receive a minimum of \$10,000 annually for the first 10 years of the project. Discussion was held regarding how the money was to be used. Motion by Yves and 2nd by Richard to table until the next meeting at which time MaryLou will provide some financial projections to help facilitate further discussion. So moved.

10. Adoption of Dog Ordinance

The proposed Dog Ordinance was reviewed. Motion by Richard and 2nd by Jacques to adopt the Dog Ordinance as presented. So moved.

11. NVDA meeting on Sept. 15, 2011 - Scott Dunn

Scott read the minutes from the meeting and brought the Selectboard up-to-date as to his participation on the NVDA Board. The next General Board meeting is December 8.

12. Town Website – LaDonna Dunn

LaDonna will be meeting with Joanna Cummings of the Snelling Center on November 16 to discuss the steps the town would take to start a municipal website. Motion by Yves and 2nd by Richard to have LaDonna be the contact person reporting back to the Selectboard as the steering committee for the website project. So moved.

13. Display Cork Board – Purchase ?

Yves suggested purchasing a corkboard enclosed & locking bulletin board (72" x 48") to be mounted on the outside wall of the recycling center at a cost of \$623. Motion by Richard and 2nd by Jacques. So moved.

14. Change of name on Cemetery Account – Mary Lou Jacobs

MaryLou told Selectboard members that Rita Petzoldt's name was still on the Cemetery Account. She suggested closing the account and transferring the money to the general fund earmarked for the cemetery. Motion by Jacques and 2nd by Richard to remove Rita Petzoldt's name from the account, add MaryLou Jacobs & Connie LaPlume to the account and close the existing cemetery checking account. So moved.

15. Recommendation on delinquent taxes from VLCT

It was reported a couple of taxpayers said they did not receive their tax bills in the mail and had not paid their taxes on time. LaDonna contacted Garrett Baxter at VLCT and he stated a municipality's obligation with regard to tax bills is to send them out at least 30 days before taxes are due. It's the taxpayer's obligation to know when the due date for taxes is and to make their timely payment.

16. Update on 2 Town Auditor positions open

A notice was posted in town asking for candidates to serve as town auditor. A December 1, 2011 deadline was given. To date we have received one inquiry from Lara Starr. The Selectboard will wait until the December meeting to appoint 2 people to the position.

17. Other business

A. Bobbi Jo Bathalon requested a road sign for Peaceful Ridge Rd., which is a private road. The town will provide her with a pole at no charge, but it would be the responsibility of the people on the road to purchase the sign and mount it as this is a private road. LaDonna will contact Bobby Jo to explain this and give her Richard Degree's number so she can get costs for the sign.

B. MaryLou reported she will be paying the Appropriations for 2011 now that taxes have been collected.

C. Yves discussed throwing up the road near Robert Bathalon's farm. The Selectboard felt if the town fixes the road the cow's would not be allowed on it in the future. The item was tabled.

18. To adjourn

Motion by Jacques and 2nd by Richard to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. So moved.

Minutes taken by LaDonna Dunn, Assistant Town Clerk

Yves Daigle – Chair

Richard Degre

Jacques Couture