

## SELECTBOARD MEETING

### *Approved Minutes*

February 27, 2012

7:00pm Calais Elementary School

**Attending:** Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Mike Garand, Toby Talbot, Scott Bassage, Donna Fitch, Alfred Larrabee, Rolf Mueller, Peter Harvey, Wilson Hughes, Doug Lilley and Rose Pelchuck.

#### **Actions:**

Approval of the January 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes - The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes. Scott Bassage made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. The vote was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

Town Invoices and Road Commissioner's Orders of the Day - The Selectboard reviewed and processed the invoices and orders of the day as per usual protocol.

Response Letter to Doug Lilley – As discussed at the last meeting, the town received a letter from Doug Lilley regarding roadwork done in the town's right-of-way in August 2011 and a bill he sent for \$290.00. Denise Wheeler, Chair, will sign the response letter telling Doug Lilley the Selectboard considered the request and has determined that reimbursement is not appropriate.

Road Commissioner Update – Alfred Larrabee reported one truck is down for a minor issue with the temperature sensor. Six-month review for Sidney Griggs is due. Denise Wheeler would like to implement performance review evaluations for the road crewmembers. Alfred noted Sidney Griggs' started wage was \$14.00 and Alfred recommends \$0.75 per hour raise. Guthrie has good mechanical skills that Alfred values. Alfred receives many compliments from people on Guthrie's route. Scott Bassage made a motion to give \$0.75 per hour raise to Sidney Griggs. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0. Toby Talbot strongly recommended giving Sid a specific target so he knows where he needs to be headed in order to receive another raise.

Trail groomer has been leaving a lot of snow in the road that Alfred doesn't appreciate. Alfred Larrabee will contact Jason Fielder to let him know about it. Alfred Larrabee publicly thanked Mike Garand for the help last week on the County Road when the Calais crew was late getting out there.

Mike Garand explained the subscription process for Roger Hill Forecasting Service. Meteorologist Roger Hill provides daily updates on weather conditions in central Vermont to many road crews, WDEV Radio and other clients. Alfred Larrabee reported he is on a trial basis with Roger Hill and the Town of Calais may subscribe in the future.

Draft Revised Dog Ordinance – At the last meeting, Wilson Hughes was asked to include language that addresses a nuisance dog that does not destroy property but continues to infringe on other's property. Wilson Hughes added "a dog that infringes on the right of a property owner or tenant to enjoy his or her property without interference" under the definition of a nuisance dog. The Selectboard agreed to change the word dog to animal throughout the ordinance since other animals have been reported nuisances over the years. Wilson will continue to revise the draft ordinance.

Town Warning for Town Meeting – The Selectboard reviewed the Warning and decided who would speak to each article. The town audit is complete. Toby Talbot noted just to make the payments on what we already own, we need \$99,000.00 in the Equipment Fund. Alfred Larrabee would like a Road Grader for next year (approximately \$350,000.00). Mike Garand attended the Addison County Road Foreman's meeting and learned a lot. "They share equipment", Mike Garand said. Sharing a brush chipper was an idea discussed. The Selectboard noted that Mo Cerutti will move a resolution about cemeteries and veterans under other business at Town Meeting.

Roads Advisory Committee Revised Charge – The Selectboard doesn't have the final copy from Mo Cerutti, therefore no action was taken.

Finalize Town of Calais Personnel Policy – The Selectboard and Road Commissioner looked at the most recent copy of the draft personnel policy and offered some suggestions. Toby Talbot will make the final changes and bring to the next meeting. It will be then be put into effect after Selectboard approval and adoption.

Curtis Pond Dam Update – John Brabant reported there are two funds with State appropriated monies for the Curtis Pond Dam Project. One fund, at the Dam Safety Program, is down to about \$11,000.00. The second appropriation for \$20,000.00, at the Buildings & General Services Division, is for stabilization of the dam or construction of a new dam. John is checking with them to see if they agree engineered design plans expenses would be covered.

Website Update – Denise Wheeler acknowledged the great work on the town's updated website. Rolf Mueller noted it is much easier to find things and you can see recent pictures. Rolf Mueller reported 2000 unique visitors to the site in one month. The Lakes & Ponds newsletter is also on the town's website. Great job Rolf!

EMFD Letter re: Capital Fund – The Selectboard signed the response letter to East Montpelier Fire Department, Inc. approving combining the old capital fund balance from 2010 be rolled into the existing EMFD Capital Reserve Plan.

Other Business:

Alfred Larrabee met with Wayne Morse to inform him a stop sign and no outlet sign will be installed on Wheeler Road in accordance with MUTA standards. Wayne Morse understands where the signs will be placed and agrees with it.

Tentative Agenda for the March 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting:

- Organizational meeting of newly elected Selectboard
- Town appointments, set meeting dates, Robert's Rules

Other Business (continued):

Doug Lilley asked about the letter he sent the town to pay him for work he did near his house. Denise Wheeler responded by saying the Selectboard took up the issue at the beginning of the meeting and he will be receiving a letter from the Selectboard. After inquiring further, Doug Lilley was told by Denise Wheeler that the town considered the request and has determined that reimbursement is not appropriate. Doug Lilley said Alfred Larrabee supplied the materials (top soil) and he used his equipment to fix the town's right-of-way. Doug promises he will go to court about getting his money back.

Doug Lilley spoke about getting interest from the previous lawsuit settlement he had with the town. "I'm gonna let it hang for three years so I can get the interest" said Doug Lilley.

Mike Garand made a motion to adjourn at 8:40pm. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck  
Selectboard Administrative Assistant