

Draft

North Hero Selectboard Meeting
Monday.. December 21, 2009 5:30 P.M.
Board Meeting Room/Town Office

In Attendance: Selectboard - Marie Kilbride, Jim Martin, Andre Quintin, Robert
Rousseau and Eileen Mitchell
Board Clerk Jo-Ann Tier
Town Clerk/Treasurer: Pete Johnson
Water Board Jay O'Boyle and Rob Cunningham
Public Works: Kevin Daignault
Guest : Walter Blasberg and Bob Camp

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Marie Kilbride at 5:30 P.M.

REVIEW AND APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Warrant was reviewed and signed by the following Selectboard ...
Marie Kilbride, Eileen Mitchell, Andre Quintin and Robert Rousseau.
Note: warrant not signed by Jim Martin due to conflict of interest.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

- Discussion/Action - Memo from Don Weaver.. request
funds, fiscal year 2011
- Setting of the date for the Informational
Budget Meeting
- Correspondence/Sharing - Letter from Sandy Lavigne
- Department of Taxes .. Equalization

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR.... December 07, 2009

Discussion.... page 4

- Under Town Report: Selectboard Report Write-up.. 1st sentence should
read Jim Martin made a motion that the Selectboard Report.. and a budget
explanation.....
- Executive Session... Board went in to Executive Session for a personnel matter.

Eileen Mitchell made a motion that the minutes be accepted with the noted above
corrections. This motion was seconded by Jim Martin.. hearing no further discussion... this
motion was carried 5-0.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Note: Walter Blasberg will delay conversation about the Great Ice In Grand Isle until Bob Camp arrives.

REPORTS

Public Works

Lakeview Drive and Pelots Point Road Easements

No update at this meeting

Brine Solution

Jim Martin shared the “brine solution” ... something for the future.

It is made up of beet juice and molasses... North Hero will purchase a small portion of it to try on the most troubled areas in town...

The results will be shared with the Selectboard.

Jim reported should the town eventually use this method that the Public Works will make their own sprayer.

Class 2 Road Grant (availability)

Jim reviewed with the Board... Public Works will explore with Jim Smith for West Shore Road. Grant monies could be used for guard rails (where needed) , pavement, shoulder work, etc.

Board asked if there was money to explore with Jim Smith. Ans. money is available for professional services. Future agenda item

Town Clerk

Payroll Suggestion

Board agreed that this would be discussed in an Executive Session..

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR ACTION OR DISCUSSION

Dog Ordinance... signing of

The Dog Ordinance that went in to affect was signed by the Board.

Note: Original copy was given to Town Clerk for filing.

Water Board

Bonding Matters

E.mail from Joe Duncan was distributed to the Board.

E.mail referenced updated water storage tank cost estimates

The importance of having a vote of the community of approval for construction of a water storage tank if stimulus monies came available was explained by Robert Rousseau.

Jay will contact Joe Duncan on suggested wording for an article to be warned and get back in touch with the Selectboard.

Jay O'Boyle shared that he is in the process of negotiating with the State of Vermont for an easement for the land.. (Station Road)

Concern for more water users on the south-end and chemicals being dumped more into the water system which affects the North-end customer... other options other than a water tower was discussed.

Selectboard asked what would the cost be to install a "booster chlorination station" at the same site where the water tower will be located? Ans. Water Board was not exactly sure. They will look in to it and report the figures back to the Selectboard.

Budget..

A review took place of the Water Board Budget with questions being asked by the Selectboard for a more detailed explanation on said line items.

Water Board will be meeting tentatively on January 11th and they will review their budget and get back to the Selectboard.

Selectboard Annual Report and Budget Explanation

Marie and Eileen will be getting together to prepare

Emergency Management Director

Discussion

Board asked Jo-Ann Tier to post in three (3) locations in the community a notice for the Emergency Management Director's position. The Board also asked that in this notice a reference be made that it is an unpaid position.

Note: posted Town Clerk's Office 12.22.09

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Great Ice In Grand Isle..... Bob Camp Walter Blasberg

Shared by the Chair Kilbride was information from the insurance agent...

"if we provide coverage we (SB member & and/or Town employee) must be in direct control of the event. This means budgetary control as well as individual event responsibility..."

Example:

Ice Fishing - we would be responsible for ensuring the ice was thick enough to support all participants & weather was not hazardous enough to create unsafe conditions.

As a secondary insurer all we would be insuring are those events we have direct involvement in: which will probably be none.

Suggestion.. we don't provide any insurances & and just support monetarily at most.

Notices from the discussion with Bob Camp and Walter Blasberg

- great Ice In Grand Isle going in to its 4th year
- much of the expense is “shouldered” by Bob Camp and Walter Blasberg
- Town last year was a co-sponsor and not a primary sponsor
- what is it that you need from the town?
- insurance coverage discussion took place
- David Carter’s comments were read by Walter Blasberg
- putting signs on the lakeside “at your own risk”
- entry fees.. where does the money go?
- the value of having the public aware of the disbursement of funds
- maybe it is time to establish policies
- the importance of having “certificate of insurance forms” on file from those participants who are putting on the activities.. i.e sleigh rides, etc
- concern of the liability for the Town of North Hero.

As a result of this discussion... Bob and Walter will review concerns Addressed and get back with the Board..

Pete Johnson will have a further discussion with the insurance company representing the Town of North Hero.

Delinquent Tax Collector/paired with Treasurer

Discussion

Board asked Pete Johnson to investigate how this should be written for the Town Warning.

Request for Funds, Fiscal Year 2001 (UMC Trustee)

Request to consider a one-time donation of \$1,000.00 in the fiscal year 2011 to support the Champlain Islands Food Shelf building funds.

Discussion..

Andre Quintin made a motion to put into the budget \$1,000.00 for a donation towards the Champlain Islands Food Shelf Building Funds and if the budget is approved by the voters that the money will be given once the building is put up. Eileen Mitchell seconded this motion.. hearing no further discussion this motion was carried 5-0.

Note: copy of said memo attached to copy of the minutes in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Setting of the date for the Budget Informational Meeting

Discussion...

A date of February 20th was suggested... Pete Johnson will check with the School Board to see when they plan to have their Informational Meeting and

report back to the Board

CORRESPONDENCE FOR SHARING/INFORMATION

DRB Decision. tax map 03.01.16

Board acknowledged receipt of this DRB decision

VLCT News/Cider/Auction

Board acknowledged receipt of the above...

Equalization

Received by the Town of North Hero on December 17th... equalization information...

Chair reported that the following information was shared in this communication –

- Education Grand List (from 411) \$2,670,158
- Equalized Education Grand List: \$3,223,740
- Common Level of Appraisal: 82.83%

Letter from Sandy Lavigne..

Said letter referenced a suggested change in the property tax billing payment schedule.

Discussion... payment for taxes being (3 months) August/October/February
payment for taxes being (4 months) August/October/February/July
.. others have expressed to Pete that the December month is difficult

Andre Quintin made a motion that Pete Johnson looks into the wording for a warning that would allow the opportunity for the taxpayers to choose between a 3 or 4-month payment. This motion was seconded by Jim Martin... hearing no further discussion this motion was carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION... IF NEEDED

Eileen Mitchell made a motion to recess the meeting and to go into Executive Session with the Water Board for a personnel matter. This motion was seconded by Jim Martin.. hearing no further discussion... this motion was carried 5-0.

Jim Martin made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the Selectboard Meeting with no decisions being reached at this time. This motion was seconded by Eileen Mitchell.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Note: Jim Martin and Marie Kilbride will meet with individual involved.

Andre Quintin made a motion to recess the meeting again and to go back into Executive Session for a personnel matter. Eileen seconded this motion .. hearing no further discussion this motion was carried 5-0.

Robert Rousseau made a motion to come out of Executive Session and to reconvene the meeting. This was seconded by Andre Quintin... hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried.

Jim Martin made a motion that as a result of the Executive Session that a decision was made to lump sum the remainder of the stipend owed in the last payroll of the calendar year. This will end the stipend. This motion was seconded by Eileen Mitchell.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

AGENDA BUILDING

December 30, 2009 - 10:00 a.m. Budget Work Session

ADJOURNMENT

Jim Martin made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 P.M. This motion was seconded by Andre Quintin.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo-Ann Tier

C: Selectboard: Marie/Eileen/Andre/Robert/Jim
Town Clerk/Treasurer
Web Page
File