
Moretown Select Board Meeting
Monday January 06, 2025 at 6:00 PM
79 School Street
In the John Hoogenboom Meeting Room
Via ZOOM Meeting ID 620 104 2716 or call in: 929-205-6099

Members Present: Tom Martin, Callie Streeter, Don Wexler, Mike Brown, Robin Campbell (not present – tried attending through Zoom)

Guests presents: MRVTV, Steve Rosenberg, Benjamin Clark, Travis Blodgett, Carol Chamberlin, Sasha Elwell

Meeting called to order by Tom at 6:00 pm

Public Comment: Travis was following up on an email he sent regarding the LHMP. Carol is working on addressing his question with the Planning Commission.

6:03 **School Board Members** – Steve and Benjamin were present to go over the budget coming up. The governor asked that the school boards keep the budgets under a 3% increase. The HUUSD board was able to keep it at 2.75%. Moretown is looking in better shape than the other towns, since the CLA is so up-to-date. Steve said that if everything was level funded, the increase would have been 7%, so there will be cuts. There is more information on the HUUSD website for those who would like to look at it further. The legislature is going to be addressing the school funding this session, but what is decided, won't take effect until FY26. Benjamin is on the Building Maintenance Committee, he was asked about how things are being taken care of right now. He advised that the infrastructure issues are being fixed and addressed. Tom thanked them for working on keeping the increase down to 2.75%.

The Zoom was having issues, IT issue will be worked on, Butternut will be contacted to assist with it prior to the next meeting.

6:24 **House Elevation related to 2024 Flooding** - Carol was present to go over a Swift Current Project for the bottom of Cobb Hill Road. Tom pointed out that it is the same scenario as the resident that lives up Herring Brook Road, the Wetzels, that grant and process was very involved and just barely closed out at the end of 2024. Carol asked the SB if it would be all right to ask the landowner for some sort of promissory note – there is a match with this, maybe get their 25% and hold it in escrow. Carol needs the SB okay to move forward. Tom **made the motion** to accept the Swift Current application. Mike seconded. All were in favor. Carol went on to talk about an Emergency Watershed Program through the USDA. The SOV looked at four or five different sites with her and they approved Edge Drive and 88 & 86 Cobb Hill Road for this program. Both sites have been approved for dredging. Discussion was had, this could be very involved. Carol will get with Jared at the SOV and Rae Washburn on this.

6:40 **MRVAS** – discussion was had on the requested \$6K to be put into the budget annually – all agreed that it should be. The MOU will be sent over to the town attorney to look over before being signed by the SB.

Quick discussion was had on the Washington County Sheriff services. Tom **made the motion** to accept their contract. Callie seconded. All were in favor.

6:45 **Budget** – there were just a few more items in the budget that needed to be gone over. Don will do some more work on the building maintenance plans before the next meeting.

Discussion on pay rates will be had at the next meeting as well.

Two **articles** were agreed on for the ballot: Waterbury Area Senior Center is asking for \$6,250 this year, being over the \$4,999 it needs to go on the ballot. As well as the article to join the MRVRD for \$20K.

7:15 **Reports & Communications:** a letter was received from David Van Deusen regarding a revised taxed bill. He is asking the SB to forgive his late file fee for his homestead. Discussion was had and more information needs to be dug into before making a decision.

Mike is going to get with Carol on the lot on the corner of Paddy Hill and South Hill Road that is being offered to the town to see if it is a buildable lot and Tom is going to speak with the road crew to see if it is a spot that would work for a plow turn around.

Quick discussion was had on plowing Class IV roads and LT's.

Callie is wondering what is going on with Avery Excavating, she nor Shawn have heard anything and their equipment is on their lawn (well over the ROW). Tom will send an email out to find out more.

FRC was discussed, Sasha will put a post out on FPF looking for volunteers.

Tom spoke with Carol and she is willing and interested in taking over the website. Tom received a recommendation from someone that knows her work.

Don asked if a link to the agenda could be posted on FPF when it's posted to the website.

Don let everyone know that the BCA voted to keep the voting at the town office. He plans on speaking with Kate Liptak and will report back to the rest of the SB.

While the budget was being discussed Tom wanted to point out that the town hall design has not been paid by tax payor dollars. Don advised that the capital campaign has raised about \$58K.

Don wanted to remind everyone that there is a chili bake off at the library in February.

Don **made the motion** to accept the 12/16/2024 SB minutes. Mike seconded. All were in favor.

7:45 **Old Business:** there was none

7:46: **New Business:** there was none

Warrants signed and approved: Payroll 24065 e – check 4724; Payroll 24066 e – checks 4725 – 4734; Accounts Payable 24067 checks 25960-25986

Washington County Sheriff's Contract was signed

Annual Certificate of Mileage for the SOV was signed

Adjourn: Tom **made the motion** to adjourn at 7:55 pm. Callie seconded. All were in favor.