

**Minutes of the Select Board meeting, November 14, 2016, Town Clerk's office at 6 P.M.**

Members present: Leonard Barrett, Chair, Sue Walker, Earl Audet, Jerry Forbes, Joan Huestis, Recording Clerk

Others present: Polly Rheaume, Dusty Huestis, Road Foreman, Irene Zaccor, Bridport Treasurer, Edward Payne, Zoning Administrator, and Jennille Smith from Mobilitie

The meeting was called to order by Leonard Barrett, Chair at 6PM.

Motion was made by Joan Huestis and seconded by Jerry Forbes to accept the minutes from the October 11, October 26, November 2, and November 5, 2016 meetings. Motion passed, all in favor.

**Public comment:**

Polly Rheaume spoke on behalf of the Little League as the Bridport coordinator, asking for \$300.00 to upgrade and/or maintain Little League fields in the Middlebury area such as: Middlebury Rec field, East Middlebury field, Salisbury field, as well as sponsoring scholarships for students that cannot afford equipment to play. She was asking for a line item budget request for the ensuing year 2017. The board will consider it when doing the budget.

Edward Payne, Zoning Administrator, reported that the Peters zoning violation is being dealt with. He reported that Peters had removed his building from the foundation, dismantled the foundation that was in violation and is trying to co-operate with the town.

Ed also reported the little house on Lake Street has turned in its water meter to Tri Town and is supposed to be moved soon.

Ed also reported that Joan Huestis has brought to his attention Jeffery Ellison's building on Rattling Bridge Road. The permit is for a barn. The building in question does not look anything like a barn. Ed will send a letter to Mr. Ellison regarding the building.

Ed also stated the State of Vermont is going to upgrade parcel maps over the next couple of years. The paper production will need to be purchased at a fee not yet determined.

Leonard Barrett posed the question about a new house being able to tie into an existing septic system. Ed felt that if the present system met state approval and was functioning properly than it was okay to use the existing system.

Jennille Smith, representing Mobilitie, a utility infrastructure company, was asked to come to the meeting as the board had additional questions about the pole Mobilitie would like to put on Market Road in the town right of way. Some of the questions were: What are the real benefits to the town? Could other things like a repeater for the fire/ rescue be added? Would there be a contract? Would the pole be taxable like Green Mountain Power poles? Would Mobilitie be willing to pay lawyer fees accumulated by the town regarding the pole?

Her response to the questions: The largest benefit would be better WIFI service and possible cell service if cell companies wanted to put antennas on the pole for a price. Mobilitie would pay fees to Bridport, amount to be determined. The pole is 123 feet tall above ground with

about 23 feet underground as a base. Mobilitie does have a Greater Good certificate from the State of Vermont. Jennille will look into and be in touch about paying for our lawyer fees to write a contract and other incurred lawyers' fees. The board thanked Jennille for coming to answer our questions.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Irene Zaccor reported that there is \$2.329 million in the bank at this time. The taxes collected to date are \$2.5 million. There are still \$153,000 in taxes not paid.

Irene also asked about employees that wanted direct deposit of their pay check and if the town was willing to pay \$1.75 per direct deposit check required by QuickBooks. The motion was made by Sue Walker and seconded by Earl Audet to pay Quickbooks fee. Discussion followed in that it would save on checks purchased. Motion passed, all in favor.

Irene also brought copies of the State's model purchase agreement for towns and a policy regarding Town of Bridport Website. The board took no action on the purchase policy feeling it needed to be simplified. The board did agree with the website policy, therefore it was approved and will be posted on website.

Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented

### **Road Report:**

Dusty Huestis, acting DPW Foreman, reported that the road side mowing was complete for 2016. Dan Thomas did a good job. The trucks are being assembled for winter snow plowing. Dusty and Mike and Rick have been working on cleaning the ditch on the end of Crown Point Road and putting in a culvert to keep water from going across the road. Some drive way culverts have been installed and there are some more to get done before snow flies. Dusty spoke about the ledge work needing to be done on the Mountain and Forrest Roads. The money for the excavator and jack hammer is to come from the Road Base category. Dusty will call Randy Provencher and get things rolling.

Dusty stated that Rick Coursey is working out very well. He does good driving truck and is a hard worker.

It was brought to Dusty's attention that when a road is brought up because of paving or base building to make driveways accessing the road a little less steep by adding more gravel to the driveways. There is a water leak on Frosty Lane that Tri Town Water needs to address.

Dusty also asked if a land owner needed to get permission from the Highway Department to bore under the road when putting in a utility. It is the desire of the Selectboard that property owners get permission so that the road side is properly maintained and returned to a good base.

**Old Business:**

Motion was made by Sue Walker and seconded by Jerry Forbes to continue to move forward with working with Mobilitie and pursue the company paying some/all of town's lawyer's fees. Discussion followed as to the reliability of the company. Also, it was decided that a contract is a must and that there is value in putting up the pole. Decision to be made when we hear back from Jennille Smith of Mobilitie. Motion passed, all in favor.

The trees in the park will remain until spring and their health reviewed at that time.

No action was taken on job descriptions.

**New business:**

Joan Huestis made the motion and seconded by Jerry Forbes to make Dusty Huestis the official DPW Road Foreman. There was no discussion. Motion passed, all in favor.

Motion was made by Earl Audet and seconded by Jerry Forbes to have Marshall's Alarms continue to inspect the alarms for the town buildings for a fee of \$170.00 for town fire house at 125 Crown Point Road and also \$170.00 for the Town DPW Garage buildings. Motion passed, all in favor.

Motion was made by Sue Walker and seconded by Earl Audet to adjourn at 7:48. Motion passed, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted;

Joan Huestis, Recording Clerk