

Select Board Meeting, Monday, December 14th, 2015 in the Cavendish Town Office Meeting Room at 6:30 pm (following the Board of Abatement Meeting)

Present: Bob Glidden (Chairman), George Timko, Mike Ripley, Wendy Regier, Jill Flinn, Rich Svec (Town Manager), Bruce McEanney (Assistant to the Town Manager), Jen Leak (Recording Secretary), Ed McEanney from LPCTV and citizens as listed on the attached sheet.

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Bob Glidden, Chairman, called the regular monthly Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Act upon minutes of the meeting of November 9th, 2015

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to approve the minutes of November 9th, 2015 as written. All voted in favor.

3. Sign Orders

Bob Glidden, Chairman, advised the Select Board there were no orders to sign.

4. Review Correspondence

Bob Glidden, Chairman, advised the Select Board there was no correspondence to review.

5. Adjust Agenda

Rich said he would like to address items #7 & 8 before item #6 for the Town Clerk's convenience since she was already present. Rich also said there would be a brief executive session regarding a personnel matter after item #16 other business.

6. Hear Citizens

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

7. Town Treasurer, Diane McNamara, present to offer Delinquent Tax Note Renewal documents for approval and signatures.

Diane said that she was requesting to renew the Delinquent Tax Note for \$200,000.00, at an interest rate of 1%, through Berkshire Bank for a period of 6 months. She said this amount reflects a paydown of \$50,000.00 made thus far during this fiscal year.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to approve renewal of the Delinquent Tax Note in the amount of \$200,000.00 at a 1% interest for 6 months with Berkshire Bank. All voted in favor.

Rich added that, as delinquent tax collector, he is not currently pursuing those property owners with significant outstanding delinquent taxes during the holidays, but that, in January, the Town will begin to initiate tax sales again.

8. Consider application for liquor license for the Table 19 Restaurant which is scheduled to open at the former brew pub location on Route 103.

Diane introduced Joe Evans, owner, and Mary Jane McNamara, sous chef, of Table 19 Restaurant. They are renovating the former Black River Brew Pub building and plan to open a restaurant/bar, with an outdoor patio area, by February 2016.

Jill Flinn moved to approve the 1st and 3rd Class liquor license for the Table 19 Restaurant with an outside consumption area. Rich asked where the outdoor consumption area would be located and how late it would be open. Joe said they would be using the existing outdoor patio area, and he planned to be closed no later than 9-10 pm when the restaurant closed. *George Timko seconded. All voted in favor.*

9. **Brief update on activities of the Cavendish Telecommunications Committee.**

Margo said she was pleased to report that the VT State Division of Connectivity and Communications has been calling and is willing to work with the Town to improve high speed internet access. She said the Tarbell Hill and Knapp Pond areas are at the top of our priority list. An RFP would go out, and both the State and the Town would contribute funds. Margo said the State has suggested Comcast is most likely to meet our needs. Rich clarified that the State believes Comcast has the necessary assets, abilities and coverage area to most readily expand into the underserved areas of Cavendish, but they are otherwise not promoting that particular company. Margo added that, when the RFP is released, which will likely be in January, any company can submit a bid. She said that the State would release payment only after the work has been done and reviewed. Margo said that cell service is not as big a priority right now, but will be addressed once internet access has been improved.

George asked if the TDS upgrade in Proctorsville had been started. Margo and Rich said it should be finished by now. Rich said he would call TDS and ask for a progress update.

10. **Town Manager to discuss the FY 2016-2017 budget development process with the Board and distribute a January through March 2016 calendar of town government activities which will include statutory windows and deadlines for relevant activities and budget meetings.**

Rich handed out a calendar of events for the next 3 months to the Select Board members and reviewed it with them. Rich commented that the Town has received bids for printing the Town Report, and it looks like Brayshaw, who did the printing two years ago, may have the lowest bid. He added that voters can choose to receive a pdf emailed to them rather than a mailed paper copy.

11. **As the first FY 2016-2017 budget activity there will be, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, External Appropriations Requests presentations by: Black River Good Neighbors; LPC-TV; American Red Cross; SEVCA; Reading/West Windsor Food Shelf; Visiting Nurse Association/Hospice; Green Mountain RSVP; Council on Aging/Senior Solutions; Black River Senior Center and VT Rural Fire.**

Representatives from each of these organizations were present and gave brief presentations of their respective organizations' activities and how the Cavendish community benefits from them.

12. **Update on Transfer Station collection of E-Waste under the state E-Waste Program.**

Rich said the Town of Weathersfield is once again participating in the E-waste program. He said he sent in the signed contract amendment for Cavendish, which still allows our E-waste to be picked up at no cost. However, the Town no longer receives any revenue for those electronics. Rich said that, as he found out on a recent telephone conference call, some towns are still receiving revenue, but that apparently has been negotiated on an individual basis with some of the larger towns. Rich said he thought it was still worthwhile for the Town, even with no revenue, in order

to keep E-wastes from being illegally dumped on our roadsides or otherwise inappropriately disposed of.

Rich said that he and Bruce participated in a recent State teleconference on E-waste. He said that Cavendish was one of only four towns that took part. He added that these teleconferences might become a weekly event, although this one was not particularly informative. Bruce said that this is a worldwide problem, and that, as the cost of shipping and recycling rises, he thought the Town may eventually need to pay for E-waste collection. Rich said the State is looking for another vendor to accept E-wastes, and that could change the current contract terms yet again.

13. Update on Cavendish's participation in the Vermont ERP (Ecorestoration Program).

Rich said the Ecorestoration Program ends on December 31st. The purchase of Pieter van Schaik's flood lot property is complete, and the easements on Stubelek's property were surveyed by Michel Engeering last week. Rich said the paperwork and easement purchase will be completed soon.

14. Review of Cavendish Cemetery Regulations revisions draft update. Cemetery Sexton Bruce McEnaney will be present to explain proposed changes.

Bruce passed out copies of the second draft of the Cemetery Regulations, which were emailed to the Select Board members last week for preview. Bruce said he has incorporated the suggestions made at last month's Select Board meeting. He reviewed these changes with the Board. The Select Board will continue the review of these Regulations at another meeting.

15. Updates on various town activities including: beginning of the winter road maintenance season; consideration of changes to lister activities; paving of High Street drainage repair, bottom of Bonts Hill Road and transfer station problem areas, T.H. Bridge #58, etc.

Rich said the winter road maintenance season has not begun in earnest yet due to the exceptionally mild weather this year. He said that Bazin Brothers completed asphalt repairs on High Street, Bonts Hill and at the transfer station. Rich said these were relatively expensive jobs because the drainage issues in each of those areas were corrected and the extra labor involved as well as the actual surface paving that was done.

Rich said he has a contract to allow Hoyle, Tanner & Associates Engineering to do a field review and assessment of Bridge #58 on Depot Street. The cost would be \$3950. They would then make recommendations on possible repair or closure options for this bridge.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to accept the contract with Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, and to make Rich Svec, Town Manager, the signator. All voted in favor.

Rich said one of the inverters at the Town solar project failed recently. It was still under warranty and has been replaced. Rich said he had noticed production was down when he checked the performance on the website, and he also received an email from the monitoring agency alerting him to the problem. Rich said that several other adjustments were made when the inverter was replaced. Rich commented that he has received several compliments, instigated by the proposed Ranger Solar project in Ludlow, on how well situated our array is since it is out of public view. Rich commented that this was an intentional aspect of the siting. Rich said the year to date performance of the solar array has so far met or exceeded expectations.

Rich went on to say that he and the listers recently met with a representative from NEMC, a private company which provides lister services and also serves the Town of Ludlow. They decided not to engage this company at this time but to continue the current arrangement for the time being. Rich said that there will likely be more discussion on this matter during the forthcoming budget considerations for FY17.

16. Other business

Jill Flinn ó Jill said there are a lot of cars and boats parked at and behind a house on the east end of Main Street in Cavendish village. She thought that, at a future meeting, the Board might discuss this as a possible violation of the Town junkyard ordinance. Rich said that the owner of the vehicles is a tenant at that property, and he would try to contact the out of state property owner to discuss this tenant's situation.

Wendy Regier ó Wendy said she is pleased that the hot tub behind the brick building on the Proctorsville Green has been removed. Rich added that the parking area for tenants was supposed to be behind that building, but the owner has not yet followed through on that agreement and the tenants continue to park along the Proctorsville Green. Wendy asked if Rich had followed up on the Town of Cavendish being an interested party to the proposed Ranger solar project. Rich said he had not but he will look into that. Wendy said she is concerned about this large project being done by companies who have not worked together before. Rich added that the VTDigger recently ran a story questioning whether the power that would be generated by that project was really needed or wanted.

Mike Ripley ó none.

George Timko ó none.

Bob Glidden ó none.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:20 p.m. All voted in favor.

Mike Ripley moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to adjourn out of executive session at 9:31 p.m. All voted in favor.

17. Adjourn

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. All voted in favor.

Minutes Approved: _____

Date: _____

