

**Minutes
West Rutland Selectboard Meeting
Monday, August 14th, 2023
6:00 pm**

Present: Chet Brown, John Center, Dick Daley

Others Present: Mary Ann Goulette, Jeff Biasuzzi, Jim Borne, John Ruggerio, Christy Wright, Pam and Kristen Sokol

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chet Brown with the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Mary Ann added one agenda item under Action: Appoint Assistant Treasurer. Motion made by John seconded by Dick to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion approved.

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Dick seconded by John Center to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 11th and July 25th, 2023. Motion approved.

Public Concerns: None

Executive Session: Dick made a motion to enter executive session for legal at 6:05pm. Seconded by John. Motion approved. Invite Jim Borne, John Ruggerio and Jeff Biasuzzi to attend. Motion to exit executive session at 6:35pm by Dick seconded by John.

Dick made a motion for the settlement agreement for the three zoning violations of Jim Borne at 3474 Whipple Hollow Road. These items were completed without a permit.

- removal of the trailer,
- addition of a shipping container
- construction of an addition onto a shed and change of use to residential.

Charge a fine in the amount of \$2,500 plus administration time. Mary Ann will submit the stipulation for signatures. Fine is payable within 30 days. John seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to enter executive session for legal at 6:40pm by Dick seconded by John. Motion to exit executive session at 7:03pm by Dick seconded by John. No action taken.

Discussion Items:

- a) **OMYA Truck Traffic-** Christy Wright, Pam and Kristen Sokol spoke to the group about increased truck traffic on Whipple Hollow Road. Mary Ann updated the group on the history of the situation. The Town has had many conversations with OMYA trying to remedy the situation. The truckers are independent and follow their own GPS. In February, OMYA began paying for 16 hours per week of sheriff patrol. Since then, they

have issued 12 tickets totaling \$24,751. The group offered other ideas such as cameras and barricades. Mary Ann to arrange another meeting with OMYA.

- b) **West Rutland Rotary Donation** – The club is dissolving and Mary Ann spoke with their group on some potential projects they could help to fund. They chose to donate \$76,657.98 towards the construction of the pavilion at the recreation area. Mary Ann has sent a thank you and will announce on social media.
- c) **Asset Management Goals** – As part of our asset management plan for the water department, Mary Ann and Seth are working with Otter Creek Engineering in defining our service goals: Meet drinking water regulations, reduce leaks, plan outages with 24-48 hours of notice, evaluate extension of service, simplify billing and review ordinance and policies.

Action Items:

- a) **Award Fuel Bids** - We received five bids. Mary Ann recommends the lowest bids: Johnson Energy at \$3.199 fixed for fuel oil, Irving Energy at \$1.28 fixed for propane and \$3.473 for variable diesel. Motion made by Dick seconded by John to award the fuel bid to Johnson Energy for oil at the fixed price of \$3.199 and Irving Energy for propane at the fixed price of \$1.28 and diesel at today's variable price of \$3.473. Motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Vermont State Revolving Loan Fund** – The \$40,225 loan is for the asset management plan for the water department. The loan is 100% forgivable if the conditions are met. Motion made by Dick seconded by John sign the loan agreement and resolution and certificate for the Vermont State Revolving Fund for \$40,225. Motion passed unanimously.
- c) **Appoint Assistant Treasurer** – Christine Wener has resigned and Patty Kulig, the treasurer, has appointed Debra Jasmin as the assistant treasurer. Motion made by Dick seconded by John to appoint Debra Jasmin as assistant treasurer. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Concerns:

Dick – Bob Carroll asked if the ditch could be cleaned out at the bottom of Durgy Hill.

Adjournment: John made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm and Dick seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Goulette