

February 5, 2015 Select Board Minutes, Groton Community Building (Approved)

Select Board: Peter Lyon, Gary Lamberton, Nathan Puffer

Visitors: Michael Taub, Gwendolyn Hallsmith, Tom Beck, Dave & Nancy Spencer, Chip Conquest, Auditor: Deb Johnson, Treasurer: Roberta Dana, Clerk: Linda Nunn, Highway: Brent Smith, Phillip Palmer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

The board reviewed a petition that had been filed with the Vermont Department of Libraries by an organization titled "Vermonters for a New Economy" to name a mountain that is South/South East of Noyes Pond "Prosperity Peak". There were no signatures from Groton on the petition, the majority of signers were from Montpelier and Burlington. Gwendolyn Hallsmith and Michael Taub provided background on how they had created the proposed name. Dave Spencer reported that he had attended a hearing on the petition at which the Library Board postponed making a decision on the petition until the Town had a chance to provide input. Dave stated that the Library Board's initial reaction to the request was that the proposed name did not fall within the criteria identified in State Statues. The Statues state that preference be given to historical events, historic persons and flora and fauna native to Vermont, names characteristic to Vermont and its traditions and local place names where long usage had made them appropriate and useful. Dave also reported that he did not support the proposed name. The Library Board has scheduled their next meeting for April 14th. Gary suggested that Buzzy Eastman be contacted to obtain his input. Tom Beck recommended that some of the old timers in town be contacted out of respect to obtain their input as well. To allow a complete discussion on the petition, the Board decided to include it as part of Town meeting on March 3ed.

Roberta Dana provided a Feb 3ed letter from Municipal Leasing Consultants (MLC) which list the information required to expedite the credit approval process to purchase a new Fire Truck.

> Required for submission to credit: Signed proposal, Lease Application form, Last 3 years audited financial statements, Current and approved budget and Vendor Quote or Invoice. Two items require a response from MLC, the first is for MLC to contact the Financial Institution to determine if Town reports for 2013 & 2014 would cover the request for audited financial statements (since 2012 is the only year that an audited statement is available) and the second is since the minutes from the March 3ed Town meeting might not be ready for the March 5 Select Board meeting, what would MLC recommend using to demonstrate that the budget was approved at Town meeting.

>Required at time of funding: Legal Opinion (provided by attorney at time of funding), Board Resolution approving the financing of the 2015 Pumper Tanker, Insurance Certificate listing the bank as additional insured and loss payee, and Certificate of Origin listing the bank as lien holder once final credit approval is available. One item requires follow up which is to contact an attorney to provide the necessary legal support. The Board reviewed a list of potential Lawyers provided by Roberta and selected Paul Giuliani. Peter agreed to contact Paul Giuliani to see if he could provide the necessary support.

Peter reported that VLCT had explained that the Library could invest some of their funds toward the purchase of the truck to enable the Library to receive a higher rate of interest on their funds. The payback terms to the Library would have to be agreed upon by the Library trustees and the Board. Peter had contacted MLC who explained that this would have to be completed up front to reduce the total amount of the Lease/Purchase agreement. Peter will be meeting with the Trustees to discuss. Gary

moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to authorize Peter to sign the necessary forms once appropriate. Peter asked Roberta for copies of the PO or documentation ordering the truck. Roberta responded that there was no documentation. Brent reported that the truck was not ordered, that Dingee started the truck process on his own to allow flexibility. When asked why Dingee would have started the process Deb replied that Dingee was told that he had won the contract.

Linda Nunn submitted a rental housing inspection checklist from Reginald Guertin, Town Health Officer, following up on the housing complaint reported to the Board by Michelle Boudreau. The report shows no issues and notes that everything seems to be new or fairly new and that the house would be warm if tenant would turn the heat up, the tenant buys own fuel. Linda also reported that there is no heat in the Community Building kitchen and was authorized by the Board to contact Powers to fix the problem.

Brent Smith reported that the response to the RFP for the 10 wheel truck is expected to be available Feb. 19th. Since Nathan will be out of town starting Feb. 16th the Board might have a special meeting next week to discuss.

Peter reported that he had received a complaint about a town employee using town equipment to plow their personal driveway. The Board reviewed the town policy on the use of town equipment which states that town vehicles and equipment shall be used only for town business unless otherwise permitted by the Select Board. The employees were reprimanded and it was explained that all employees were expected to follow the approved policy.

General discussion took place on the need for an updated procurement policy in response to the Vermont Department of Safety audit. Peter agreed to find and distribute the procurement policy that is provided by the VLCT.

Roberta reported that she will be borrowing \$70,000 from the reserve funds to cover operating cost in lieu of taxes. Roberta stated that she will be out on sick leave starting February 11 for the rest of the month and that Linda is trained to do payroll & POs and will be given access to all the treasurer systems, files, and email.

Brent reported that the grader is being worked on.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, to approve the Jan 29, 2015 minutes. Gary and Peter moved in favor, Nathan abstained (as he was not at the meeting). Motion passed.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Jan. 20, 2015 minutes.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the Jan. 22, 2015 minutes.

Peter moved, Nathan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn (at 9:23 PM)

