Town of Westminster Select Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Present: K. Sheldon Beebe, Chair, Craig Allen, Clerk, Paul Banik, Vice Chair and Peter Barrett

Others Present: Russell Hodgkins (Town Manager), Millie Barry(recording clerk), Jan Ameen, Fred Yates and Shannon Fuller

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. in the Westminster Town Hall.
2. Adjustments to Agenda: None
3. Acceptance of Minutes: After adding one word on 5A. (4) 52 free *stickers* issued and 5A. (14) correcting one typographical error goos to *good*, Craig Allen moved to accept the amended minutes as printed. Paul Banik seconded, passed unanimously.
4. Communication and Public Comment: None
5. Unfinished Business:
   A. Trash Update: TM -Windham Solid Waste Management District created an ordinance (included in the Select Board packets) worth reading. Jan Ameen- The ordinance affects the town in that every hauler is required to have variable pricing. TM- The Town's contract for curbside collection of solid waste and recycling is also included in the packet for review, approval and the Select Board Chair to sign. TM noted the tax (surcharge) was not included in the contract. When the tax (surcharge) is added the overall price remains well below the other bid submitted. Jan Ameen noted that Kurn Hattin Rd was omitted from the list of pick-up locations in the contract. TM – Kurn Hattin Rd. will be added for Monday collection. Fred Yates believes the 147 people signing a petition were not in favor of the Board's decisions on trash collection or the Town's contract with Ruggiero. The Chair of the Board and Mr. Banik noted the Select Board made decisions about trash, recycling, stickers, etc. to comply with the upcoming State Law (ACT 148). The Board's choices were made to follow State mandates, to make the program work, as well as give the Town control of trash and recycling as a municipality. Craig Allen made a motion and Paul Banik seconded to sign the contract. The motion passed 3-1 with Peter Barrett abstaining.
   B. Lister's Update: TM - Grievance day is Monday, May 18th noon to 7:00 p.m. by appointment. Additional appointments would be carried over to the 19th if needed.
   C. Front Doors: TM -The Woodstone Co. is requesting one half of the contract or a production deposit. Once the deposit is received and the contract signed, the work would begin in late summer or early fall. TM requesting approval from the Select Board to proceed with down payment.
6. New Business:

   TM- Questioned if the Board was comfortable receiving Select Board meeting information packets on the Friday preceding the Wednesday scheduled meeting? Due to time between Friday and Wednesday, there would be updates before the Wednesday meeting? The Select Board was in agreement to receive packets on Friday.

   A. Review existing Town Trash Ordinate: TM- Included in packet for reading and approval within 60 days. The Ordinance will be reviewed at a later meeting.
   B. Letter from Gail Murray: TM -The BCA will address- The Select Board will table until BCA meeting to be held within one month.

C. Proposal from Christian Blake: The Board will take the proposal under consideration.

D. Solar Tax Exemption: TM -Interoffice memo is included for reading. This item was tabled from a previous meeting. There is a formula for taxation. Comments from the Select Board were: was there a difference in generating power for a small household or for selling as a business? TM- Calls to neighboring towns inquiring about their taxation of solar sites generated information, each town handles differently. The Board will read the memo and discuss at an upcoming meeting.

7. Manager's Report: TM-Tax Sale Proceedings have begun from the Clerk's office. In actuality there may be 5-6 residences sold for taxes. TM- The Town Bulletin Board in Westminster West is being hung to the left side at the WW School. It will be lettered for "Town Use Only". TM- 296 dogs have been licensed out of 450 licensed in a previous year. There are possibly 100 dogs never registered. There have been notices sent to dog owners requesting contact to the Town Office regarding current licensing, error or death of a dog. FEMA buyout of Sandra Dupris (Goldies Road): TM- In a meeting with a FEMA representative, the representative confirmed the property met all the criteria for a buyout. The Town will hear more in 3-4 months. Solar Project at Kurn Hattin: TM- Included in the Select Board packet is a Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Permit from the State of Vermont. TM- Green-up Day is May 2"". There are some Green-Up bags available at the Town Hall. The Select Board inquired about the status of a camera to record Select Board meetings? TM- the camera people have not scheduled a meeting with him as yet.

8. Boards and Commissions:

   A. New Town Plan- handout- TM -After reading and comments from the Select Board they would proceed with the lengthy process to approve the Plan.

9. Other Business: TM- On Wednesday VT Yankee had two separate drills at 8:30 and 9:15 a.m. indicating a process to continue with "1" phase alert. After appropriate contacts made by the TM, VT Yankee confirmed both signals were drills.

10. The Date of the next meeting is May 13, 2015

11. Paul Banik moved and Craig Allen seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Millie Barry

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Clerk Signature