

Minutes of the February 11, 2008 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Eric Benson, Delbert Cloud, Amy Bergamo, Geneva Gaiko, Joe DeFreitas, and Mary Anderson for the "Herald of Randolph."

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, the Board first reviewing and approving the weekly payroll and payables. As the Board of Liquor Control Commissioners, the Board approved a first class liquor license for Tozier's Restaurant, and second class liquor licenses for Bethel Central Market and Wesco, Inc. dba Champlain Farms. It was noted that Bethel Central Market and Champlain Farms each is also seeking a state permit for tobacco sales.

The minutes of the January 28, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen were approved by motion of Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. The Constable's report of February 2, 2008 and the Health Officer's report for November through January were reviewed and placed on file. A copy of a letter from the Town Manager to Kristen Smith dated January 30, 2008 re. a class 4 road matter was also placed on file, as was a related letter from Paul Gillies, Esq. dated February 7, 2008. The Town Hall Finance Committee minutes of January 31, 2008 were then discussed briefly, in anticipation of the scheduled appointment with the Committee Chair, Amy Bergamo.

A letter from the Town Manager to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service re. eligibility of the Poulson property for the Emergency Watershed Protection program was discussed. It was agreed that the property owner should be given the opportunity to discuss his application within the mediation provisions.

Delbert Cloud informed the Board of a recommendation from the staff at the solid waste facility concerning hours of operation. He explained the viewpoint of certain commercial haulers who also believed the proposed change would be helpful to them. After due consideration, motion was made by Bill Richards, seconded by Eric Benson and unanimously carried, to open the facility at 7:00 AM on Tuesday through Saturday and close at 3:00 PM except for Saturdays wherein the facility would close at 1:00 PM, this being subject to concurrence by the Royalton Board of Selectmen. (Wednesday would remain as a day open only to commercial haulers.)

Regarding the status of permits the Town is seeking for a gravel extraction project on the Placy/Pratt property on Sand Hill Road, it was agreed that it would be best to await the Act 250 findings before deciding how to proceed with the matter. The Act 250 ruling is anticipated at any time.

The Board noted receipt of a copy of the Vermont Division of Property Valuation and Review 2008 Annual Report. A statistical review by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns was also examined. This material was informational, and no action was required or taken by the Board.

The Board next reviewed a draft of potential changes to the Rules and Regulations for the Town's cemeteries. It was agreed that further thought should be given to the definitions of "Resident" and "Non-Resident" as many people have strong ties to the community even though they may not still physically reside within the Town. The subject was thus tabled until a definition could be developed, for review in conjunction with the other provisions of the regulations.

Budget Status Reports for the "Town General Fund" and the "Enterprise Funds" were then examined. Various line item entries were clarified, but no formal action was required or taken by the Board.

At 7:15 PM, Chairman Fox inquired if Amy Bergamo, Town Hall Finance Committee Chair, expected anyone else for discussion of matters associated with the Town Hall rehabilitation project. Ms. Bergamo said that a conflict had kept Paul Feeney from attendance, and she thought at this time no one else likely would show up. Various matters were discussed and questions identified for which answers will be sought; it was agreed: (1) that a successor would need to be found for Amy Bergamo since she would be stepping down as Chair of the Committee, (2) the scope of work for the rehab project would need to be confirmed, for which purpose it would be desirable to have a meeting with the architect to accomplish this and to obtain a current estimate of cost, and (3) the maximum occupancy allowable in the building must be confirmed. Eric Benson noted that the occupancy might well vary depending on the renovations done. Neal Fox suggested that it is necessary in his judgment to make the basement level functional, at minimum to the point of being dry and heated. He also expressed his belief that revenues generated by the completed facility will be minimal, and to be realistic, this must be recognized. With respect to developing plans for the rehabilitation project, Eric Benson encouraged use of the existing plans to the extent feasible rather than re-

inventing everything from the start; Bill Richards concurred with this logic. With discussion completed, Amy Bergamo then departed at 7:45 PM.

The following communications were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) notice of a VLCT workshop re. broadband services, (2) a January 18, 2008 letter from the Vermont Telecommunications Authority on the same subject, advising of grant funding availability, (3) a February 4, 2008 letter from the Randolph Area Chamber of Commerce re. website information, (4) a February 8, 2008 acknowledgement from the Vermont Mapping Division of having received the Town's 2008 "Certificate of Highway Mileage," and (5) a permit review document from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation re. a two-lot subdivision on the Dearing Road by Nancy Graham.

With no further business to attend, motion to adjourn was made by Eric Benson at 8:15 PM, this being seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

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Neal Fox

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Bill Richards

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Eric Benson