

Minutes of the June 25, 2007 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Eric Benson, Delbert Cloud, and Amy Bergamo.

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. The Constable's reports of June 17, 2007 and June 24, 2007 were reviewed and placed on file.

Delbert Cloud informed the Board members that the bid packet for the Town Hall roof project could now be viewed, it being displayed on the meeting table. The project has been advertised in the "Works in Progress" publication for the week of June 18th, and plans are available from the office of "Blueprints, Etc." in South Burlington. It was agreed that advertising of the bid invitation should be placed in the Burlington Free Press, the Times Argus, the Herald of Randolph, the Valley News, and the Rutland Herald. The Board members agreed that a special meeting for purpose of receiving bids could be held at 5:00 PM on July 18, 2007.

In a related matter, Amy Bergamo asked if any conclusion has been made yet re. the next project to be undertaken for the Town Hall rehabilitation project. She said this is a necessary matter in order to be able to pursue funding. The need to confirm the adequacy of foundation and drainage was discussed; since Kubricky Construction is no longer using the building, this will be evaluated to confirm if any aspect of this is the appropriate project to take up next. Ms. Bergamo also asked if the Board members could suggest any names of people who might be able to help on the Construction Committee. A couple of possibilities were spoken of; Ms. Bergamo will follow up on them and report back to the Board for resolution/appointment.

The Board of Selectmen minutes of June 11, 2007 were next reviewed; a correction was made in that Craig Twombly was present at the highway site visit, he having been inadvertently listed as Craig Paini. With this correction, motion to approve the minutes was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. The Board also reviewed a set of minutes submitted by the Royalton Selectboard of the joint meeting held in Royalton on May 22, 2007 regarding business of the solid waste program. These minutes were approved by the Bethel Selectboard by motion of Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

The following meeting minutes were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) Class 4 Roads Committee of June 6, 2007, and (2) regional planning commission of May 9 and 30, 2007.

A draft "Emergency Operations Plan for the Town of Bethel" has been received from the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee regional planning commission. It was agreed that the members of the Selectboard would share the transmittal until each has had a chance to become familiar with it before deciding what action will be appropriate on it.

By motion of Neal Fox, seconded by Eric Benson and unanimously carried, both Cecil Washburn and Craig Wortman were re-appointed to terms on the Bethel Planning Commission, said terms commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2010. By motion of Neal Fox, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, both Kent Batcheller and Beverly Washburn were re-appointed to the Development Review Board for terms commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2010. It was noted that Bill Floyd has declined re-appointment, and it will be necessary to find a new member to that Board. Suggestions will be sought from the Development Review Board itself, and the Selectboard will take this matter up again in the near future. An advertisement will be published to inform the public of the vacancy, and to encourage interested parties to apply.

Bids were then reviewed for provision of plow truck components. The Highway Equipment Fund was evaluated in light of the indicated costs. The equipment replacement schedule has been constructed with the intent of spreading this purchase over two years, just as was done with the purchase of the 2006 International. It was agreed that the purchase should be completed per projections. Motion was made by Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to purchase an International cab and chassis per quote from Clark's Truck Center in the amount of \$44,706.00 (after trade of the 2001), and to equip with frame, hydraulics and body per quote from Tenco in the amount of \$29,988.00.

The Board next reviewed data pertaining to the Transportation Enhancement Grant for which the Town had received notice of award in January, for streetscape work on sidewalks, storm drainage, and lighting in the Church Street and North Main Street areas. The Board members suggested priorities which can hopefully be encompassed as plans are further developed.

The Board then reviewed the financial status of the eighteen month “year” ending June 30, 2007; the budget approved by the voters for fiscal ’08; and the Grand List Form 411 as filed by the Board of Listers with the Vermont Department of Taxes as of 6-15-07. By motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Eric Benson and unanimously carried, a tax rate for Municipal purposes of \$.52 was approved, for tax billing in fiscal year ’08.

The following communications were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) a 6-11-07 letter from Janice Punger re. punch list items on the Church Street Bridge project, (2) a copy of a 6-8-07 letter from Sally Hull of the regional planning commission to Lang Durfee of Bethel Mills re. an error of having suggested that a specific property owned by Bethel Mills is a “Brownfield” site, (3) a 6-5-07 notice from the Vermont Agency of Transportation re. the Park-and-Ride Grant Program, (4) a copy of a 5-19-07 notice from the US Environmental Protection Agency to the Regional Planning Commission re. grant funding to be received by the Regional Planning Commission for further “Brownfields” projects, (5) copies of bylaw amendments being prepared by the Bethel Planning Commission, for which a Public Hearing is scheduled on August 1, 2007, and (6) communications being exchanged between the Board of Listers and the Vermont Department of Taxes re. values for State owned lands within the Town.

The Board members then asked Delbert Cloud to prepare a letter of appreciation for the Board members to review and sign, to acknowledge work performed by Ray Forrest during his tenure as Fire Chief.

With no further business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM by motion of Eric Benson, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

Neal Fox

Bill Richards

Eric Benson