

Minutes of the February 22, 2010 meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Joe De Freitas, Delbert Cloud, Geneva Gaiko, Eric Benson, and Amy Danley-White for the "Herald of Randolph."

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, the Board first reviewing the weekly payroll and Payables. The minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting of the Board were approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. Relative to past business, the Board reviewed various documents whereby the contract for rehabilitation of the Town Hall has now been awarded to the construction firm of E. F. Wall & Associates of Barre, Vermont. A draft of the "project sign" required by USDA Rural Development, the National Park Service, and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation was reviewed and placed on file.

The Board examined applications for licenses for the sale of alcohol and tobacco. Motion was made by Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried to recommend issuance of the following: (1) 2<sup>nd</sup> class liquor license and tobacco vending license for Bethel Central Market, and (2) 1<sup>st</sup> class liquor license for Tozier's Restaurant.

The Board then proceeded with the order of the agenda. The Health Officer's report as of February 2, 2010 was reviewed and placed on file. Information from the White River Valley Ambulance (WRVA) relative to the close-out of its financial year was next reviewed. As the Town's representative to WRVA's Board of Directors, Chairman Fox provided further insight into the program's capacity and planning objectives. The regional planning commission's minutes of January 13, 2010 and January 27, 2010 were also reviewed and placed on file.

At 7:00 PM, Chairman Fox welcomed Eric Benson, he being the Town's representative to the regional Transportation Advisory Committee. Mr. Benson explained the prioritization process by which the State of Vermont will be repairing and replacing transportation infrastructure over the next several years. Data submitted by Rita Seto of the regional planning commission was discussed, and it was noted that a number of new "park and ride" facilities have been given high priority; albeit such facilities may serve to reduce traffic and thus reduce deterioration of infrastructure, the Board members concurred that the existing infrastructure is in such a poor condition that presently limited funds should be devoted to repair/replacement needs rather than creation of additional infrastructure. Delbert Cloud will provide comment accordingly to Ms. Seto on behalf of the Board. With discussion concluded on this subject, the Board returned to the order of the agenda.

Delbert Cloud provided an update on several transportation projects which the Town is currently involved with. These include: (1) the replacement of the deck on bridge 48 on Old Route 12, this being an "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" project, (2) the Church Street/North Main Street pedestrian safety project, which is funded in part by an Agency of Transportation "Enhancement Grant," and (3) the replacement of the River Street Bridge, which is primarily a State of Vermont project although effecting the Town because of the Town's water and wastewater infrastructure within the project area as well as the project's over-all impact upon the community while it is in progress. The Board will await further development of the subject plans, no action being required or taken at this time.

The Board next took up the "Warning" for the Annual Town Meeting, and a lengthy discussion ensued with the members of the public present as to the information voters would need in order to make informed decisions regarding the Articles to be considered. It was agreed that the structure of the Warning does give the voters an opportunity to evaluate and prioritize programs and initiatives to be funded, which is appropriate given the tight economy.

The following miscellaneous communications were then reviewed and placed on file:

- (1) Windsor County Courthouse newsletters of January 31 and February 8, 2010,
- (2) notice of the Windsor County Final Budget being filed with the County Clerk, and
- (3) various applications for development permits being processed currently by the State Environmental Office in Springfield.

With no further business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

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Neal Fox

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Bill Richards

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Joe De Freitas