

******DRAFT Minutes******

**Town of Vermont Board Meeting
December 10, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. – 4017 County Road JJ**

Call to Order and Certification of Notice Posting

Called to order by Karen Carlock at 7:00 p.m. Agenda was posted on the town website, the door of Town Hall, emailed to the online subscribers and a meeting notice was published in the Mt. Horeb Mail and the Star News.

Present: Karen Carlock (chair), Doug Meier, John Hallick, Scott Moe, Chris Christian (Clerk) and Jenna Schmidt (Treasurer)

Absent: Todd Culliton

Approval of Agenda

Doug moved to approve the agenda, John seconded and motion passed 4-0.

Approval of November Minutes

Doug moved to approve the minutes, Karen seconded and motion passed 4-0.

Chairman's Report and Acknowledgments

Nothing to report.

Citizens' Input

Warren Gaskill suggested that we update the town website more frequently to remove old news and let folks know what is going on.

Treasurer's Report

Jenna indicated that there were few deposits during November, but those included one building permit and dog license rebate from Dane County. The account balances at the end of November totaled \$417,411.08. She provided a summary of the property tax mill rate. Property tax bills will be mailed later in the week and Jenna will have two collection dates before the end of the year. Karen moved to approve the treasurer's report, Scott seconded and motion approved 4-0.

Chris indicated a correction on the check register, a deposit that needs to be changed to withdrawal, and the largest item was \$10,000+ to Rural Mutual for 2019 contract. Karen moved to approve the Clerk's report, John seconded and motion passed 4-0.

Payment of the Bills

Doug moved and Karen seconded to approve payment of the bills. Motion passed 4-0.

Patrolman Report, Mt. Horeb Fire Department, Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS Reports

Karen read Jack's report which included: Getting both trucks set up for snow plowing, taking care of several downed trees, finishing roadside mowing and cleaning mower, as well as storing mower and bobcat trailer, cleaning several ditches for better drainage, miscellaneous road clean up, straightened out/replaced culvert markers throughout township, starting cutting trees with Ross Powers, and general equipment maintenance.

John Coffin reported that assessments for the Mt. Horeb fire station came in at around \$550,000 and \$580,000. The Village of Mt. Horeb countered with approximately \$610,000, and John believes that is close to the number that will end up being paid.

Doug reported that station repairs are ongoing, BEFD is trying to make do with donations, etc., and not having special assessment. Budget is on track. He thinks it may be a year before anything happens regarding merger of departments because of personnel issues, but that it will head in that direction.

Scott reported that calls are up for District 1 EMS and the new truck should be ready in June.

Vermont Citizens' ATC Committee

Michael McDermott indicated that application is in and they are currently in the environmental impact statement phase, of which there are two: federal and state. In relation to the state one, this is the period for scoping comments. The draft of the federal EIS has come out and is 460 pages. Michael has been working to try to provide a guide on how to go through it. He will also prepare a statement that indicates how Town of Vermont folks would be affected. The results as is do not go into specifics about effects on local community and imply that there will not be much permanent impact, perhaps erroneously.

Tom Foseid Conditional Use Permit application to create limited family business at 9485 Braun Rd

The Plan Commission raised no objections to Tom Foseid's plan. The hearing will be at Dane County on January 22nd. Karen moved to approve CUP 2447 for Tom Foseid; John seconded and motion passed 4-0.

ATV Use on Town Roads

Karen spoke to Jim Wenzler at the County who sent her some state statutes that allow for ATV use on county roads if the driver is going from one town road to another town road. The Vermont roads being requested for use are Pleasant Valley, Blue Mounds Trail, Moe Road, Greenwald Road, and Forshaug Road. Karen heard from two residents with concerns about use on Greenwald and Forshaug Roads, largely due to farming operations. Scott spoke with the Lancaster clerk and they haven't had any issues with ATV use on town roads. Karen expressed hesitance to be an early adopter when we aren't sure how residents feel. Doug Runner, president of Cross Plains Area ATV Club, spoke about his experience. One of his main goals is to get business to stay in Cross Plains rather than going to Middleton and West Madison. There would not be any events with numerous ATVs. Iowa County is on board. Doug provided info on studies on the amount of money spent by ATV groups in areas where it is allowed. There are recommended hours, which in some places include dawn to dusk. Municipalities can adopt different ordinances regarding speed limits, headlight use, times of year, etc. They are hoping to train on safety, but enforcement is up to Dane County Sheriff. John Hallick recommended that proponents of ATV use on town roads put together an advisory committee that includes other townships in an effort to determine cogent routes. Warren Gaskill mentioned that snowmobiles make

different sounds than ATVs/UTVs and suggested we educate residents on the differences. Karen suggested articles in Vermont's Voice to make residents aware. Karen made a motion to put ATV use on local roads question on April ballot as a referendum, John seconded and motion passed 4-0.

DCTA Communication regarding Open Meetings Law and Postings

Karen received correspondence from DCTA regarding changes to Open Meetings Law and posting requirements. We discussed pros and cons of posting agendas in the newspaper rather than online and sending via email. No action needs to be taken, but Karen wanted to address the subject.

Protocol regarding draft minutes

We have received a couple of requests from residents to post "draft" minutes online before minutes are approved at the next meeting so they don't need to wait a month after the meeting. We discussed what would be a reasonable amount of time to get draft minutes posted and agreed on about a week. Karen moved to approve posting of draft meeting minutes on the website, John seconded and motion passed 4-0.

Long Term Town Hall building needs

John suggested just starting a list, rating priority of items and providing a timeline and potential cost, then revisiting quarterly or biannually. We will begin a list and revisit frequently to determine an order of priority.

Next steps regarding Clerk/Treasurer appointment town referendum

Karen suggested we start with job descriptions. Statutory requirements may be different than appointed positions.

Next steps regarding Money in Politics town referendum

Karen asked Warren Gaskill's advice on next steps and Warren essentially said that the Board needs to approve or not approve resolution. If approved we should send to our state legislator. We need to look up a resolution template, and we will address next month.

Agenda Items for January

Resolution template for Money in Politics Resolution.

Adjournment

Scott moved to adjourn, Karen seconded and motion approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.