

**Town of Hinesburg
Selectboard Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2012**

Attending the meeting: Jon Trefry, Andrea Morgante, Mike Bissonette, Randy Volk, Ken Brown, Joe Colangelo and attached list.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Open Item for Non-Agenda Issues

Responsible Growth Hinesburg submitted a letter (attached) with information regarding an effort their organization has undertaken to help with the acquisition of Lot 15, should the Town elect to purchase the parcel for community use.

Lot 15 Committee Final Report

John Kiedaisch presented the Lot 15 Committee's final report. This report on Lot 15 Funding Possibilities is the third and final report from the committee. All information from that committee is now on the Town's website and available to the general public.

The report summarizes those agencies or organizations that could legally or "appropriately" put monies toward purchasing—or defraying cost to the Town for purchasing—Lot 15 for public use purposes. As noted in the committee's executive summary, certain sources would be more appropriate than others depending on the type of use the Town would be interested in maintaining at Lot 15: environmental protection, housing, preservation, etc.

Jon T. expressed appreciation for their work.

Andrea asked if the Town should keep this group active or if we should simply acknowledge the work they have done.

Jon T. suggested they continue if members are willing.

All Board members agreed that letters of appreciation would certainly be sent to all members.

John K. expressed on behalf of the members that they were pleased with the work that was done and felt that it had been a valuable experience.

Discuss Proposed New Wage Program for Hinesburg Police Officers

Chief Koss returned, as requested by the board at the last Selectboard meeting, with a flushed out new salary proposal. This proposal is an attempt to keep qualified officers in Hinesburg. Overall it is a clear net savings for the Town to keep officers once they are fully trained and certified opposed to recruiting and training new officers as other officers leave.

Ken was concerned that this plan will not be the same as other Town employees.

Andrea felt that they would be in support of this but they would want to consider this proposal for all other employees in Town.

Joe agreed that this would be a good plan for the Police Department but hopes to make something similar for other employees.

Ken said he is not sure this is the time to decide on this. He feels more work needs to be done to adapt a portion of this plan for other Town employees.

Frank explained this program was used for the California Highway Patrol as well as all state employees.

Joe suggested the Town could look to implement the plan if money was available in the fund balance at the end of this fiscal year.

Mike B. is in favor of going forward with this for the Police Department and then take the additional time necessary to create a similar program for other Town employees.

Randy supported the fact that \$6,000-\$7,000 is a small amount of money to support this Police Department in retaining good officers, but wants to take the needed time to develop an equitable program for all.

Andrea clarified that the consensus seems to be—nothing changes until July 1 and we will use that time to develop a comprehensive plan.

Review Fire Protection Contract with St. George

Motion to confirm the Proposed Invoice for St. George for the Fiscal Year 2013 Fire Protection Contract in the Amount of \$ 24,447.86.

*Andrea makes Motion to confirm; Ken seconds it.
All in favor of Motion*

FY2013 Budget Review

Jon has questions regarding the Town Clerk's summary of benefits.

Joe explains the increase is largely due to the increase in health insurance. Personnel changes also account for an increase in cost due to different plans used such as single, two-person, family, etc. A small portion can be attributed to a different grouping of benefits than was used in prior years. He also explained that the high deductible plans have increased by 16-18 %.

Jon also had a question in the Capital budget in regard to the Recreation Department—it shows an expenditure of \$24,000 for this year yet he recalled that \$35,000 was needed to complete the project this year.

Joe will make that change in the Capital Fund.

Motion to Approve the FY2013 Budget as Presented

Ken makes Motion to Approve; seconded by Randy

Draft Town Meeting Warning

Two versions were proposed; Version 1 did not include fund balance; Version 2 included it.

Jon spoke of the Advisory Committee's recommendation to stick to 8 cents on tax rate.

Andrea said the intent of committee was to use that as a target.

Andrea questioned if the Department Tax Rate—Cost to Taxpayer should be used as more of a cheat sheet and noted as such.

Ken suggested the Town vote on the budget as a whole rather than voting on each budget individually.

Andrea & Randy expressed that in the past, voters have requested to look at them separately, so it may not be well received.

Motion to Adopt and Sign the Town Meeting Warning for March 5th and March 6th, 2012.

*Ken makes Motion to adopt and sign Version 1 of the Town Meeting Warning; Randy seconds.
All in favor.*

Town Administrator's Report

Public Safety Facility Project Update—Frank Koss, Al Barber, Joe Colangelo, Rocky Martin, and Rolf Kielman (project advisor) reviewed the nine proposals received for design services for the proposed Public Safety Facility and Community Park project. We have elected to do interviews with three: Wiemann Lamphier, Vermont Integrated Architecture, and LineSync. These interviews are to be conducted on Tuesday, January 24 and the Selectboard will be asked to approve and contract with a firm in February. The Town website has up-to-date information for the project including designs, financing, and narration and the local press has been reporting (both accurately and inaccurately) on this project over the past week.

Economic Development Committee Update—The University of Vermont Master of Public Administration Class started work on gathering and analyzing data for Hinesburg and instructing the Economic Development Committee. The goal is for the class to give a public presentation of their work in early May.

Website Update—Evidently our hired subcontractor working with Aaron has been away in Thailand for the past month. She is set to return next week. Aaron will preview the new website with the Selectboard at the first meeting in February.

Recreation Path Project Update—VTrans, per January 19, 2012 letter to the Town of Hinesburg, has approved funding to finish the Recreation Path Project. We are planning to go out to bid ASAP.

Selectboard Forum

Mike B. moved the Board enter into executive session including the Town Administrator. Second by Andrea and approved.

Entered executive session at 8:30 PM.

Selectboard Exited Executive Session at 8:45pm

On a Motion by Ken Brown and Seconded by Randy Volk, and passed unanimously, the Town agreed to pay Mr. Terald Wilson's attorney's fees – at a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,000 to be paid at closing – for the right-of-way exchange approved by the Hinesburg Selectboard on January 9, 2012 between the Town of Hinesburg and Mr. Wilson and Ms. Nancy Anisfield.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm