

Selectboard Meeting of August 19, 2014
Town Hall Conference Room B, 7 Summer Street

Selectboard: Dennis Brown, Larry Richburg, Marjorie Ryerson, and Tom Schersten
Absent: Trini Brassard

Municipal Staff: Melvin Adams (Town Manager) and Cindy Spaulding (Recorder)

Public Attendees: Bill Bonsignore, Marty Strange, and Bob Mayor (RACDC), Jay Lackey (VT Forest and Parks), Erica Young (Conservation Commission), and Albert Huntley.

Media: Merrill Whitcomb (ORCA)

1. Call to order

Mr. Brown called the regular meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

2. Approved Agenda

On motion by Mr. Schersten, seconded by Mr. Richburg, the Board voted to approve the agenda to include action on RF1-14 – Final Payment Amendment #2 under Item 4 New Business immediately following g: USDA Funding for Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade. Vote 4-0-0.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Consent Calendar (Agenda)

On motion by Mr. Richburg, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to remove the minutes of July 22 (regular) and August 12 (special) from consent calendar and move them to Item 6: Old Business and approve the warrants and amend the Drysdale Burial Plot Deed. Vote 4-0-0.

5. New Business

a. Grand List Lock for 2012 and 2013

On motion by Mr. Richburg, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to approve in the grand list lock accordance to Title 32, Section 4157. No appeal or suites are pending for the 2012 Grand List and 2013 Grand List. Vote 4-0-0.

b. McDonald House Grant Application

On motion by Mr. Richburg, seconded by Ms. Ryerson, the Board voted to approve submitting a grant application through the Ronald McDonald House Program in the amount of \$25,000 for the possibility of funding recreation programs. Vote 4-0-0.

c. Invasive Emerald Ash Bore Beetle

Mr. Lackey from the State of Vermont, Department of Forest and Parks described to the Board the impact on ash trees when the invasive Emerald Ash beetle invades it. A dead or dying ash tree would have a devastating spiral impact to the ecosystem, such as specific insects and other

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plants which live near the ash trees while invasive species of plants grow in the place of the lost ash tree or grove of trees.

He suggested the Conservation Commission and Town take proactive measures to slow down an infestation and lessen the financial impact for tree removal.

- Inventory ash trees
- Pest Program Plan
- Public Outreach/Education
- Update Tree Ordinances
- Annual survey of the area Ash Trees
- Plan to remove ash trees within the public right of way, which would be a public safety.

d. White River Partnership – Conservation Fund

On motion by Mr. Richburg, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board approved expending \$2,000 from the Conservation Fund for the purpose of White River Partnership to conduct water quality testing on the Second Branch of the White River. Vote 4-0-0.

e. RACDC Randolph House ~~Implementation~~ Planning Grant Application to VCDP

On motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Richburg, the Board approved submitting a planning grant application through the Town on behalf of RACDC to the Vermont Community Development Program in the amount of \$30,000 for the purpose of a feasibility expansion of RACDC's Randolph House and authorized Melvin Adams as the duly authorized representative. Vote 4-0-0.

f. Route 66 Repayment Schedule WPL-142-3

On motion by Mr. Schersten, seconded by Ms. Ryerson, the Board voted to approve the repayment schedule for the LASRF Loan WPL-142-3 as presented. Vote 4-0-0.

g. USDA Funding for Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade

Mr. Adams reported that grant agreement documents have been signed with the USDA Rural Development for funding of the Wastewater treatment Facility upgrade in the amount of \$9,000,000 (\$5,156,000 loan/\$3,844,000 grant). A pre-construction meeting with T. Buck Construction, DuBois & King, and the Town will be announced at a later date.

Three Selectboard members are scheduled to take a tour of the current Wastewater Treatment Facility on Thursday, August 28 at 9:00 a.m.

h. RLF-140 – Final Payment Request Schedule Amendment #2 (WWTF)

On motion by Mr. Schersten, seconded by Ms. Ryerson, the Board voted to approve final payment request for RF1-140 Repayment Schedule Amendment #2 as presented. Vote 4-0-0.

i. New World Festival

On motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to approve the New World Festival's request to hang NWF banners and flags on the street light banner arms in both sides of North Main Street between Kimball Library and DuBois & King down to the Laundromat and UCC Conference office building and to close North Main Street on Sunday August 31 from approximately 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. for the New World Festival event. Vote 4-0-0.

6. Old Business

a. Collective Bargaining Agreement Arbitration

The Board signed the arbitration page of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, which was not available at the time of the previous Board meeting.

b. Letter of Intent for Consideration of Purchase Dana Estate

On motion by Mr. Schersten, seconded by Mr. Richburg, the Board voted to ratify approving the letter of intent for consideration to purchase property owned by the Estate of Erica Dana. Vote 4-0-0.

c. Minutes of July 22

On motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Richburg, the Board approved the minutes of July 22, 2014 (regular) as amended. Vote 3-0-1 (Schersten abstained)

d. Minutes of August 12 (Special)

On motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to approve the minutes of August 12, 2014 (Special) as written. Vote 4-0-0.

7. Committee Reports

Mr. Schersten reported the Randolph Community Recreational Advisory Committee had met and received an update on recreation programs from Kate Sigurdson.

Mr. Schersten reported Water & Sewer Committee had conducted two public information meeting regarding the new water and sewer rates.

Mr. Richburg reported the Energy Committee will be meeting to discussion of Vital Communities Solar project.

Mr. Adams reported that he has meeting with the East Randolph Social Hall Committee and the Fire Prudential District to discuss the future of the East Randolph Social Hall. The Social Hall needs maintenance including a new furnace, exterior and interior repairs. It has been proposed for the East Randolph Community transfer the building to the town for the maintenance and the East Randolph Social Hall Committee would retain responsibilities of the rental of the building for events. The focus is to have the social hall be a focal point for events of all kinds The East Randolph community is skeptical to turn the building over to the town, due to communications vicissitudes with previous Selectboards and Town Managers. Meetings concerning the Social Hall are ongoing. The next meeting is August 20 at 7:00 p.m. in East Randolph.

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Mr. Adams reported that the Communities of Distinction are scheduled to film Randolph on August 20. He provided a timeline of the filming schedule.

Mr. Adams went over a list of properties up for delinquent tax sale on August 26. There are a few properties the town may bid on if there are no other bidders.

Mr. Adams requested the Board schedule a Special Meeting to discuss a few action items that are time sensitive. It was the consensus of the Board to schedule a Special Selectboard meeting on August 26, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall Conference Room A.

8. Executive Session as necessary

At 7:15 p.m. on motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Richburg, the Board voted to enter into executive session pursuant to V.S.A. Title 1 § 313 to discuss a Police Department personnel issue and invited Mel Adams, Town Manager to participate. Vote 4-0-0.

At 7:45 p.m. on motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to return to open session. Vote 4-0-0.

Action: No action taken.

9. Adjournment

At 7:46 p.m. on motion by Ms. Ryerson, seconded by Mr. Schersten, the Board voted to adjourn until its next Special Selectboard meeting of August 26, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall Conference Room B, 7 Summer Street. Vote 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Spaulding
Recorder

Dennis Brown
Selectboard chair