

Minutes of the January 10, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Joe De Freitas, Delbert Cloud, Geneva Gaiko, 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 and approving the weekly payroll and payables. The minutes of the December 27, 2010 meeting of the Board were approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. The Planning Commission minutes of December 15, 2010 were reviewed and placed on file.

Delbert Cloud reported that the USDA Rural Development loan for the financing of the Town Hall rehabilitation project is now closed, as is the USDA Rural Development loan for placement of new truck scales at the transfer station. The Board discussed the matter of "small purchases" which still will be completed for the Town Hall project, and it was agreed that equipping the stage with appropriate curtains is the priority for acquisition at this time.

The Board reviewed tasks to be undertaken with financial assistance from the AOT "Enhancement Grant," it being hoped that the intended work will finally be possible to do during the 2011 construction season. Review comments on the preliminary plans have now come back from the Federal Highway Administration and the Agency of Transportation. These will now be taken up with the design engineers to advance the project.

At 6:35 PM Chairman Fox welcomed Louise Ferris-Burt who was present per appointment to discuss the appropriation requests from various human services organizations. After due discussion, it was agreed that the recommendations of the Human Services Advisory Committee would be submitted to the voters for consideration at Town Meeting. Ms. Ferris-Burt noted that she has been serving on the subject committee for over 25 years and would like to have someone take over on the committee. She suggested that it would be helpful if a new member having school-age children could be found; in the past a member of the local clergy has often served also.

Ms. Ferris-Burt then spoke as Chair of the Board of Listers about her concerns over the Vermont Department of Taxes determination of the Town's "Coefficient of Dispersion" which was increased markedly from the previous year. She believes an appeal should be filed, as it appears that some sales do not appear to her as being valid in making the determination. She provided the Board with a letter for use in submitting an appeal, and the back-up documentation to support the request for reconsideration. Motion was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to submit the appeal, the letter of transmittal accordingly being signed by Chairman Fox on behalf of the Board. Ms. Burt left some recommendations on listers' compensation for the Board's consideration, and then departed from the meeting.

A report from Endyne, Inc. re. groundwater quality in the vicinity of the former Bethel/Royalton landfill was next reviewed, this being part of the monitoring program for the closed landfill. It appears that improving trends are continuing since the capping of the old landfill, and no further action is indicated at this time.

The "budget status reports" for the Town General Fund and the enterprise funds were examined for the conclusion of the first six months of FY11. These were evaluated for potential indications as might affect the FY12 budget now being prepared. Discussion ensued re. the "money articles" for the "Warning for the Annual Town Meeting." Since there do not appear to be any petitions circulating for inclusion of additional questions on the Warning, motion was made by Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried to approve the Warning subject to the appearance of any valid petitions as might be submitted prior to the statutory deadline.

Delbert Cloud provided the Board with information received from the Agency of Transportation re. the maintenance of Town utilities in the vicinity of River Street Bridge during the time that bridge is being replaced. The Town is now asked to sign a

“Supplemental Utility Agreement” to provide for what is estimated to be an additional \$1,450.00 of cost associated with keeping the utilities functional. Delbert Cloud was authorized to sign the “Agreement” on behalf of the Town, by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

The Board next examined documents from Mascoma Savings Bank pertaining to maturity of two notes. One note in the amount of \$42,000.00 is scheduled to be paid in full during the current calendar year, this being for certain capital improvement projects. The second note is a \$50,000.00 “line of credit” held by the Water Department. By motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, both notes were renewed.

With no further business to attend, the motion to adjourn was made by Bill Richards at 9:45 PM, this being seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

Neal Fox

Bill Richards

Joe De Freitas