

Minutes of the March 14, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Joe De Freitas, Delbert Cloud, Geneva Gaiko, and Donald Hirsch.

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. Donald Hirsch arrived at this time, and told the Board that he had recently received a proposal for installation of stage curtains at the Town Hall from the company he had been speaking with, this being Major Theatre Equipment Corp. from North Quincy, Massachusetts. Chairman Fox welcomed Mr. Hirsch, and suggested that the Board would be happy to learn of his findings at this time rather than proceeding into the evening's agenda. Mr. Hirsch provided descriptive material about the fabric, curtain placements, installation methodology, and the price quote itself which the Board found to be agreeably within the anticipated range of costs. After further discussion with Mr. Hirsch, and careful consideration of the proposal from the curtain company, it was agreed that the proposal in the amount of \$9,650.00 should be accepted; this action was formalized by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried. Mr. Hirsch then departed at approximately 6:30 PM and the Board returned to the order of the agenda.

The minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting of the Board of Selectmen were approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. The Board reviewed the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for March 16, 2011 and briefly discussed the Town Plan re-adoption procedure. The minutes of the Bethel Recreation Committee for March 8, 2011 were reviewed and placed on file.

The Board then discussed "Town Road and Bridge Standards," specifically the January 4, 2011 form of standards recommended by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. It was agreed that these standards are representative of the Town's usual practices, and that they should be adopted in the format recommended in order to be consistent with all state and federal programs. The "Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways" was also examined, and the motion was then made by Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, to adopt the above referenced "Town Road and Bridge Standards" and to approve the "Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways."

Drafts of forms pertaining to the Fire Department Equipment Fund were next discussed. It is understood that the Fire Department will be determining the best trade/purchase cycles to be incorporated for future acquisitions, and the forms will then be updated accordingly. It was also agreed that additional personal protective equipment should be acquired as soon as possible, and that a grant application for that purpose will be submitted to the VLCT PACIF program for financial assistance.

Notice has been received from the Vermont Department for Children and Families that the term of appointment for the Town Service Officer will expire on April 14, 2011. It was agreed that Shelie Richardson should be re-appointed to that office, subject to her willingness to continue in service; motion to accordingly re-appoint Shelie Richardson was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

A letter dated February 26, 2011 from APP Gap Promotions LLC was taken up next, this advising of particulars associated with the intended conduct of a bicycle race called the "Killington Stage Race" which will travel through regional Towns, including Bethel, on Monday, May 30, 2011. The letter outlined all safety and monitoring plans to be used. Motion to approve the conduct of the race was made by Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

The Board discussed several inquiries regarding potential use of the Town Hall. The only action was to approve use of the conference room by the Bethel Business Association from 6-8 PM on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at the specified fee for the number of hours actually entailed, this being approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

The Board next reviewed the “Budget Status Reports” as of March 2, 2011 for the Town General Fund and the “enterprise funds.” No action was required or taken, as these were informational only.

Discussion then centered upon a list of Municipal projects pending for the year ahead, this having been prepared by the Town Office staff to help identify and coordinate activities to be undertaken. No action was required or taken on this matter as it was also informational only.

Regarding other business, the Board reviewed a March 14, 2011 letter from Alicia Morgan of DeWolfe Engineering Associates requesting “written confirmation that there is capacity in the Town of Bethel water system to provide 200 gpm fire flow demand for new sprinkler systems in the Depot II buildings located at 68 and 84 Main Street, Bethel, Vermont.” Motion to authorize the Town Manager to submit such confirmation was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

The Board acknowledged that an application from the Town Recreation Committee will be submitted to the Dubois & King “Half Century Celebration” to request assistance in developing a master plan of renovations at the recreation facility.

With no further business to attend, the motion to adjourn was made at 8:45 PM by Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

Neal Fox

Bill Richards

Joe De Freitas