

Minutes of the April 9, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Joe De Freitas, Bill Hall, Delbert Cloud, Abbie Sherman, 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. A letter of appreciation was received from Kate Stauss, Drama Adviser at Whitcomb Jr./Sr. High School, for use of the Town Hall to hold performances.

Chairman Fox initially asked if the public present had matters which needed to be addressed prior to taking up agenda items. No comments or inquiries were forthcoming.

The minutes of the March 26, 2012 meeting of the Selectboard were then approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried. Delbert Cloud reported back to the Board re. questions raised at the March 26, 2012 meeting: (1) the fuel tank which had been dislodged at 705 Pleasant Street by the Irene flood event had not been in use for several years, and was inspected by EPA Hazardous Waste technicians who had advised the Town Fire Chief that no hazard existed from that vessel, (2) no response has yet been received from Senator Campbell re. stream debris discussions, and (3) it appears that the Governor had referenced in his speech at the recent "legislative breakfast" the proposed cellular communications tower to be constructed at the Town Garage property rather than some other location, although this is still not absolutely known. Cloud also provided the Board with documents for extension of the Town's "line of credit" with Mascoma Savings Bank whereby additional funds could be available to pay Irene recovery costs, this extension having been approved at the March 26, 2012 meeting of the Board.

The Board then reviewed and placed on file the minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee of February 9, 2012, and the minutes of the regional planning commission for February 8, 2012, the latter having various attachments.

A letter dated March 24, 2012 from Peter Oliver, Assistant Director for the Killington Stage Race LLC, was then reviewed. It was acknowledged that the event has historically been conducted in a very appropriate and efficient manner, this year's race being intended on Monday, May 28, 2012. Motion was made by Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, to authorize Chairman Fox to sign the "Statement of Consent to use Public Roads."

Delbert Cloud informed the Board that Whitcomb Jr./Sr. High School has asked for permission to use the Town Hall on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> for presentation of its annual Spring Concert. Motion was made by Bill Hall to grant such permission with fee waived, this motion being seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

An April 2, 2012 letter from Rosalie Benson on behalf of the Whitcomb Alumni Association was then taken up, this being a request for use of the Town Hall on June 16<sup>th</sup> to hold the annual Alumni Banquet. After due discussion, motion was made by Joe De Freitas to approve the request with a fee of fifty dollars being required, this motion being seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried.

An informational letter from Marcos Miller of the Vermont Agency of Transportation was next reviewed, this advising of the intended replacement of signage on the Route 12 corridor by the State. Street name signs at intersecting highways will also be replaced, and the Town has the opportunity to specify the desired color. By motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, it was agreed that the signs should be the standard green with white letters, to remain consistent with the other signs in the Town's inventory.

A letter dated April 2, 2012 from Rosalie Benson re. usage of the Town gravel pit on Peavine Boulevard was discussed next. It is suggested that certain days should be designated wherein there would not be firearm discharges there. Board members also questioned the compatibility of such use with use of the nearby Peavine Park, and the

matter of Town liability was also raised. Delbert Cloud noted that the subject is addressed under an existing Ordinance of the Town which would need to be amended if changes were made. It was agreed that public input should be obtained before a decision is made, and that the matter should be re-visited at a forthcoming meeting in the near future, with Public Notice of such discussion being provided prior to the meeting.

The regional planning commission's draft submittal of "Your Town's Energy Baseline Report" was then discussed. It was agreed that Delbert Cloud should provide necessary additional information to help make the report more complete. One item of particular note was the energy use for streetlights. It was agreed that the subject should be tabled until additional details can be incorporated within a final report, at which time the subject would be re-visited.

Green Up Day was then discussed, memos from both the regional planning commission (March 26, 2012) and the Vermont League of Cities & Towns (April 2, 2012) having been received, each encouraging Towns to develop projects, possibly relative to continuing clean-up efforts in the recovery from Irene. There are plans to help organize volunteers interested in assisting on the projects. The Board asked Delbert Cloud to check with Mary Floyd, to see if any projects may have been identified through her efforts in establishing a "streams committee." Cloud also informed the Board that Eric Benson will not be able to serve as Green Up Chairperson this year; the Board requested that notice of a successor should be posted on the Town's website and a notice published in the "Herald of Randolph." Cloud then asked if the Board would be willing to waive fees for Green Up litter at the solid waste facility on the same basis as has been done in prior years (litter from public places or public highways, properly sorted for recyclables and hazardous wastes.) Motion to accordingly waive fees was made by Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

A notice was then reviewed from a consultant to the Vermont Agency of Transportation advising of an informational meeting to be held at the Town Office on Friday, April 13, 2012 about paving of the Route 12 corridor during the 2013 construction season. Depending on the specific schedule for the project, the Town may have interests which will need to be considered, such as work to be done under the "Enhancement Grant" in a portion of the involved corridor. More discussion will likely be necessary as the project is developed. Chairman Fox suggested that public awareness of the project might enable individuals to plan improvements of their own (such as replacement water service lines) to avoid trenching in newly paved areas.

The Board then discussed a summary sheet prepared by Town Office staff re. applications for assistance from the Town's Irene Relief Fund. Given the number of applications received (9) and the purposes set forth for the assistance requested, the Board members agreed that the Selectboard would review the applications and determine how to disseminate awards. This will be done at the next meeting if time will allow.

Discussion then turned to an evaluation and determination of follow-up for the meeting held at the Town Hall on April 7<sup>th</sup> re. the Irene response and recovery efforts. Bill Hall expressed his thought that there were a number of good suggestions made, and that the moderator, Hank Lambert, had done a very good job in conducting the meeting. The idea of sponsoring a "Forward Festival" sometime this year had been expressed, and the Board members agreed that this would be desirable to see again. Delbert Cloud suggested it would not be productive to spend time evaluating things that were not a problem. As examples of matters not requiring further consideration, he cited the following: (1) It is commonly perceived that the response and rescue effort of the Fire Department was very well conducted. (2) Both the EPA and the U.S. Coast Guard had responded in consort with the Town officials to locate and remove hazardous materials from public and private properties. A contract had been signed by the Town allowing the EPA to use the solid waste facility as an aggregation site for hazardous materials from multiple Towns in the region, and Town owned/operated equipment had been utilized to construct the holding area for the subject materials. (3) The Town's water system has had no findings of E. coli or contamination from harmful chemicals as a consequence of Irene, and the monitoring done in consultation with the Vermont Water Supply Division should be sufficient. It was agreed that effort should be made to increase communication

capabilities, and to more efficiently open and operate an emergency shelter facility. It was further agreed that the Board should invite representatives from the school to a Board meeting in the near future to discuss this subject, it being agreed that the school has many advantages over other locations for service as a shelter.

Under "other business," Joe De Freitas reported on the Community Advisory Meeting held by the Vermont State Police on April 4, 2012. No action was required or taken, this being informational material only. The following communications were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) a March 21, 2012 letter from Laura Rubenis re. her interest in serving on the Planning Commission, (2) an April 3, 2012 e-mail from Karen Speerstra re. the availability of free appliances for people trying to re-furnish homes after the Irene impact, (3) an e-mail dated April 3, 2012 from FEMA representative Kathy Graf re. Flood Insurance Requirements, and (4) an April 6, 2012 letter from the U.S. Department of Justice re. sentencing of the person who embezzled funds from the solid waste program.

With no further business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM by motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

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Neal Fox

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Joe De Freitas

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Bill Hall