

Minutes of the May 9, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Joe De Freitas, Delbert Cloud, Geneva Gaiko, Dietre Feeney, Madeline Feeney, Krister Adams of the Housing Foundation, Inc., 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 "Warrant" to the Town Constables authorizing the humane destruction of unlicensed dogs was approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. Delbert Cloud provided a brief summary of activity on "Green-up Day," and conveyed a notice from the School District about a "mock crash" event to be held on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

The minutes of the April 25, 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 and placed on file the Health Officer's report of May 4, 2011, and the Constable's report of May 1, 2011. A draft of a letter to Woodstock Police Chief Byron Kelly was approved and signed by the Board members, this being in appreciation of training provided to the Bethel Second Constable by the Woodstock Department.

At 6:15 PM Chairman Fox welcomed Krister Adams of the Housing Foundation, Inc., Mr. Adams being present to provide an update on the rehabilitation project at the Depot II housing complex on Main Street. Mr. Adams also answered questions from the Board members re. the CDBG documents whereby the Town will be contributing \$296,500.00 to the project, this being from grant funding received by the Town from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the purpose of the project. Although it is anticipated that the loan of this principal will ultimately be forgiven of repayment, the funds will initially be secured by a mortgage lien to be held by the Town, payments being deferred for 30 years at zero percent interest. Based on advice previously received from the Town's legal counsel, and Mr. Adams's discussion with the Board, the following "Grant Agreement Resolution" was approved by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried:

"WHEREAS, the (check one)  Town  City  Village of Bethel, Vermont has applied for funding under the Vermont Community Development Program, as provided for in 10 VSA Ch. 29, and has received an award of funds under said provisions; and

WHEREAS, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development has tendered a Grant Agreement # 07110-IG-2010-Bethel-0023 to this municipality for said funding:

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- 1) that the legislative body of this municipality accepts and agrees to the terms and conditions of said Grant Agreement;
- 2) that Delbert Cloud Title Town Manager is hereby designated as the person with overall Administrative responsibility for the VCDP activities related to this Grant Agreement; and
- 3) that Delbert Cloud Title Town Manager who is either the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as defined by 10 VSA §683(8), or is the Town Manager, the City Manager, or the Town Administrator, hereby designated as the Authorizing Official (AO) to execute the Grant Agreement and other such Documents as may be necessary to secure these funds."

The Board members then endorsed the said Resolution. The subject "Grant Agreement" (#07110-IG-2010-Bethel-00023) was then signed by Delbert Cloud on behalf of the Town. Mr. Adams then departed at approximately 6:45 PM.

Chairman Fox then welcomed Madeline Feeney, she being present by appointment to provide the Board with additional information she had gathered re. the flag displayed at the Town Hall. Of particular note was a quotation of cost for placement of adequate illumination on the flag for night visibility. The Board members thanked her for the research and information, and it was agreed that the illumination should be put in place. Delbert Cloud will seek further particulars

regarding the placement of the fixture and the best means of paying for the work. Dietre and Madeline Feeney then departed at approximately 6:55 PM.

The Board then returned to the order of the Agenda. The March 30, 2011 minutes of the regional planning commission meeting were reviewed and placed on file, it being noted that an appointment should be scheduled at a forthcoming meeting with the Town's representative. The Local Emergency Planning Committee minutes of April 21, 2011 were also reviewed and placed on file.

Updated drafts of the "Vermont Rapid Response Plan" and the "Basic Emergency Operations Plan" were reviewed next. It was agreed that these documents both provide appropriate information for use in an emergency; motion was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to adopt both updated plans and to authorize Neal Fox to sign accordingly on behalf of the Board.

Several requests for the use of Town property were considered. By motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, it was agreed that Mascoma Savings Bank could cordon off the traffic loop through the Main Street Parking Lot and set up the area for its "customer appreciation day" on the evening of June 16<sup>th</sup>, and to hold the event until approximately 3:00 PM on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Motion was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, to approve use of the Town Common and adjoining Town lands for the seasonal "Farmers' Market" to commence on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and be operated on Mondays from 3-6 PM and potentially operated from 2-6 PM on Monday holidays. By motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried, it was agreed that the Bethel Historical Society could utilize the Town Hall for its Fortieth Anniversary banquet at no cost in recognition of the considerable effort the Society has done to promote the best interests of the Town.

"Budget status reports" as of April 29, 2011 for the Town General Fund and the "enterprise" funds were then reviewed and placed on file. No action was required or taken on this matter.

An April 19, 2011 letter from the "Windham Housing Trust" was discussed next, this being a request to insert information for the public about available low interest loans in the envelopes with the tax bills to be sent out in July. All costs and associated labor would be provided by the Trust. It was agreed that this would be in the public interest, and motion to approve the request was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried.

Under "other business" the Board discussed the recently issued permit from the Department of Environmental Conservation for development of a water supply at the solid waste facility. Further discussion will be taken up with the Royalton Selectboard in the near future.

The following communications were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) an April 22, 2011 letter from the RC&D office in Randolph, advising that it will no longer provide services, (2) a notice of Act 250 hearing and certificate of service for Locust Creek Outfitters, said hearing to be on May 19, 2011, (3) notice from the Board of Listers of grand list values as of May 9, 2011, and (4) a draft copy of the Dunham Road layout as surveyed by Larry Swanson, L.S.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing recent changes in the enforcement of "junk yard" regulations. Initiation of inquiry into perceived violations must still be done by the Municipality, but some of the follow-up is potentially done by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources now, rather than by the Agency of Transportation as has previously been the case. The Board asked Delbert Cloud to prepare a list of sites that may be in violation of the current definition.

With no further business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

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Neal Fox

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Bill Richards

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Joe De Freitas