

TOWN OF BELGRADE
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS MEETING

Tuesday / February 2, 2010 / 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened 7:00 p.m. / Adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Officials in Attendance:

Daniel Newman	Selectperson, Chair	Jack Sutton Bdgt. Com./ Transfer St.
Ricky Damren	Selectperson	Greg Keene Transfer St. Com.
Bruce Plourd	Selectperson	Tom Streznewski, Budget Committee
Melanie Jewell	Selectperson	Dennis Keschl, Town Manager

Order of Business:

1. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of the January 13, 2010 Budget Committee and Selectpersons Meeting. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the minutes. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
2. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of the January 19, 2010 Board meeting. Bruce Plourd made a motion to approve of the minutes. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
3. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of the January 26, 2010 Selectpersons Public Hearing. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the minutes as amended. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

Unfinished Business:

1. The Town Manager has not heard from DEP concerning the counter-proposal letter on the consent agreement for the Salmon Lake Dam alleged violations.
2. The policy on delegating authority to the Town Manager for acceptance of grants, gifts, donations \$5,000 and under, will be reviewed on the February 16th, Board meeting.
3. The Town Manager reported that he has sent out the Policy on the Town of Belgrade Public/ Private use of Municipal Property and Facilities to the Town's lawyer for review.

New Business:

1. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of Cheryl Cook as Registrar and Mary Vogel as Deputy Tax Collector. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

2. The Board reviewed the renewal application of Tom Streznewski to the Budget Committee. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the reappointment of Tom Streznewski to the Budget Committee for a three year term. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
The Board reviewed the renewal application of Richard MacKenzie to the Dam Committee. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the reappointment of Richard MacKenzie to the Dam Committee for a three year term. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
3. The Board reviewed the supplemental tax for Gary and Julie Hillard for the amount of \$4,800. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the supplemental tax to Gary and Julie Hillard for the amount of \$4,800. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
4. The Board reviewed the resignation letter of Gen Hall to the Board of Parks and Recreation. Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the letter of resignation and to authorize a thank you letter and certificate of appreciation be awarded to her for her service. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
5. The Town Manager asked the Board what they would like to set for a final date of submitting a nomination for the Spirit of America award. The Board agreed on a March 1st deadline.

The Town Manager recommended the Board authorize a plaque to be awarded to the contractors that donated their services to the construction and building of the parking lot at the Belgrade Lakes Fire Department. He further recommended the plaque be hung at the Lakes Fire Station. The Board agreed.

The Town Manager asked the Board if they would like him to draft a policy on how the town recognizes volunteers, by setting up delineating criteria for plaques, awards, letters, certificates and/or nominations. The Board agreed.

6. The Board reviewed the annual Animal Housing Contract for the 2010-2011 year. The Town Manager reported that the contract is the same price of \$2,978 and it is based upon the 2000 census at \$1.35 per capita. Ricky Damren made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Animal Housing Contract. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**
7. The Board reviewed **Municipal Warrant #6** for the amount of **\$30,403.14**. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of **Municipal Warrant #6** for the amount of **\$30,403.14**. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

There was some discussion about the propane tanks at the Town Office being filled by Fabian Oil and the ones at the Center and the Transfer Station being maintained by Suburban Propane. The Town Manager will look into it to see if we can get a better rate if we consolidate with one company.

8. The Board reviewed **Manual Warrant #2429** for the amount of **\$15,617.01**. Daniel Newman made a motion to approve of **Manual Warrant #2429** for the amount of **\$15,617.01**. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

Updates & Announcements:

A. The Town Manager provided verbal updates to the Board:

- The Town Manager contacted Dan Smiley at Turner Publishing regarding the Town's newsletter. Turner Publishing is currently inserting the Mt. Vernon Newsletter into their newspaper, so Mt. Vernon is saving is only their postage, because they are still printing the newsletter. Dan is supposed to get back to the town with the cost of having the newsletter printed within their newspaper.
- The Manager reported that there are a number of individuals who have not responded to the foreclosure letters that have been sent out. He is requesting that the Board authorize the Tax Collector and himself, to send a letter stating that for failure to come into the office to arrange a payment agreement for the back taxes owed that the town is moving forward with foreclosure process. The Manager informed the Board that the Town's Auditor had mentioned the level of back taxes owed to the town and that the town should make an effort to retrieve these monies.

Daniel Newman commented that the individuals should come in for an abatement or make an effort to pay even a little bit on the past due amount, but to completely ignore the letter is unacceptable.

Bruce Plourd agreed and commented that he hated to do move forward with foreclosure, but they should not be ignoring the notice.

Melanie Jewell made a motion to authorize the Town Manager and the Tax Collector to send a letter out informing residents that the Town is going to move forward with foreclosure proceedings. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion.
CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)

- Risk Management Services are refusing to pay for the injuries that one of the Food Pantry workers sustained while working. They said that the Town is protected by the tort law and cannot be held responsible for the injury. The Manager explained that it was our understanding that the Food Pantry workers would purchase an insurance policy for their workers. They did, however it only

covers the workers for the one day a week (Tuesday) that they are in here. It does not cover them for the Thursday, when they bring supplies into the office.

Ricky Damren questioned the insurance company and requested that the Manager pressure the company harder. The Manager will look into it further.

- The School had a forum in which the State cuts were revealed. There will be a 1.2 million this year and another 1.2 million next year. The Town Manager stated that the school items they had on the chopping block were not going to make up the difference and that the difference would have to be made up with staffing cuts. An unofficial poll was taken and it was reported that 40% of the people present supported an increase in taxes.
- The Town Manager reported that he had been contacted by Jeff Dolan who was looking to place a cell phone tower on town property. The Town would receive \$800.00 a month lease and this would be a renewable five year contract. They would install a roadway at no cost to the Town. They are looking at the area that the Cemetery Committee is requesting the town give to them for Plan Five of the Cemetery. The space is about 100 x 100 square feet. The manager informed the board that all this information is preliminary and he will look into further details of this request and bring it back to the Board for their next meeting.

B. No Public Comments

Melanie Jewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary J. Vogel
Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectpersons