



**Town of Berlin
Municipal Office Building
108 Shed Road**

**Berlin, VT. 05602
Regular Select Board Meetings
1st & 3rd Monday of Each Month**

**Special Meeting
Wednesday, June 29, 2011
5:00 PM**

Selectboard Members: Susan Gretkowski, Chair; Roberta Haskin, Secretary. Absent: Nancy Driscoll, Vice Chair; Brad Towne, and Jonathan Goddard. Present: Jeff Schulz, Town Administrator. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

APPROVED MINUTES

Susan Gretkowski called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Meeting with Residents Affected by Flooding

Susan Gretkowski stated that Sue Clark, Department of Banking and Insurance, is in attendance to answer any questions from the resident's of River Run Manor. She stated that if anyone is attending that was not at the previous meeting, she would be glad to review the information given out at the last meeting. **Susan** stated that the Board will discuss the Emergency Health Order at the next regular meeting on July 5th. **Sue Clark**, Banking Division, encouraged residents to get in touch with their mortgage lenders. She stated that her department can help if the resident is having difficulty getting in touch with the lenders. **Susan** stated that everyone should have a legal aid sheet with the telephone number if the resident's wish to talk to the attorney's. **Susan Condon**, Council on Aging, stated that the Council is there to help individuals over 65 and suggested that individuals call the Council to seek help if needed. She stated that she continues to be concerned with the looting in the trailer park. The residents stated that the looting is still continuing, even with the Police presence in the park. **Karen Richards**, Legal Aid, stated that the lack of Police presence in the park is not a legal issue, the Town is responsible for overseeing the Police Dept. **Jeff Schulz** stated that there are two issues that the Town is currently working on, the issue of whether to amend or rescind the Emergency Health Order and the substantial damages to some of the mobile homes. He stated that he met with the Health Department and visited 7 or 8 trailers last week. **Jeff** stated that they had gathered enough information for the Health Department to advise the Town on amending or rescinding the Health Order, but the Board has not made a decision on that issue as yet. He stated that the decision on the Health Order will be discussed at the Board meeting on July 5th. **Jeff** stated that once it is determined that there is no public health hazard, the Town does not have the authority to restrict individuals from their homes. He stated that prior to individuals moving into homes that are substantially damaged, there are Town permits that are required to bring those homes into compliance with the Zoning Regulations. **Karen Richards** stated that the lawyers who met with the resident's will meet to determine which issues are common ones and how they can help the resident's receive answers to the questions. She encouraged all the residents to call legal aid if they have questions or concerns and talk to a lawyer. Ms. Richards stated that Legal Aid is working to connect the residents with lawyers who handle these type of concerns on a regular basis at no cost to the resident. She stated that she has spoken with Adam Miller, Neville Company, and was told that Neville Company is going to fulfill their contractual obligations. **Ms. Richards** stated that Neville Company is not requiring a 30-day notice for those individuals that terminate their lease and leave the park. She stated that the company will use the security deposit for

those individuals leaving the park and leaving the mobile home behind, to offset the costs of demolishing those mobile homes. **Ms. Richards** stated that there is no bankruptcy pending on the park property, however, there is a foreclosure pending with the Superior Court. She stated that the property was to be sold on May 25th, which has been put off due to the flooding. **Ms. Richards** stated that the property must be sold or the bank will buy the property and sell it in the future. She stated that if the homes need to be demolished, they will probably bring in a company to demolish the homes on the property rather than pay to have them taken away and then demolished. **Ms. Richards** stated that Neville Company plans to restart collecting rent for the habitable lots soon, and will give a one week notice to that effect and will be flexible regarding the due date of the rent. She stated that Neville is planning to re-rent the lots of every tier of the park. **Ms. Richards** stated that Neville does not have any documentation stating that the park is in the floodplain. **Susan Gretkowski** stated that the Town is in the process of sending out tax bills, which are based on the assessed value of the home as of April 1st. She stated that under State Statutes, individuals may request an abatement of the taxes if the home was lost or destroyed during the tax year. **Susan** stated that she and **Jeff** will be meeting with the Town Attorney to try and seek some answers for the residents of River Run Mobile Home Park. She stated that there will be one additional meeting on this issue on Wednesday, July 6 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss information from the Town Attorney. **Susan** stated that the Flood Center in Barre has new hours and they are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and will be closed on the weekends. She stated that the Barre Lions Club will be at the Flood Center on Tuesday to distribute boxes of non-perishable food items to the flood victims.

For the Selectboard:

Rebecca Richardson, Administrative Assistant