



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

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

**Monday, June 2, 2008  
7:00 PM**

Selectboard Members: Pat McDonald, Chair; Brad Towne, Vice Chair; Kitty Langlois, Secretary; Don Blanchette, Susan Gretkowski. Present: Jeff Schulz, Town Administrator; Patti Lewis, Town Treasurer; Richard Tetreault, Road Superintendent. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

### **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**Pat McDonald** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

#### **Public Comment**

**John Hurley** reported on the Vermont Fuel Dealer Association. He stated that the price of fuel will keep going up and many companies will not allow the customers to pre-buy but rather set a cap on the amount you pay. It will be up to the individual companies whether they will allow pre-buys or caps.

#### **Town Treasurer Report**

**Patti Lewis** stated that a letter from Gillespie Fuels stated they are offering a monthly payment plan with a ceiling on the price of fuel. After some discussion it was decided to talk to the fire department and school to get a better bid price for fuel with the larger group.

**Patti** reviewed the preliminary May budget status report.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Crosstown Road Update**

**Jeff Schulz** stated that the Crosstown Road project is nearing completion. There will be a final walk through on Thursday, June 5 at 12:00 Noon. **Jeff** stated that the guardrails will be six feet in from the edge of the wall, at that point there is approximately four feet of base material to set the guardrail posts.

##### **Chase Brook Bridge Update**

**Jeff Schulz** stated that the redesign of the bridge may result in the closure of the bridge for 48 hours. The contractor stated that there is a way to keep the bridge open; however it will increase cost and extend the duration of the project. **Richard Tetreault** stated that the Chase Brook Bridge was designed so that it could be move if needed and still keep it open for traffic. **Jeff** stated that we did receive a grant from VAOT for this project in the amount of \$108,000; however because of the increased costs we are seeking a grant amendment from VAOT.

##### **Scott Hill Road Paving Bids**

**Jeff Schulz** stated that he had received three bids and the board asked for recommendations from **Jeff** and **Richard Tetreault**. **Jeff** stated that the low bid was from The Gorman Group. After some discussion and comparing the estimates from the three companies, motion by **Don Blanchette** to award the paving of Scott Hill Road to The Gorman Group. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 5-0.

##### **Discharge Detection and Elimination Program**

**Dave Braun** with **Stone Environmental** stated that he would love to have Berlin participate in this program. Stone Environmental is working with the Friends of the Winooski River, with Federal funding, to work on the monitoring of water quality. This entails walking up streams looking for water run-off going into the stream where they shouldn't be any runoff and correcting this problem. He asked for a letter of support from the Town of Berlin stating that we would be interested in working with them. This will not entail any monetary responsibility from the Town. If problems are found, it will be brought to the attention of the Town and to allow them to address the issue. Motion by **Susan Gretkowski** to authorize **Jeff Schulz** to write the letter of support to **Stone Environmental** after talking with the Sewer Commission regarding this program. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 5-0.

#### New Business

##### Highway Truck Bids

**Jeff Schulz** reviewed the request for proposals for a Low Pro 4X4 Truck. He stated that he had received two bids, one from **Clark's** and the other from **J & B International**. **Jeff** and **Richard Tetreault**, Road Superintendent, reviewed these bids so that they could have recommendations for the board. **Clark's** bid is the lower bid at \$74,174.00 and the bid from **J & B** is \$75,300 for the same truck. **Richard Tetreault** and **Jeff Schulz** recommended that we accept **Clark's** bid. The warranties on these two bids are essentially the same. **Richard Tetreault** has talked to other Towns regarding service and **Clark** has the better service. He also stated that he believes that **Clark's** also has a slightly better warranty. **Richard Tetreault** reviewed both of these warranties for the board. Motion by **Don Blanchette** to accept the bid from **Clark's** for the 4X4 Low Pro Truck. Second by **Brad Towne**. Motion carried 5-0.

**Richard Tetreault** reviewed his report for the board.

##### Town Administrator Report

**Jeff Schulz** stated that there is a letter from the State granting the **Listers** an extension on filing the Grand List. In regards to the reappraisal, the visits are done and the **Listers** need to sit down with the appraisers and review the reports. The reappraisal notices should go out around June 30. At that time, the residents will have 14 days to file a grievance. The grievances will be heard the week of July 14 and then another week after that to compile the grievances for the State. The Grand List should be set by the end of July so that the Tax Rate can be set and tax bills can be mailed out.

**Jeff** stated that the Bike Path Amendment will be on the next meetings agenda. **Jeff** stated that he was contacted by **Linda Beaupre**, Chair of the School Board, suggesting they meet with the Selectboard to discuss the format for Town Meeting, roles and responsibilities. **Pat McDonald** suggested inviting the School Board to the Selectboard Meeting so that it could be taped.

**Jeff** stated that he had given the board the process for Charter Changes. **Jeff** stated that interviews are being conducted for the Highway Dept position tomorrow at 5:00 PM. He also stated that an ad had been put together for a vacant Police Officer position.

**Jeff** stated that the Route 62/Fisher Road Intersection Study is almost completed. It was suggested to invite the Act 250 District Coordinator and abutting residents to a meeting on June 18 to discuss this study and concerns and recommendations.

**Jeff** stated that there had been interest from the Selectboard regarding dental rates for the Town employees, and he has included the quotes in the Selectboard packets for their review.

##### Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

After review of the minutes from May 19, motion by **Don Blanchette** to approve the minutes with changes. Second by **Brad Towne**. Motion carried 5-0.

##### Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers and Applications

Motion by **Don Blanchette** to approve the licenses, permits, vouchers and applications as presented. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 5-0.

Roundtable

**Pat McDonald** received a letter from **Nancy McAvoy** regarding the noise from the Barre Gun club. She suggested that everyone read the letters and discuss this matter at a later date.

**Pat McDonald** stated that a letter had gone out to Mark McCloud regarding his concerns and how they have been resolved.

**Pat** suggested some research be done on the Veterans Exemptions for taxes in Berlin.

Motion by **Don Blanchette** to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 9:00 PM. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned.

For the Select Board:

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Rebecca Richardson, Administrative Assistant