



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

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

**Monday, May 5, 2008
7:00 PM**

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

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

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

Public Comment

Norb Rhinerson stated that the Historical Society is sponsoring a Pot Luck meeting at the Berlin Corner Congregational Church on May 13th. He also stated that on June 20-21 the Historical Society is participating in the History Expo in Tunbridge, Vermont. The Historical Society would also like to do their presentation here in Berlin at some future time.

Tom Willard announced that on Thursday, May 15 at 5:30 at the Town Offices the Water Supply Committee will report on the feasibility of a public water system in Berlin.

Town Treasurer Report

Patti Lewis reviewed the preliminary budget status for April.

Old Business

Crosstown Road

Jeff Schulz stated that the contractor has started work on Crosstown Road and expects completion in 4-5 weeks. **Jeff** gave the board the contractor's amendment for increased material costs. Motion by **Susan Gretkowski** to authorize **Jeff Schulz** to sign the amendment with the contractor. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 4-0.

Jeff stated that there was an email letter from **Geodesign** asking for the board to sign an amendment to their contract with the Town. **Jeff** has drafted a letter stating that the Town has a not exceed that amount contract, and that the Town is not interested in an amendment to that contract. Further, the letter states that the Town expects the engineer to provide all services under the existing agreement.

Chase Brook Bridge

Jeff Schulz reported that this project required some redesign due to unexpected soil and bedrock conditions. The engineer is moving ahead with the final project design and the bid package. Construction is expected to start in mid-July. The cost estimate of approximately \$175,000 requires finishing this project in a relatively short period of time and closing Chase Road Bridge for 48 hours. Closing the bridge could be a problem with the residents that live on that road, and needs to be addressed.

Conservation Land Sale

Tom Willard and **Rob Halpert** discussed the closing on the land purchased by the Conservation Committee. **Tom** stated that the final total purchase costs were \$53,410.00, approximately \$8,000 in Vermont Land Trust staff fees will offset the cost. **Tom** asked the Vermont Land Trust for a breakdown of the total costs which he provided to the board. **Rob Halpert** stated that the Town's costs for its purchase and closing will be approximately \$45,210.00 with approximately \$1,500 in legal fees that will be billed outside of the closing. **Tom Willard** asked the board to sign an amendment which extends the date of the closing to May 19. Motion by **Brad Towne** to sign the amendment as presented. Second by **Kitty Langlois**.

Motion carried 4-0.

New Business

Appointment of Peter Noyes as DRB Alternate

Jeff Schulz stated that **Peter Noyes** was the interim Zoning Administrator, is the Town Fire Warden and that he would make a great addition to the Development Review Board (DRB) as an alternate. Motion by **Brad Towne** to appoint **Peter Noyes** as an alternate on the DRB. Second by **Kitty Langlois**.

Motion carried 4-0.

Berlin Methadone Advisory Clinic

Linda Couture, Chair of the Berlin Methadone Advisory Committee, reported that the Berlin Methadone Clinic is up and running as of March 17 and has 34 clients currently enrolled. **Linda** stated that they have very strict policies that need to be followed and 3 clients were discharged from this program for not following these policies. The clinic is open from 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM with the dosing being done from 6:00 AM – 8:00 AM. They require routine drug screenings and all medication needs to be approved by a doctor. **Linda** asked if there were any questions that she could answer or get the answers to for the next board meeting. She stated that there have been no increase in traffic and no problem where the Police needed to get involved.

Town Administrator Report

Jeff Schulz reviewed the Route 62/Fisher Road Intersection report. He recommended that the consultant conduct a presentation to the board at their next meeting.

Jeff reviewed information from the Friends of Winooski River and Stone Environmental. They are applying for grant funds from the State to identify and document pollution along the river. There is some question regarding the amount of resources the Town needs to apply and what responsibilities would be involved. **Jeff** has invited this group to the next board meeting.

Jeff provided the board with a copy of the Act 250 letter acknowledging Home Depot withdrawing its application. Also, **Jeff** shared with the board the resignation letter from **Scott Ciampi** who is currently on the Road Crew. **Jeff** also pointed out that Chief **Bill Wolfe** has received four mobile data units for the Police cruisers.

Bill Jennings, Town Constable, mentioned that he had put in about 30 hours of time on dog calls for the Town and as he is going to be out of town quite frequently, he formally gave notice of his resignation as the Town Constable.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

After review of the minutes from 4/21, motion by **Susan Gretkowski** to approve the minutes as presented. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers and Applications

Motion by **Kitty Langlois** to approve the licenses, permits, vouchers and applications as presented. Second by **Susan Gretkowski**. Motion carried 4-0.

Roundtable

Kitty Langlois mentioned that she has noticed that the Road Crew has gotten out as the weather permits and has a good handle on grading the roads.

Norb Rhinerson asked to be updated on Comstock Road. **Jeff Schulz** stated that he had talked to the Road Superintendent regarding Comstock Road and he is hopeful that Comstock Road will be open in the next few days.

Executive Session Expected – Personnel Issues

Motion by **Brad Towne** to enter into Executive Session. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by **Susan Gretkowski** at 9:25 PM. Second by **Brad Towne**. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn

Motion by **Brad Towne** to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:26 PM. Second by **Kitty Langlois**. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned.

For the Select Board:

Rebecca Richardson, Administrative Assistant