



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

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

**Monday, April 2, 2018
7:00 PM**

Selectboard Members: Bradley Towne, Chair; Jeremy Hansen, Vice Chair; Wayne Lamberton, Secretary; Pete Kelley and Angelina Capron. Present: Dana Hadley, Town Administrator; Diane Isabelle, Town Treasurer. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

APPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order

Vice Chair Hansen called the meeting to order. Towne and Capron absent.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Treasurers Report

Town Treasurer Isabelle told the board that she will be attending an asset management workshop at the end of April for the water division and she will gain insight on what to have for reserves, what to look for in maintenance items, and depreciation. It is a two-part workshop, with one session in April and the next in June. There are seven properties that have been sent to the attorney for tax sale. Not all are anticipated to go to sale. There are two properties for which the owner cannot be located. The information for those properties have also been sent to the attorney.

Forgiveness for Balances Under Five Dollars

There are seven balances which total \$2.29. This is a quarterly formality. Lamberton moved to allow forgiveness for the balances due under \$5 for a total of \$2.29. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers, and Applications

Lamberton moved to approve general fund accounts payable warrant number 18g19 with checks 17966-17955 in the amount of \$ 39,384.14; void check 17953 in the amount of \$3561.30; approve payroll warrant number 18-20 for payroll March 18, 2018 – March 31, 2018 in the amount of \$39,525.58. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Selectboard Minutes

April 2, 2018

Page 2 of 2

Appointment of Town Representative to Central Vermont Internet

A letter was received from Jeremy Hansen, acting clerk from Central Vermont Internet, asking for appointment of community member to act as representative. Lambertson moved to elect Jeremy Hansen as the town's board member. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously. Lambertson moved to authorize chairman to sign the appointment. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Robert Lehmert – Green Lantern Group

Lehmert, who had previously been before the board, joined the meeting to discuss a solar project. The opportunity he presented at the last meeting is no longer available. He presented a different project at this meeting. The town would enter into agreement to buy from a specific project which has not yet been identified, though projects are all mostly identical in that they are 125 kilowatt projects and approximately 2 acres. The numbers are reliable; the net meter credits developed by the array are credited to the accounts of the town and the town would receive a discounted cost. The credits are purchased against the town bills at a discount for a term of 20 years. The credit applied to the bill, by statute, applies to energy usage and not other fees. Lehmert discussed a variety of situations and "what-ifs" and the action taken in those occurrences. There are no investment responsibilities, property needs, or maintenance requirements. The array produces power, that is recorded, and it offsets the bill without intervention. The project owner will invoice the town for 88% the value per \$1 of those credits. The town pays 88 cents on the dollar and GMP credits \$1 for a savings of 12% (12 cents on the dollar). Lambertson expressed concern over the uncertainty from years 11-20. Discussion continued of the financial possibilities over the first ten years versus the time after then. Hansen expressed a desire to review information and delay a vote to have time to consider.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes- 3/19/18

Lambertson moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 19 with noted corrections. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

Town Administrator Report

Town Administrator Hadley informed the board that copies of the EMS reports were sent to members of the board and that there was a follow up regarding the 302 bridge also enclosed. Hadley made the board aware that the public works board did receive a preliminary engineering report regarding the development of the fourth well. There are a couple alternatives but roughly, to get the well online, there are a couple options shown and is roughly a \$400,000 project to have the well located so that the existing water tank is accessible so no further infrastructure will be necessary to connect to the distribution system. It will be before the public works board for consideration for some time before moving forward.

A tentative schedule for the town plan approval process has been acquired and there are hopes that it will be ready for voting August 14.

A league of cities and towns representative was at the office to give recommendations for ergonomics. There are some changes Hadley suggested considering.

Round Table

None.

Lambertson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

For the Select Board:

Bethany A. Towne