



**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, January 15, 2018  
7:00 PM**

Selectboard Members: Ture Nelson, Chair; Jeremy Hansen, Vice Chair; Pete Kelley, Secretary; Brad Towne and Wayne Lambertson. Present: Dana Hadley, Town Administrator; Diane Isabelle, Town Treasurer. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

**APPROVED MINUTES**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Nelson. Hansen was absent.

Changes to Agenda

Nelson asked to move the budget confirmation to later in the meeting.

Public Comment

Bob Clark, a resident adjacent to the Exit 7 commuter parking lot was present at the meeting to discuss the proposed extension of the parking lot. He voiced his opposition and provided his reasoning which included congestion, noise, drug activity and the issue of only having the one entrance and exit for peak traffic times. Bob Wernecke who serves on the Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Committee was present and shared that there is a public meeting which includes alternatives. The closeness of the road to the park and ride and the intersection was discussed because of the prospect for increased congestion. Wernecke mentioned that there have been several objections to the expansion because of the lack of security posing a risk to public safety and the threat to public health due to trash being left at the lot. He urged the select board to pay attention to the issue because of the effect it can have on the community.

Robert Lehmert – Green Lantern Group – Electricity Proposal

Lehmert was present to discuss Green Lantern, a large commercial solar developer. He was there to present plans for an array that the town would not invest capital in. The plan would use net metering with credit being given to the landowner of the electricity producing array. He explained that regulations regarding net metering are changing but this project would be grandfathered in to the old rules. Under the new rules such an array and arrangement would be unavailable. He outlined details of the plan and the economic benefit, which would be a discount on the electricity bill because credits are available for \$0.85 on the dollar. Time will be taken for the board to review the plan and proposal. It is time sensitive and a first come first served deal so Lehmert did inform the board that if someone else would like to purchase the deal will not be held.

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### Treasurers Report

Town Treasurer Isabelle provided to the board the December budget status report, trial balance, and delinquent tax report. She will be sending a payment letter with delinquent notices. She did mention that she is preparing to bring some people to tax sale. She marked them on the list provided to the board.

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

Lamberton moved to approve general fund accounts payable warrant number 18g14 with checks 17774-17795 in the amount of \$54,800.79. Along with payroll warrant 18-14 for payroll December 24 – January 6 in the amount of \$49,648.61. General fund accounts payable CMB01 for payment to Community Bank in the amount of \$20, 617.73. As well as December reconciled bank statements for general fund, sewer commission, and water division and December general journal entries and tax admin entries. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

### Budget Confirmation

This item was postponed to a special meeting.

### Fire Warden Reserve Account

Isabelle researched this reserve fund which currently has \$900 in it. She reviewed minutes to find where the funds entered the account and could not find information for most of it. In 2006, there was discussion of \$300. Lamberton moved to use the \$900 in the fire warden fund to pay for shoveling fire hydrants until the funds are gone. Seconded by Kelley. Passed unanimously.

### Assessing Oversight Policy

Hadley provided the document ready for signature as discussed at the last meeting. Lamberton moved to approve the assessor oversight policy as printed. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

### 2017 Equalization Results

Hadley was able to get the detail on the website explaining how the results were reached. Of most concern was the COD, as discussed at the last meeting. Other categories will be coming up to be addressed.

### Engineering RFP's for Two Culverts

All firms that bid are reputable and well qualified. The low bid is Grenier Engineering out of Barre. Their bid is \$47,000. The issue was tabled so that Roxbury could be called as a reference check on the low bidding firm.

### Salt Shed Bids

Three bids were received for the project.

Daniels Construction \$15,850

Lajeunesse Construction \$18,650

E.F. Wall & Associates \$20,690.00

The bids are to be reviewed before acceptance of a bid.

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Town Report Dedication

There were a couple of suggestions made for who to dedicate the town report to. There was no vote.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes- 1/4/2018 & 1/10/18

Lamberton moved to approve the minutes from the January 4 meeting with noted corrections. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

Lamberton moved to approve the minutes from January 10. Seconded by Kelley. Passed 3-0 with 1 abstained.

Town Administrator Report

Hadley informed the board that he would be out of the office from the 23<sup>rd</sup> until the 30<sup>th</sup>.

There was a meeting with the police and hospital to discuss the contract which has technically ended as of the first of the year.

The ambulance report from November was given to the board.

Round Table

None.

Lamberton moved to adjourn. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

For the Select Board:

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Bethany A. Towne