



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

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

**Thursday, July 1, 2019
7:00 PM**

Selectboard Members: Bradley Towne, Chair; Jeremy Hansen, Vice Chair; Angelina Capron, Secretary; Flo Smith and Justin Lawrence. Present: Dana Hadley, Town Administrator; Diane Isabelle, Town Treasurer. All items are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

APPROVED MINUTES

Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Towne.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Treasurer's Report

Town Treasurer Isabelle informed the board that the preliminary audit will be August 21 and the field work will be October 1 and 2. A rate of 2.05% is available through Community National for the truck loan and is good for 90 days. Annual payments would be \$31,869.96 for 5 years based on a \$150,000 loan. Pension rates have changed. Last year the employee paid 5% and employer paid 5.625%. For FY '20, the employee will pay 5.125% and the employer will be 5.75%.

Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers, and Applications

Hansen moved to approve general fund accounts payable number 19g26 with checks 19333-19367 in the amount of \$42,089.25; also payroll warrant number 19-26 for payroll from June 9, 2019 – June 22, 2019 in the amount of \$44,186.95. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Municipal Tax Rate

A budget vote for the school passed. A 30-day waiting period is required. July 25, the union district sends it to the state which could bring the receipt of the town tax rate until August. Tax bills will be later than normal with a short gap of time between the first two tax payments. Hadley reviewed the budget and expected revenues. Hansen moved to set the municipal rate for the Town of Berlin for fiscal year 2020 to 0.5664%. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

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Bill May- Working in Town ROW

May sought permission at 235 Highland Avenue to repair a washed-out driveway for the home-owner. He provided details of the project. Hansen moved to approve the permit to work in the right of way provided that if the culvert is replaced it is an 18-inch culvert. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Municipal Planning Grant Application

Hadley explained that the funds, if received, would be used to hire a consultant to draft plans for the downtown center designation. The application is due in August. Hansen moved to apply for the municipal planning grant. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Josh Walker – Winter Maintenance of Class 4 Road

Walker followed up from the last meeting specifically regarding winter maintenance of Black Road. He reviewed that vehicles get stuck near his driveway, blocking access at times as it is difficult to maneuver without an all-wheel drive or 4-wheel drive vehicle. There was some uncertainty regarding Black Road's class. Walker's request is for the road to be class 3 status and for the town to plow in the winter. Hadley will conduct some research before the board goes to a vote regarding winter maintenance at a future meeting.

Approval of All Board Minutes – 06/26/19

The board reflected on the all boards meeting. Lawrence moved to approve the minutes from the all boards meeting June 26 and amended the motion to include minor grammatical changes. Seconded by Smith. Passed 3-0 with 2 abstained.

Town Administrator Report

Hadley discussed some business from the all boards meeting regarding the town center designation and process. Towne asked about town center versus village center (in Riverton) designation. Hadley clarified that the village center designation is not the same as the town center and is more focused on historical preservation. That designation (village center) has already been received.

There is currently more than one cell phone carrier used by the town but the police department will switch to AT&T as they have an attractive public safety plan.

Round Table

Lawrence returned to a discussion about repeating a multiple boards meeting.

Smith discussed issuing a thank you to Tom Badowski for his efforts.

Capron discussed the use of East Road for traffic as there are many large trucks driving that road as a result of the Exit 6 construction. There is a weight limit and a weight permit is required.

Towne thanked Hadley for setting up the all boards meeting.

Executive Session

None.

Hansen moved to adjourn. Seconded by Smith.

For the Select Board:

Bethany A. Towne