



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

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

**Monday, June 1, 2015
6:30 PM**

Selectboard Members: Ture Nelson, Chair; Jeremy Hansen, Vice Chair; Roberta Haskin, Secretary; Brad Towne and Pete Kelley. 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.

Changes to Agenda

None.

Public Comment

None.

Treasurers Report

Isabelle mentioned a mistake on payables that will be changed and mentioned her plans to attend a workshop put on by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

Approval of Licenses, Permits, Vouchers, and Applications

Hansen moved to approve payroll warrant number 25 for May 17, 2015- May 30, 2015 in the amount of \$41,029.45. Accounts payable warrant number 38, with checks 15218-15255 except for 15242 in the amount of \$36,809.02 less 1,566.33 from check 15242. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

Berlin Fire Department- Introducing New Officers for 2015-16

Fire Chief Miles Silk advised the Board that the annual elections to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department Board was held last month He introduced new officers to the Board. New president is Shawn Silk. Jeanne Pratt is the new treasurer. Department is strong on membership and is active. Discussed ratings, maintenance plans on the Riverton building, and loan for air packs. Applied for partial funding of new truck through a federal grant but have not heard back yet. Hadley asked what a new truck runs. Answer of about \$350,000+. Discussed accounting and financial records format. Water hydrant at fire station needs to be connected to water system.

Additional Grant for Muzzy Road Project

Additional grant for \$5,000 for the landscape design. There is a 10% match from the town. Hansen moved to authorize the chair to sign the sub grant agreement for public facilities designed on flood damaged bio properties for 20 Muzzy Road for the professional landscape design in the amount of \$5,000. Seconded by Towne. Haskin asked if the match was cash or in kind and it is either. Passed unanimously.

Letter Received From Sun Common re: Local Solar Farm

No action required, but for awareness of the project. Borelli Farm (off Muzzy Road) is location of the solar farm.

Approval of Letter of Agreement for Assessing (CAMA) License- for 07/01/2015-06/30/2016

Annual license for state of Vermont for CAMA license used by assessors to assess town properties. Needs to be approved by board, costs \$238.81 a year and a check was included to pay for it. Hansen moved to authorize the Berlin select board chair to sign the letter of agreement for CAMA license in the amount of \$238.81. Seconded by Haskin. Passed unanimously.

Aggressive Panhandling Ordinance

Discussion started a few months ago with regards to aggressive panhandling. Have received recommendations and changes from the town attorney. Hadley asked the board to review the changes and advise him of the next step. The concern is not panhandling but the aggressive actions that have been reported. Care to be taken moving forward so as not to infringe on rights.

Update on Water Project

Still on Airport Road and work going smoothly. Haskin mentioned there are many tractor trailers on Scott Hill Road. There was discussion about enforcing weight limits on roads. Nelson mentioned that the Vermont Truck and Bus Association has a weekly email update in which there could be a notice. Discussed another property interested in water but would mean a 1200 foot extension. Expecting temporary easements for two properties on Pike Drive. Montpelier paying to connect them so they aren't on raw water. Easement will cover for lines to be installed and once that work is done Berlin would not be responsible for those service lines. Hansen asked about cost of Comstock loop which is \$250,000.

Town Administrator Report

Hadley has bids prepared for gravel and winter sand for next winter and for mowing. Would like to release this coming week. There was an open hearing at the school about zoning changes and a few were proposed. Invite received from Central Vermont Economic Development for a program to be held at Norwich. Route 62 work update was provided. Received a telephone call from Mr. Storrow, who represents the Berlin Mall for the board's support. Town Administrator working with adjoining town to check the possibility of multiple communities bidding as a group on winter salt to get a better price. Assessors have sent letters to those who have had a change in property value assessment, and June 17 they are scheduled to be at the office to talk to people about those changes in order to set tax rate at July 6 meeting. Haskin mentioned having timing for reserve funds before year end. On agenda for June 15.

Approval of Minute(s) of Previous Meeting(s)- 05/04/2015, 05/18/2015, 05/27/2015

Kelley moved to approve minutes of the May 4th meeting with noted correction. Seconded by Towne. Passed 3-0 with 2 abstained.

Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the Monday, May 18 Berlin Select board minutes. Seconded by Towne. Passed unanimously.

Kelley moved to approve the minutes from May 27 as presented. Seconded by Haskin. Passed unanimously.

Round Table

Hansen asked about who is mowing the pond at the south side where people are parking. A local resident has been mowing but there was question as to whether or not they should be. Hadley will ask Montpelier if that is an area they cover. Also brought up Browns Mill Road speed study. The speed study has not yet been conducted but Hadley will talk to the Police Department about it.

Executive Session- Legal, Personnel, Contract

None.

Towne moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Hansen. Passed unanimously.

For the Select Board:

Bethany A. Towne