



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

**Berlin, VT. 05602  
Regular Select Board Meetings  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Each Month**

**Thursday, September 19, 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. Capron present via phone.

#### Changes to Agenda

Town Administrator Hadley asked to add an item about the second public hearing for Black Road. Hadley also asked to approve forgiveness of balances less than \$5 and a change to that process. He also asked to add approval of the loan resolution for the sewer project.

#### Public Comment

None.

#### Treasurer's Report

Town Treasurer Isabelle alerted the board to the Board of Abatement hearing September 30 at 6 pm. Isabelle provided the board with the August budget status report, trial balance, and delinquent tax report. She received the education grand list and made the board aware of the figures. The amount is \$185,000 more than last year with the schools combined. The finalized one will be provided in May.

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

#### Vote on Change of Winter Maintenance on Coos Trail

Hansen moved to cease performing winter maintenance after the first house on a trial basis for one year. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

#### Discussion Regarding Second Public Hearing for Black Road

Hadley informed the board that the second public hearing for Black Road will be on the schedule for October 17. Hadley also asked if he should change language in the warning as it currently explains the item as reclassification. There was some question of what the classification must be to perform maintenance.

Hadley was advised to use his best judgment. Lawrence suggested changing the classification. Towne advised Hadley to consult with the town attorney.

Outdoor Automobile or Automobile Parts Storage Ordinance

The ordinance mirrors a lot of zoning ordinances and state law so there is a question of the ordinance having teeth. Towne asked about the option of referring problems to the state. There is an issue with the town lacking ability to enforce zoning violations of this nature. Halpert, town attorney, advised against the ordinance due to lack of enforcement ability. The likeliest route for action is through the state.

Approval of Loan Resolution for Sewer Expansion Project

This is the same loan as has been on the agenda. The loan was approved but the resolution now requires approval. The document goes through conditions of the loan. It will end up being \$2,196,000. Hansen moved to approve the resolution as presented in the amount of \$2,196,000. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Arbitrage – Hadley explained this financial mechanism. In this technique, a loan amount is invested securely and, depending on the interest rate, some money may be gained. Isabelle further explained the concept.

Hansen moved to have Hadley and Isabelle move ahead putting the loan to bid with two options – line of credit and arbitrage. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Forgiveness for Balances Under \$5

Hadley inquired with the board about making this a permanent policy instead of requesting periodically. This item will be put on a future agenda.

Peddler’s License – Application

Hansen moved to approve the application for a peddler’s license for Sara ??? Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously. The license is for a mobile health insurance advertising unit.

Letter Received Regarding Recreation Committee

Hadley received interest regarding the recreation committee. The resident was unable to make it to this meeting but was asked to introduce themselves to the board at a meeting.

Appointments to Economic Development Council

Hadley discussed convening a council in light of pending tax stabilization application. Shane Misspell, Ture Nelson, Jamie Stewart, Jeremy Hansen, and Roberta Haskin are considered for the council. Hansen moved to approve the aforementioned individuals. Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Hansen moved to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(2). Seconded by Smith. Passed unanimously.

For the Select Board:

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Bethany A. Towne