

**Selectmen's Meeting, Monday, March 14th, 2016 in the Cavendish Town Office Meeting
Room at 6:30 pm**

Present: Bob Glidden (Chairman), George Timko, Mike Ripley, Wendy Regier, Jill Flinn, Rich Svec (Town Manager), Bruce McEanney (Assistant to the Town Manager), Jen Leak (Recording Secretary), Ed McEanney from LPCTV and citizens as listed on the attached sheet.

1. Call the meeting to order

Bob Glidden, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Conduct Annual Board of Selectmen Organizational Meeting including discussion of recent election results and Town posts which remain vacant.

Rich reviewed the attached list of Town Positions with the Select Board.

Bob Glidden moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to approve the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. as the monthly meeting day and time for Select Board meetings for a period of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to approve the Vermont Journal as the Official Newspaper of Advertisement for the Town of Cavendish for a period of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/George Timko seconded a motion to appoint Robert W. Glidden to the position of Chairman of the Select Board for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/ Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint George Timko to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Select Board for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Bob Glidden moved/Wendy Regier seconded a motion to appoint Mike Ripley to the position of Clerk of the Select Board for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint Alan Regier and Hollis Quinn, Jr, to the positions of Fence Viewers for terms of one year each. All voted in favor.

Bob Glidden moved/Wendy Regier seconded a motion to appoint Jillian Flinn, Matthew Flinn and Seth Perry to the positions of Animal Control Officers for terms of one year each. All voted in favor.

Mike Ripley moved/George Timko seconded a motion to appoint Wayne Gilcris to the position of Inspector of Lumber, Shingles and Wood for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Wendy Regier seconded a motion to appoint Wayne Gilcris to the position of Weigher of Coal for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to appoint Richard Svec to the position of Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Bob Glidden moved/Wendy Regier seconded a motion to appoint Tim Calabrese to the position of Tree Warden for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Bob Glidden moved/George Timko seconded a motion to appoint Mike Ripley to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/George Timko seconded a motion to appoint Richard Svec to the position of Health Office for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Rich commented that there is currently a bill being discussed in the legislature which would eliminate most of the duties of the Town Service Officer. If passed, the changes are slated to take place effective July 1, 2016.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint Richard Svec to the position of Town Service Officer for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Etienne Ting to the position of Regional Planning Commissioner for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to appoint Steve Birge to the position of Alternate Regional Planning Commissioner for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Bruce McEnaney to the position of Solid Waste District Representative for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Richard Svec to the position of Solid Waste District Alternate for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Mike Ripley moved/George Timko seconded a motion to appoint Wendy Regier to the position of Selectmen's Representative to Local Planning Commission for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint Joseph Marini, Steve Birge and John Saydek to the positions of Town Planning Commissioners for terms of three years each. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Richard Svec to the position of Energy Coordinator for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint Diane McNamara and Tim Calabrese to the positions of Green-Up Committee Chairperson(s) for terms of one year each. All voted in favor.

Bob Glidden moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint William Buswell and Daniel Churchill to the positions of Budget Committee members for terms of one year each. All voted in favor.

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to appoint John Saydek to the position of Representative to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Wendy Regier moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Bruce McEnaney to the position of Representative to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate for a term of one year. All voted in favor.

Rich reminded the Select Board that the five-member Water Board has been made up of two residents from Cavendish, two residents from Proctorsville, and the Town Manager. He said that, when the two water systems merged in 1987, there were different rates for each village, so the two villages wanted equal representation on the Board. Rich said he would like the Select Board to reconsider this policy for several reasons. The financial picture has changed so there is now a

single rate for all system users, regardless of which village they are in. Also, Robert C. Glidden would like to continue to serve on the Water Board, but he has moved from Cavendish to Proctorsville. This changes the current makeup of the Board to three Proctorsville residents and one Cavendish resident, which would not comply with current policy.

George thought at least one person from each village should be on the Board, but the two villages don't necessarily need to be equally represented.

George Timko moved/Jill Flinn seconded to change the composition of the Board of Water Commissioners so that at least one representative from each village is on the Board out of the four Commissioners who are appointed from the water system user population at large. All voted in favor.

Mike Ripley moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to appoint Howard Pixley to the position of Board of Water Commissioners for a term of three years. All voted in favor.

Bruce McEnaney asked where Jill, as Animal Control Officer, would prefer to take stray animals for boarding. Jill said Lucy MacKenzie Humane Society in West Windsor has been great to work with. Jill said she also has a kennel at her house for short term boarding, and she would like to use Springfield Humane Society as a back up boarding facility.

Wendy Regier moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to appoint the Lucy McKenzie Humane Society as the Primary Animal Pound for the Town of Cavendish, and the Springfield Humane Society as Alternate Animal Pound for the Town of Cavendish, for terms of one year each. All voted in favor.

3. Convene the regular monthly meeting

The regular monthly meeting was convened at 7:10 p.m.

4. Review/approve minutes of the meetings of February 8th and March 7th, 2016

Mike Ripley moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to accept the minutes of February 8th and March 7th as written. All voted in favor.

5. Sign Orders

Bob Glidden, Chairman, directed the Select Board to sign orders at their convenience during the course of the meeting.

6. Review Correspondence

Bob Glidden, Chairman, directed the Select Board to sign orders at their convenience during the course of the meeting.

7. Adjust agenda

Rich said he had one item to add to the agenda:

9.a. Consider, on behalf of the sexton of the Cavendish cemeteries, bids for tree removal work which needs to be done in the Cavendish Village Cemetery.

8. Hear Citizens

Margo Caulfield was present and requested permission for the use of the two Town greens in order to hold the Annual Town Wide yard sale on July 30th (the last Saturday in July).

Bob Glidden moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to allow the use of the two Town greens in order to hold the Annual Town Wide yard sale on July 30th, 2016. All voted in favor.

Margo showed the Select Board a proof copy of the new book "The Writer Who Changed History: Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn". She said the monies raised from the sales of this book will go toward the Solzhenitsyn Project. She said the book will be available for purchase through Amazon.com.

Margo said the CTES 6th grade class will be volunteering in the cemeteries for a full day this spring, and will assist the Cemetery Sexton placing flags on the veterans' graves.

Peter LaBelle was present and wanted to answer a question raised at this year's Town Meeting regarding the reporting of delinquent taxpayers in the Town Report. He said he has researched the issue, and found that state law does not require delinquent taxpayers' names to be published. However, that information is public record. The VLCT pointed out that the purpose of the Town Report is to show the financial situation of the Town, not to embarrass individuals. He said, as far back as 1944, Cavendish has published the names of delinquent taxpayers in the Town Reports.

Margo said she had asked that question, because she felt that some people, especially elders, were overly concerned about being published in the Report. George said he didn't think the Report was serving the same collection advantage as it once did, and that it was discriminatory. Wendy asked Rich for his opinion as delinquent tax collector. Rich said it was one of the few tools the Town had to collect payment of delinquent taxes and utilities. Rich added that he and Diane have talked about taking credit card payments for delinquent taxes, which might make it easier for some people to pay.

Mike pointed out that people can make payment agreements in order to avoid being published in the Report. Rich agreed that was a good option and he uses this method most often. Wendy thought the Select Board could think about the issue and discuss it again before next year's Town Report.

Carl Snyder asked if the education portion of delinquent taxes were still paid to the state. Rich said yes, the education taxes are paid to the state and the schools and the fire district taxes are paid to the two fire districts, so the Town is the entity which doesn't receive its share when property taxes aren't paid.

9. As Local Board of Liquor Control, review and consider application for a second class liquor license for Mini Beez Store

Rich read a liquor license application renewal from Theodore and Lori Brand, doing business as Mini Beez, LLC.

Mike Ripley moved/George Timko seconded a motion to approve a second class license to sell malt and vinous beverages for Mini Beez, LLC. All voted in favor.

9.a. Consider, on behalf of the sexton of the Cavendish cemeteries, bids for tree removal work which needs to be done in the Cavendish Village Cemetery.

Bruce explained there is a row of large white pine trees along the edge of the cemetery, adjacent to Ranney Hill Road, which would damage stones if they fell. He has received four bids to have these trees taken down:

\$6600 from Chris Carlock (includes chipping)

\$4600 from Dan Cox

\$2000 from GM Tree Tech

\$2000 from Matt Wyman.

All of these individuals are either known to Bruce or have been recommended to him. Bruce said the Highway crew would remove the wood and clean up the debris. Bruce said he informed all four bidders that certificates of liability insurance would be required.

George asked if any of the trees were salvageable for lumber. Bruce said probably not. He said the work would be done as soon as the ground conditions allowed. Bruce said that Chris Carlock would use a boom truck to take the trees down, while the other three would climb the trees.

The Select Board asked Bruce who he would recommend, and Bruce said he would recommend Matt Wyman. Rich added the award would be provisional on producing certificates of liability and workers comp insurance proof.

George Timko moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to accept Matt Wyman's bid contingent on proof of liability and works comp insurances and with the total cost not to exceed \$2500. All voted in favor.

10. Discuss forthcoming (March 17th) Public Service Board hearing on the Ranger Solar Project which is located mostly in Ludlow but has a minor Cavendish involvement in the way of power transmission lines to the Coolidge Substation which is mainly located in Cavendish.

Rich handed out a map of the proposed site to the Select Board. He said that while the Ludlow Select Board favored this project there was quite a bit of public discussion at the hearing held in Ludlow in February. Wendy said she was at the Ludlow meeting. She said one of her concerns was that this group of contractors had not worked together very long.

Carl asked if the transmission lines connecting this array to the Coolidge substation would be buried. Rich said they would be. Carl said that would conform to the Town Plan, but added he would want them to be deeply buried.

Rich said he wondered what impacts the increased energy input would have on the Coolidge substation itself. Carl said he thought there might be issues with the Lake Champlain project which will also be connecting to that substation. George wondered whether the humming from the substation might become even louder than it already is with the increased energy input.

Rich said there would be some trees left in place for visual buffers along Barker Road, but he thought the panels would still be very visible from that road. Peter said the Public Service Board

is trying to regulate solar arrays so they are not impacting the landscape, and he felt this project was not in keeping with that goal.

Margo asked when the Act 250 process would start, and George said there wouldn't be one since it is a Public Service Board project. She said she believed Green Mountain Power was not in favor of this project, but she didn't know Velco's opinion.

Wendy asked when the Public Service Board hearing is, and Rich said it is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, at the Cavendish Town Office. He said there is also a site visit at 3 p.m. on that same day on Barker Road and the public is welcome at both.

Wendy asked if the Select Board needed to have an opinion on this project. Rich said he had not received any request for the Town's opinion. Mike said this project does not involve any Town land, and he didn't feel it was the Cavendish Select Board's place to dictate what could be done on private land. He added that this private land was right next to an existing substation and on an out of the way back road.

11. Update on recent Cavendish Telecommunications Committee activities especially with regard to broadband access and cell phone reception in Cavendish.

Bruce handed out a summary of recent activities to the Select Board. Margo explained that the decrease in cell service coverage is due to the change from 3G to 4G towers, which allowed better service, but over a somewhat smaller range. She said the State will soon issue an RFP to provide coverage in underserved areas, and Margo expects TDS and Comcast to both apply.

Margo said the state has purchased microcell towers from a company called CoverageCo which could improve the service in some locations. She said boosters take a weak signal and boost it, while microcell towers need a power source and Internet connection to provide a signal in areas with no signal at all. Mike said he has a microtower at his house and it works very well. Rich said the CoverageCo units cover approximately ¼ mile radius, and cost \$10,000 plus operating costs. He said the Town Office currently gets free basic service from Comcast, but since the bandwidth is fairly low, it might not support such additional usage. Margo said she thought it was worthwhile for the energy committee to meet with CoverageCo.

12. Review for approval and adoption revised Cavendish Cemetery Regulations

Bruce reviewed the regulations with the Select Board members. The Select Board suggested several minor revisions.

Mike Ripley moved/Bob Glidden seconded a motion to adopt the revised Cavendish Cemetery Regulations as written with the corrections suggested that night by the Select Board. All voted in favor.

Margo added that a volunteer is making sure all the graves in the Cavendish cemeteries are listed on the free Find a Grave website.

13. Discuss recent delivery of TerraStar truck (replacement of truck#4), disposition of International 4700 (replaced truck) and consider offering of Clark's Truck Service regarding trade in values, possible consignment sales of used vehicles (old trucks 3 & 4) and potential purchase of a replacement for truck #3 (scheduled for 2016).

Rich said the truck ordered in August was delivered to the Town this past month. He said the Highway crew is pleased with it.

Rich said the Board now needs to consider selling the old truck #4, and purchasing a new truck to replacement truck #3 which has been planned for FY16-17.

Rich said that Clark's Truck Service is building 2017 demo models now for the sized truck we would be looking for. Rich said that, since they hold the state contract for that truck, the Town could buy from them without going through standard bid process. Bruce and Rich discussed the specifics with the Select Board.

Rich said Clark's proposed trade-in values are: \$7,500 for truck #3 and \$4,500 for truck #4. He said they would also be willing to sell them on a consignment basis with a 10% commission. Bruce said he thought a consignment sale might be a better deal for the Town. Rich said he had also received a call from someone in town who might be interested in purchasing truck #4. Rich said the Town could try to sell the trucks ourselves first, and then sell them through Clark's if that wasn't successful.

Mike asked what replacement cost was anticipated for truck #4. Rich said the Select Board had planned to spend up to \$150,000, to be paid out of the Capital Equipment Fund. He said that Clark's price is \$142,000, and the truck should be ready by June. Rich said that was close enough to the beginning of FY16-17 to contemplate this purchase and that there is sufficient money in the Capital Equipment Fund to cover the purchase. He said the money from the sale of the old trucks would go back into the Capital Equipment fund. The Select Board agreed this seemed like a good idea.

Mike Ripley moved/Jill Flinn seconded a motion to purchase a new Truck #4 from Clark's Truck Service in June, and to look into selling the old trucks #3 & #4 on our own. All voted in favor.

14. Manager to discuss the wrap-up of the ERP grant program.

Rich said the grant expenses and activities are completed. He said less was spent than anticipated since the Mills estate was not part of this program as originally planned. Rich said he is finalizing the paperwork to submit for reimbursement. Rich added that another round of applications for this grant program is coming due. He said the lower part of the Leiner property on Davis Road was heavily impacted by Tropical Storm Irene flooding, and would be an important piece to protect. He said the Leiners seemed willing to consider selling this portion. Rich suggested we could do a smaller project with only that property in the forthcoming round. The Select Board agreed that Rich should submit an application for another ERP grant for the Leiner property.

15. Review of other town activities including spring roads, water and wastewater system matters including wastewater system energy audit, solar project operations, energy committee activities, etc.

Rich said the back roads are getting muddy and the Town crew has been out with the grader and spreading gravel as needed. He said the Town roads were posted for mud season temporary weight limits last week.

Rich said the town water showed some discoloration, due to changes in the filtration plant maintenance procedures. These procedure changes have been scaled back and the discoloration has subsided. He said there was never any issue with the potability of the water during this time. Rich said he thought the spring flushing would clear things up further.

Rich added that he spoke with Mack Molding Co. and asked if they have ever used the chemical PFOA which has been found to be contaminating water in the Bennington area. He said they had not. However, Rich said he is investigating whether it would be plausible to test system water for this chemical.

Rich said that he and Bruce met with Mike Smith of Weston & Sampson Engineers and Gary Swindler of Efficiency VT to go over the results of an energy efficiency audit done at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Rich said he is looking at the improvement costs vs efficiency savings to decide which improvements might be cost effective. He said there may be some grants to help with some of these efficiency upgrades.

Rich said two of the sewer lift stations have recently experienced some maintenance issues and parts of the electrical control system are being replaced and/or adjusted. During a high demand period, Rich said some wastewater backed up in the system which required some extra time from the waste water operators.

Rich said that one inverter was replaced at our solar array and another needed to be reset. Rich said he could see that the output had decreased by checking production details via the website. Carl asked if the system could be set to email a warning when the output decreases. Rich said it wasn't set that way but perhaps it could be.

Rich said the Energy Committee is looking into other potential projects in Town, including community solar projects and affordable heat exchange units. Rich invited anyone who might be interested in joining the Energy Committee to contact him.

16. Other business

Jill Flinn ó Jill said that she and Bruce are trying to organize a rabies clinic in town so residents can get the vaccines necessary to register their dogs more easily. The date and time will be advertised once it is set.

Wendy Regier ó none.

Mike Ripley ó none.

George Timko ó George said he had read a recent legislative report which said they are eliminating the \$500 per year limit on spending for Town cemeteries. He asked if the water connection issue at the Kaupinnen property on Depot Street has progressed. Rich said the Water Board approved writing a letter of support for the increased allocation, with a number of conditions to insure the project was done properly. Rich said he had called the state permit specialist, who had not heard

from Mr. Kaupinnen. The public safety department mentioned that it had issued a conditional permit for the plumbing work on that project.

Bob Glidden ó Bob said there was recently an issue with Ludlow dispatch, which sent the Ludlow ambulance to the Village Green in Ludlow instead of the condominiums on the Village Green in Proctorsville. Bob said one of the Proctorsville firefighters went to the correct address in Proctorsville and argued with the Ludlow dispatcher about the mistake. Bob said he would like all emergency calls, including ambulance calls, to go through the Hartford dispatcher, which both fire departments use. Then, all 911 calls for Cavendish would be through one central dispatch. He and Rich would like to discuss this further. The Select Board agreed that Rich and Bob could look into this. Jill said she has heard several people say they are pleased that the fire department now shows up for emergency calls.

17. Adjourn

George Timko moved/Mike Ripley seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. All voted in favor.

Minutes Approved: _____

Date: _____