September 11, 2018

Present: Trustees - Guy Breault, Ellen St. Marie, Samuel Vaillancourt, Leonard Charron

Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Matthew Miner, Gary Denton

Guests - Raymond Magnant, Shawna Lovelette, Ellen Stanley, Sandra Ferland

Meeting called to order by Guy Breault at 6:31 p.m.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no modifications or changes to the agenda.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review/Approve Minutes August 28, 2018

Sam Vaillancourt made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2018 Meeting of the Board of Trustees as written. Seconded by Leonard Charron . Unanimously approved.

4. Enosburg Business Association October 13, 2018 Downtown Enosburg Eats Event Request

Shawna Lovelette spoke to the board to explain that the plans for a block party on October 13 have been modified and rather than a block party, a porch party event is currently planned. This event day will still be used by the Vital Village project for outreach. The original park permits will no longer be needed on this date, instead permission to allow local business participants to utilize their outdoor spaces during the hours of 2-5pm is being requested. Check in for the event will be held from 2-4pm at the Opera House where participants will receive a map with a list of locations for a self-guided tour to participating businesses that will be offering tastings of food that represent local and economic food preparation choices. Tasting will be open from 2pm – 5pm. The tour ends at the Country Club with a sweet and savory pie social from 4-6pm. Raffle at the Country Club at 5:30. Vital Village walkabout from 3pm – 4:30pm. Any donations received from participants will go to the Food Shelf. Ms. Lovelette asked the Board to consider allowing the EBA to block off a couple parking spaces to ensure traffic and pedestrian safety at the intersection of Missisquoi St. and Main St.

Leonard Charron made the motion to approve the Enosburg Eats Event on October 13, 2018 granting use of sidewalk space for participating tasting/porch locations and the blocking of a couple parking spaces for traffic safety. Seconded by Sam Vaillancourt. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Lovelette also reported that planning has started for the Christmas in Enosburg event and a request will be coming at a future meeting for park permits, tree lighting and parade. It was agreed that the EBA would make lighting purchases and submit to the Village for reimbursement up to the \$1,000 approved by voters at the annual meeting to purchase additional Christmas Lighting.

5. <u>2018 Ta</u>x Rate

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The Board reviewed a report from Staff recommending a property tax rate for 2018 of 0.5333 which is a reduction 0.0225 compared to the estimated tax presented at the annual meeting. Matthew Miner reviewed the reasons for the tax rate reduction which included approximately \$15,400 in surplus revenues over the original budget and approximately \$27,600 in expenditure savings, resulting in a reduction of \$43,000 in the amount required to be collected from property tax. When combined with a \$7,000 increase in Grand List value, this resulted in the 0.0225 reduction in rate.

Sam Vaillancourt made the motion to approve the 2018 Property Tax Rate of .5333. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimously approved.

6. 2019 Proposed Road/Street Projects Discussion

Staff presented a report to the Board for review of some potential paving projects for consideration for 2019. The purpose of this item on the agenda was to present some preliminary information to the Board for consideration prior to the start of the 2019 budgeting process. Five street areas have been identified for consideration, St Albans St, Hayes Farm Rd, Railroad St, Orchard St, and Village Dr. Gary Denton obtained unit price estimates from two contractors, Pike Industries and ECI. Budget estimates for the street projects are as follows:

St Albans St - \$155,000 for paving plus \$113,500 for sidewalks

Hayes Farm Rd - \$260,000 for paving plus \$22,000 for culvert replacements

Railroad St - \$48,000

Orchard St - \$125,000

Village Dr - \$11,200

Total cost for all projects is approximately \$734,700. Funding for these projects would impact tax rate by approximately 0.0741 for a period of twelve years. No grant funding is anticipated to be available for these projects. The Board asked Mr. Denton to investigate if there would be any significant cost efficiencies if all the projects are completed in one season and would like to review the topic again at the next meeting.

7. <u>Electric Department Hydro Facility Rake Repairs</u>

Jon Elwell reminded the Board that repairs need to be made to the Hydro Facility Rake. These repairs where budgeted for 2018. Because of the value of the repair, \$9,900 Board approval is required before making the expenditure. Because of the specialized nature of the work, Mr. Elwell is asking the Board to waive the Village purchasing requirement to obtain three bids and allow the work to be awarded to Alpine Machine.

Leonard Charron made the motion to approve the repairs to the rake without requiring three bids at an estimated cost of \$9,900. Seconded by Sam Vaillancourt. Unanimously approved.

8. Electric Department 2004 Truck Bids

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No bids were received by the deadline. Board recommended that Staff open a new bid opportunity via Facebook and reach out to the original interested party to make sure they are aware the truck is still available.

9. Enosburg Initiative Report

Sandy Ferland reported that last week's EI meeting was very well attended. Discussions included project planning of volunteer efforts for the completion of the repairs and painting of the south side of the Masonic Temple, an interior cleaning and painting project for the Food Shelf space, a cleaning and painting project at the Opera House, a general outdoor cleanup project in downtown for the upcoming Vital Village walking tour. The EI also discussed attempting to arrange a coordinated meeting in November for all the special meeting groups in the Enosburgh community to gather in one location for one of their regular meetings and then to come together for a pot luck and information sharing session. There was also a report about continuing efforts to submit Historic Site marker applications for several Enosburgh locations.

10. Manager's Report

Mr. Elwell reported to the Board on three items:

The VT Division of Emergency Management has made a general invitation for municipalities that would be interested to host and participate in a mock catastrophic event exercise in October 2019. The Board agreed that Enosburg Falls may not be the best community for this exercise and would graciously decline the invitation.

VT Electric Coop announced it has hired a new CEO, Rebecca Towne.

FERC License Amendment to increase the allowed power capacity of the Hydro Plant – Mr. Elwell reported that the Village's consultant, Paul Nolan is working on the amendment submission and hopes to have it drafted by the end of September.

11. Other Business

Ms. Lovelette reported that the Town' Recreation Department has received Select Board approval to submit a grant application for improvements to the Recreation Field.

Leonard Charron asked Raymond Magnant if he knew who owns the light on the utility pole that used to shine on the Doughboy Statue in the park. He noticed that it is not working. Mr. Magnant was not sure but agreed to take a look at it.

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12. Executive Session - Personnel

Sam Vaillancourt made the motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a legal issue and a personnel issue at 7:45 pm. Seconded by Ellen St. Marie. Unanimously approved.

Ellen St. Marie made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Sam Vaillancourt. Unanimously approved. The Board re-entered their Regular Meeting at 8:38pm.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

13. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Sam Vaillancourt made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Miner, Director of Finance

These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at their Regular Board Meeting September 25, 2018.