

**Town of Moretown  
Office of the SELECTBOARD**

Notice of unapproved minutes of the 11/19/07 Selectboard meeting

Members present: Paula Mastroberardino-Chair, Rae Washburn III, Stephanie Venema, John Hoogenboom arrived at 5:35 and Don Wexler arrived at 5:40

Paula called the meeting to order at 5:30 and the **Public Hearing for the Buttolph petition** for layout of a right of way for logging on property owned by Mary Ronner, as per Title 19, Sections 958 and 923, began with Paul Gillies giving those present who would be testifying an oath to tell the truth.

Paul Gillies, council for the Town for this petition, will provide Facts and Findings of tonight's hearing testimony therefore, tonight's Selectboard minutes will provide only a brief outline of the hearing proceedings.

Paula turned the hearing over to Paul. Paul gave an overview of how tonight's hearing will proceed.

Guests present for the Buttolph hearing were:

Robert Halpert	Attorney for Mary Ronner
Mary Ronner	
Art Ronner	
Michael Marino	Consulting Forester and logger for Mary Ronner
Gunner McCain	Consulting Engineer for Mary Ronner
Tad (Donald) Powers	Attorney for Edward Buttolph
Edward Buttolph	
Edward (Ben) Campbell	Forester for Edward Buttolph
Dennis Rodgers	Logger for Edward Buttolph
Tom Sweet	Consulting Forester
Leo Laferriere	Consulting Forester
Kara Herlihy	The Valley Reporter

Mary Ronner requested that the Selectboard deny the petition filed by the Edward Buttolph Trust for a right of way over her property. In support of the request, Mary submitted proposed facts which would be supported through tonight's evidence.

All parties present were allowed sufficient time to satisfy their needs for testimony and cross questions. A site visit is scheduled for three o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Facts and Findings will be attached to tonight's minutes when they are received from Paul Gillies.

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8:10 p.m. **The regular Selectboard meeting begins**

Guests present include: Tom Badowski, Hoover Austin, John Schmeltzer, Ron Shems, Eric Howes, Doug Reed, Travis Blodgett, Carl Wimble, Kara Herlihy and Cheryl Brown-Clerk for the Board.

Ron & Vera Ward, Sheila Griffith, Evelyn Goss and Wilma Maynard were present for personnel policy draft discussion but because the Buttolph hearing ran until after 8:00, some of the items on tonight's agenda were postponed until the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Public Comment:**

**Tom Badowski** – came in to let the Board know Moretown Landfill Inc is planning to generate electricity enough to provide power for 3500 homes by using landfill waste products. MLI will now begin work toward town/Act 250 permits. Tom hopes to be generating electricity by August of 2008.

The Selectboard was very excited about having this new energy source from the landfill waste.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Kelley Brook trail location** – Paul said he found the exact location of the road and that the lay out of the road was done properly. Paul will prepare a formal letter of his findings regarding the location of the trail.

**Ancient Roads lookup** – Paul said, over the course of the next year or so, he would be willing to help the Town find the ancient roads then scale and plot the roads on a map. Paul said finding the location of the old roads and knowing what the widths are etc., and having permanent records would have great benefits for the Town and would probably save the expense of doing investigations on a road more than once because you would keep road records all in one file for future review.

Stephanie told Paul she might know of someone who could help him with some of the manual lookup work if he was interested. Paul said he would welcome the help.

**E911 Coordinator search** – Eric Howes is still unsure whether or not he can help out with E911 Coordinator work. He will know more around the first of the year.

**Town Forest Fire Warden** – Eric brought in an appointment form, already signed by Jay Lackey – Forest & Parks Resource Specialist, and asked that the Selectboard appoint him to replace Randy Grandfield, who is resigning the position as of 12/1/07, as Moretown's Forest Fire Warden.

Paula moved to appoint Eric Howes as Moretown's Forest Fire Warden effective 12/1/07 thru 6/30/2012. John seconded. All were in favor.

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**Charter/welcome sign** – discussion tabled until 12/3/07

**Personnel policy draft review** – discussion tabled until 12/3/07.

**Town Garage Committee work** – Doug Reed and Hoover Austin were here tonight to update the Board on work they have done since the last meeting

- Doug spoke with Craig Elwell for his input on the plans he provided at the last meeting. Changes to those plans and shown on revised plans submitted tonight include:

The salt shed will be across the road (sand pile side) rather than inside the building.

More windows have been added to the back side of the building.

Office space was placed where the salt shed was previously shown inside the building.

Room was provided for the tractor/mower/snowblower storage.

The building will have a metal roof (not to be red or green) so the snow will slide off the roof all at once making removal of the snow easier.

New plans show some of the sand/salt to be contained in concrete so when/if it floods, the products will not float away.

A hedge row between Sandra Reagan's property and the new garage.

A second access (to be used as the primary access) to the sand/gravel area.

- Hoover met with Sandra, Kurt and Brad Reagan for their input. Their comments include:

They would like a hedgerow between the new garage and their property.

They would like their spring up back tiled.

There are no issues with noise from the highway work.

The Reagan's offered to let the town hook into their septic but that might require a mound system. Hoover thinks it would be better to continue with plans to have the towns septic across the road.

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- Hoover met with Holly Ward. Holly is not interested in sell the additional property which runs from the current access to the sand pile to the clapboard mill. Holly will however be working with his attorney toward a purchase and sale agreement to sell the town the land between the access road toward the 100B bridge as you leave town / Dennis and Kelly Fekert property. Hoover will try to get a letter of intent to sell the town the property from Holly in the interim so septic design can be worked on.

Doug and Hoover have a zoning application that they would like the Selectboard to approve. The revised plans which shows the placement of the building on the lot, the building design and the bays/work area etc inside the proposed building.

Paula moved that the Selectboard approve the zoning application and related paperwork for variances and conditional use review for building a new town garage as presented and reviewed tonight. John seconded.

Discussion included:

Don would like to see ideas for recreational or community use for some of the unused area of the property the town will be purchasing as part of this process. Don would also like to explore the possibility of having sidewalks placed in the area of town that would eventually connect to new sidewalks in the village. Don would also like to see the speed limit reduced in the village.

Attachments to the zoning application that will go to Deborah Feldman will include – test pit / soil suitable for septic results, an agreement from Holly Ward for the use of the existing land being used by the town and: the site plan and drawings as presented tonight.

### **Next:**

Doug will meet with Deborah Feldman, Zoning Administrator for submission of the application to the Development Review Board. Doug will also work with the Agency of Transportation for a curb cut permit for the second access.

Hoover will talk with Kelly and Dennis Fekert about their ideas for building a new garage and about accessing the sand/gravel/stone products. Hoover will talk with Holly for the status of a purchase & sales agreement and for a letter of intent for use of the property.

**Vote: All were in favor.**

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**Clarence Wood re: South Hill Road culvert placement** – Clarence did not attend tonight's meeting as scheduled. If Clarence calls, he will be rescheduled.

**River's quarry appeal** – Paula moved to enter into executive session at 9:15 p.m., for the purpose of the town discussing legal business with its attorney whereby pre-mature general public knowledge would clearly place the town at a disadvantage. Paula's motion included asking Ron Shems-town attorney for this issue and John Schmeltzer-Chairman of the Schoolboard, to stay for the discussion. John seconded. All were in favor. All other parties left the room.

Paula moved to come out of executive session at 9:43 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None tonight

**Approval of minutes:** Paula moved to approve the minutes of 11/5/07 with the following amendments:

Pg 4. last paragraph. – sentence should read: The Board is in agreement that any extra hours Jamie is working over what the Board previously approved, does not qualify her for benefits *and again, that any hours being worked over 18 were approved as a temporary solution to help the town clerk in her absence.*

Pg 5. second bullet in town garage committee work – The engineer will provide *test pit results* (not a septic design) for the 11/19 meeting.

Pg 7. Stray dog – Paula said she has been unable to contact our Animal Control Officer *because he has been out of town.....*

Rae seconded the motion.

Discussion:

- John called Doug Newton of District 6 regarding concerns raised about the paving and work in wet land area at the junction of Route 100B and 100 by the Maynard Farm. Doug will call John.
- The Board will talk with Susan about attending a Selectboard meeting to discuss the Sullivan, Powers recommendations when she comes back to work.
- Paula will call an electrician about putting installing a light over the back door that has a light sensor on it.
- John will call SR Janitorial about evaluating a musty smell from time to time in the town office.
- Don will call Larry Westover and ask him to work on the plumbing in the bathroom.

Vote: All were in favor of approving the minutes of 11/5 as amended. Stephanie abstained from voting as she was absent for that meeting.

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**Town Clerk/Treasurer business:**

Warrants were reviewed and approved as presented.

**Invoices** were reviewed and approved as presented.

**REPORTS & COMMUNICATION, MAIL**

**Bill Brueckner** – Letter to the Selectboard notifying them that he is property taxes are being paid under protest. No action was taken on the letter.

**Green Up Day 2008** – Letter requesting the town to name a coordinator. Mike Demotsis will be suggested for Moretown's Green Up Coordinator.

**Dubois & King** – A letter offering a donation up to \$10,000 for engineering services. The Board will consider the free services for phase III of raising the River Road.

**Nortrax Equipment service satisfaction survey** – completed by Craig Elwell was reviewed and will be returned as presented.

**Listers** – A letter from the Listers inquiring whether or not 2007 budget funds for updating the tax maps could be carried into 2008. The Board will reply that no the funds can not be carried over from budget to budget but it may not be too late to get an estimate for the mapping work and a portion of the work could be paid for by 2007 funds.

**Road Crew on call** – Stephanie reported of a meeting with the road crew and how they talked with her about getting compensated for on-call time. The Board will discuss this again.

**John Schmeltzer letter** – A letter from John Schmeltzer re: the Schoolboard's opinion/suggestions regarding the Town Plan revisions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.