

**Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECTBOARD**

Notice of unapproved minutes of the December 10, 2007 special meeting held for the purpose of walking the area of Mary Ronner's property for which Edward Buttolph Trust has filed a petition for the Selectboard to lay out a road to be used for a logging operation and to continue working on the 2008 budget, personnel policy and budget related items.

2:00 site visit – Board members present: Rae Washburn III, Stephanie Venema and Paula Mastroberardino

Paul Gillies attended the site visit for the Town and will prepare a draft of facts and findings, for both the hearing and today's site visit within the next 10 days or so, for the Board to review. A written decision will follow shortly after the Board has a chance to review the fact and findings.

4:30 – Selectboard meeting: Don Wexler, Stephanie Venema, Rae Washburn III, Paula Mastroberardino and John Hoogenboom

Guests: Cheryl Brown, Clerk for the Board

Paula called the Selectboard meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Work on the 2008 budget commenced. Discussion included:

- Town hall – Don will contact Tom Keefe to get a breakdown of he has charged the town to date for planning, what future planning/project management costs will be and for an updated scope of work for a bid package along with a firm project cost estimate. The Board will then be able to request proposals and break down the project into phases if need be. Further discussion will follow after Donny gets the estimate from Tom, about how the renovations will be financed.
- Library – The library budget request increased about \$8,000 from last years budget due in part to additional payroll costs to keep the library open enough hours to meet certification standards. Certification would allow the library to receive grants and free services that otherwise would not be available. Further discussion will follow. Inquires will be made as to how many hours a library must be open to meet certification requirements.
- Auditors – The Board will ask Susan to provide a breakdown of what the CPA/Selectboard expenses reflect in the budget.

Unapproved minutes of the 12/10/07 Selectboard special meeting

- Town Clerk/Treasurer – John moved to enter into executive session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss labor relations whereby pre-mature general public knowledge would place the town at a substantial disadvantage. Paula seconded. All were in favor.

Paula moved to come out of executive session at 6:00 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.

Susan will be requested to provide the following information for the 2008 budget for the December 17th Selectboard meeting:

1. All debt retirement information
2. All articles passed at 2007 Town Meeting
3. The current balance of the Capital Reserve Fund
4. The current balance in the Moretown Landfill tipping fees received account
5. The current balance of the Bridge and Culvert Fund (after the 2007 River Road culvert deduction).
6. And to please put the Selectboard's pay onto the 12/17 warrant since because of the Holiday's, they won't meet again until after the 1st of the year.

Other work:

- Benefits - Stephanie will survey surrounding towns about what benefits they offer and if a portion of the premium for insurance(s) offered is paid by the employee.
- Village hill - Stephanie spoke with Matt Murawski of DuBois and King regarding their offer to towns for a \$10,000 grant for free engineering services and if this grant would apply for an engineering study to rebuild the village hill. Stephanie intends to apply for the grant.
- Sidewalks - John said Eugene Grandfield has a good affordable cost plan for repairing the sidewalks. John will follow-up. Don will investigate whether or not the sidewalk repairs qualify under the byway grant guidelines and discuss the possibility with the Byway Committee.

Paula moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Stephanie seconded. All were in favor.