

AGENDA SUMMARY
March 8, 2010

Agenda Item No. 2
Selectboard Organization

Summary: In accordance with Section 301 (a) of the Stowe Town Charter, “Forthwith after their election and qualification, the Selectboard shall organize and elect a chair, vice-chair and clerk by a majority vote of the entire Selectboard, and shall file a certificate of such election for record in the office of the town clerk. The clerk shall not be a member of the Selectboard (currently Susan Moeck serves as the clerk).

In accordance with Section 301 (b) The chair of the Selectboard or, in his or her absence, the vice-chair, shall preside at all meetings of the Selectboard and shall be recognized as the ceremonial head of the town government for ceremonial purposes.

In accordance with 404 (a), “As soon as possible after the election of he chair and vice-chair, the Selectboard shall fix the time and place of its regular meetings. Such meetings shall be held at least once a month.” (Regular meetings are currently held the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30 p.m. in the Akeley Building.

Town Plan Impact: N/A


Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Have the Town Manager take nominations for the chair and conduct the election. Once a chair is elected, have the Town Manager turn the meeting over to him to take nominations and conduct the election for vice chair and clerk.

Move to fix the time and place for regular Selectboard meetings for the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30 p.m.in the Akeley Building.

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Agenda Item No. 
Annual Newspaper Designation

Summary: In accordance with 17 VSA 2641, the Selectboard shall annually designate a newspaper in which warnings are published for public notification purposes.

The Stowe Reporter has historically been the designated newspaper for such purposes.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the Stowe Reporter as the designated newspaper for publishing warnings.

AGENDA SUMMARY

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Agenda Item No. AA
HS Lead Paint Abatement

Summary: Enclosed is a copy of the “Stowe Historical Society West Branch Schoolhouse / St. Johns-in-the-Mountain Renovation Lead Base Inspection” The report states, “[The] law defines Lead-based Paint as paint that...has a lead content at or greater than 5% by weight...The white paint chips taken from under the vinyl siding on the exterior of the building contains: 13% lead by weight...The yellowish colored paint taken from the previous exterior of the building, but inside an add-on section contains 17% lead by weight. These are extremely high values, respectively 26 times and 34 times the .05% allowable lead concentration.”

On behalf of the Town, the clerk-of-the-works obtained proposals from two qualified contractors to abate the lead in the areas where construction is planned to occur in accordance with the renovation plan (see enclosed):

Heritage Environmental: Base Bid - \$12,460.

Alderson Environmental: Base Bid - \$14,553

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: The lowest qualified proposal is for \$12,460 for abatement, with an estimated cost of \$800 for “third party visual & dust clearances.” Lead abatement wasn’t part of the construction cost estimate and may stress the overall project budget.

Recommendation: Move to waive the formal bid process and move to award the proposal for the Historical Society Building Lead Abatement to Heritage Environmental Projects for \$12,460, plus the estimated cost of \$800 for “third party visual & dust clearances.”

AGENDA SUMMARY
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Agenda Item No. : 4B
Money Market

Summary: At your December 14, 2009 meeting, you authorized the Treasurer to invest in a money market account at Merchants Bank at 1.0% . Since that time, the Treasurer has been monitoring the MMA rates weekly to insure that the Town is receiving the best rate available. Last week, Merchants rate dropped and the Treasurer made inquiries to the other banks for rates and received the following:

Union Bank	.90%
Merchants	.50%
TD Bank	.25%
Chittenden	N/A

Due to the Banks not be willing to hold their interest rate quotes until the next meeting, the previous Board approved the Treasurer to invest the money in the Union Bank via email with the understanding that it would be formally approved at the Selectboard's 3/8/10 meeting.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: The Town will earn an interest rate in Union Bank's Money Market Account of .90%.

Recommendation: Move to authorize the Town Treasurer to invest with Union Bank at a rate of .90% retroactive to March 1, 2010.

(An amended Investment Policy follows for your review and approval.)

AGENDA SUMMARY
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AGENDA ITEM – Consent
Special Use Permit †D

Summary: Tree tapping permit for the Burt Spring Lot on Stowe Hollow Road for Stowe Maple Products.

Town Plan Impact: None

Fiscal Impact: \$325

Recommendation: Motion to approve.

AGENDA SUMMARY
March 8, 2010

Liquor Consent Item(s)

Summary: The following item(s) for your review:

1st Class & Outside Consumption Permit – Trapps Deli & Bakery

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Motion to approve as presented.

AGENDA SUMMARY

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Agenda Item No. 5
FY 11 Wastewater & Water Budgets

Summary: Enclosed are drafts of the FY 11 wastewater and water budgets and proposed fee schedules.

By way of background, the Town undertook a significant investment in capital assets to the wastewater and water systems a number of years back. Money was collected upfront from some of the major users through connection fees for the wastewater system. This enabled the wastewater fund to establish a positive fund balance that will help the Town to pay back its debt overtime. User fees have historically been set to cover annual operating costs.

The water fund did not receive the same degree of benefit through connection fees. Nor have the user fees covered the annual operating expenses, leading to an annual operating deficit and a negative fund balance.

In FY 10 the staff developed financial models that were endorsed by the Selectboard to move the utilities towards paying their annual operating expenses and to move both utilities towards positive fund balances, while minimizing increases to user fees. These models are enclosed. In the near term, they call for a 0% increase in wastewater fees and an 8% increase in water fees each year through FY 13.

In accordance with the financial models, wastewater has a proposed operating deficit for FY 11, thus using some of the surplus. At no time does the fund balance go negative.

Water is also proposed to have an operating deficit, but moves further in the direction of having revenues match expenses. By FY 12 revenues are projected to exceed expenses and begin reducing the water fund deficit. By FY 18 the deficit should be eliminated.

Both budgets do not reflect major changes with the exception of the elimination of the Wastewater Department Laborer position due to retirement. They include the following capital projects:

Wastewater

Second-Hand Truck Purchase (from the Highway Department) & Repairs: \$15,000

Replacement of DO System: \$13,334

Standby Generator Replacement: \$42,000

Water

Water Pump Repair to Stowe Club: \$10,000

Replacement of a portion of the old waterline to Edson Hill: \$33,500

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: See enclosed FY 11 Fee Schedule.

Recommendation: Move to instruct the Manager to warn the proposed FY 11 Wastewater and Water Fund Budgets and Fee Schedule for a public hearing at the Selectboard's March 22nd meeting.

AGENDA SUMMARY

March 8, 2010

Agenda Item No. 6
Route 100 Bridge Replacement

Summary: Enclosed is a letter from Chirs Williams, VTrans Structures Project Manager, indicating that VTrans has decided to change the scope of the project for the reconstruction of Gold Brook Bridge on Rte. 100, just south of its intersection with Gold Brook Road. Instead of a detour (through Moscow, Barrows Road, Luce Hill Road and Mountain Road back to the village) they plan to maintain traffic on a two lane temporary bridge adjacent to the existing bridge.

One of the reasons for the change, as indicated in the letter from Mr. Williams, is that the proposed detour route has “the second highest # of accidents in Lamoille County over the past five years (50 total)...we do not feel that adding the estimated 11,000 vehicles per day to this route would be a wise choice.” Another factor was “concerns from the business community in Stowe Lower Village.”

A public hearing was held on Monday, February 22, 2010, to present the revised plan. Two of the affected property owners were present: Steward Bouchard and Kurt Pearson. The third affected property owner, Carlton Longe, was not present. The Pearson’s residence is on the northeast corner of the Gold Brook Road intersection. Carlton Longe owns the property on the southeast corner, the so-called “creamery.” The Bouchard parcel is immediately south of the Longe property.

The Bouchard's are very concerned with the plan and vowed to fight it. They believe that the construction will disturb a very sentimental area of their property and make access to one of their buildings (a garage) difficult during the time the detour is in place. Kurt Pearson appeared to be willing to negotiate with VAOT and only had a few questions.

VTrans made it clear that the property owners would be fairly compensated for the temporary easements and that the properties would be returned to their original condition upon the reopening of the bridge. The creamery building would, of course, be completely demolished and removed from the site.

Chris Williams, PE, the project manager for VAOT, requested a letter from the Selectboard, indicating support for this revised plan to use a two-lane temporary bridge rather than a detour.

Town Plan Impact: None

Fiscal Impact: Project will be fully funded by VAOT (estimated to be \$2,000,000).

Recommendation: Move to approve the enclosed letter supporting a temporary bridge during the construction of the new Gold Brook Bridge.