

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48

Special Selectboard Meeting
Large Conference Room – Town offices
Tuesday, January 15, 2019
Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Subject to approval by the Selectboard

Members Present: Brian Carpenter, Heather Seeley, Lindsey Fuentes-George, Victor Nuovo, Farhad Khan and Nick Artim. Laura Asermily was absent.

Staff Present: Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, Parks and Recreation Superintendent Dustin Hunt, Ilsley Public Library Director Dana Hart, Town Clerk Ann Webster, Chief of Policy Thomas Hanley and Jim Gish, Community Liaison. Also present were several members of the public.

The meeting was televised on MCTV by Jim Corbett.

1. Call to Order

Brian Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Nuovo made the motion to approve the agenda and Khan seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2018 Selectboard Meeting

Khan made the motion to approve the minutes, and Nuovo seconded the motion.

Changes: Line 303 remove "said"
Correct spelling of Khan in second half of minutes

The minutes were approved as amended with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED**

4. Citizen Comments

There were no comments.

**5. Appointment of Town's Representative to the
Addison County Economic Development Corporation Board**

Carpenter said Town Manager Ramsay was appointed as Interim Board member while the notice went out we were looking for someone to serve. He said Jeff Olson has submitted a letter of interest in the position.

49 Olson joined the Board and said that he owned Addison County Real Estate on Route 7
50 South, and he and his wife own a couple of other properties on High Street and Court Street.
51 He said he's motivated and he sees some challenges in the future with young people leaving
52 the area and the population aging, so he wants to do anything he can to help to create more
53 economic opportunity. He said he's been entrepreneurial all his life, and thinks he can bring
54 that experience to the ACEDC Board.

55
56 Carpenter pointed out that Olson is not a Middlebury resident, but he does own property and
57 a business here in Middlebury, and he's Chair of the Weybridge Planning Commission. He
58 said there is nothing that says the appointee has to be a Middlebury resident.

59
60 Seeley made the motion to sign the Selectboard resolution appointing Jeff Olson as
61 Middlebury's representative to the Addison County Economic Development Corporation
62 (ACEDC) Board. Khan seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.
63 **MOTION PASSED.**

64
65 **7. Police Chief Tom Hanley, Recommendation on Award of Contract for Cruiser Upfit**
66 (Item taken out of order)

67
68 Chief Hanley said this year they are consolidating the upfitting of the new cruiser to one
69 vendor in an effort to have a better control of costs. He said they received two bids; Yipes
70 Corp. of Williston at \$7,700, and Hard Wired Auto Electronics in Waterville for \$7,569. He
71 said even though Hard Wired Auto was the low bidder, the cost of transporting the car to
72 Waterville would take two officers at overtime pay, whereas Williston is much shorter distance
73 and less time, so the actual cost for Yipes would end up being lower.

74
75 Hanley said in the past they've had multiple vendors doing the upfitting and it got complicated
76 and time consuming. He said last year they got the new car in June and didn't get it on the
77 road until September. With one vendor the car will be on the road in a couple of weeks.
78 Carpenter asked what the cost had been with multiple vendors, and Hanley said he'd tried to
79 figure that out, but some of the costs were buried in the Public Works budget too. He said
80 the best he could come up with is around \$10,000.

81
82 Seely made the motion to award a contract to Yipes Corp. for the equipment upfit of the PD's
83 new cruiser, at a cost of \$7,700. Nuovo seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in
84 favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

85
86 **6. Public Hearing on FY2020 General Fund Budget**

87
88 Carpenter said this was an opportunity for the Selectboard to take public testimony on the
89 proposed FY20 General Fund budget and prepare any final questions or requests for
90 revisions prior to the Board's January 22rd meeting, when the budget will be finalized for
91 presentation to the voters in March.

92
93 He went on to say that, in accordance with 24 VSA § 127-1302, the Board is conducting a
94 public hearing to take questions and comments from the Middlebury community regarding the
95 proposed FY20 General Fund Budget.

96

97

98 Town Manager Ramsay said the budget before them showed the changes since their last
99 review, with reductions totaling \$15,500, and went over the line items where the reductions
100 were made. She said there had been one addition of \$1,500 for the Tot-time Attendant that
101 had inadvertently been left out.

102

103 She said she had provided a list of items they may want to address this evening. The first
104 item was increase in the water and sewer administration charges. She said it had been
105 around 15 years since these figures had been revised, and since then we've added a Director
106 of Operations, there had been changes in Accounting and an increase in project planning, so
107 they are proposing a significant increase for water and sewer administrative expenses. She
108 said Accounting estimates their time is divided out to 60% for General Fund, and 20% each
109 for Water and Sewer; Director of Operations and the Administrative Assistant is 60% for
110 General Fund, 25% for Water and 15% for Sewer, and the Director of Planning is divided out
111 1/3 for each fund. She said that totals out to \$312,307 for General Fund Administration,
112 \$139,621 for Water Fund and \$119,921 for Sewer Fund. She said they are proposing
113 spreading the increase in costs of the Water and Sewer charges over 3 fiscal years to the full
114 amount. She said the higher costs would be incorporated into the FY19 Water and Sewer
115 Budgets that would be approved later this year.

116

117 She said there is also an increase in the interest income of around \$30,000, bringing it to
118 \$60,000.

119

120 She said the elevator in the Town Offices is in need of repairs, and the cost to do that is
121 around \$4,700. She said we are looking at an elevator service contract that would cover
122 repairs such as this, and that would be an additional \$1,500 a year. By choosing the
123 upgraded maintenance plan, the service provider has said they would split the cost of the
124 current repair with the Town, bringing the bill in front of us down to roughly \$2,300 as a credit
125 for switching to the premium plan. So that would increase the budget by \$1,500.

126

127 She said she'd also adjusted the proposed cost of health insurance for the two new positions.
128 That is a savings of \$13,000, and Director of Operation Kernan felt the \$45,000 cost of the
129 Salt Shed cover in this year's budget could be spread out over three years at \$15,000 per
130 year, so that is a reduction of \$30,000 in FY20.

131

132 She said the total of all these changes is a reduction of \$96,137. She said that would reduce
133 the estimated tax rate from 4.4 cents to just over 3 cents.

134

135 Fred Dunnington asked about the Equipment Fund borrowing and the interest paid to local
136 institutions, and Ramsay said interest is around \$5,000. Dunnington asked about the funds
137 with fund balances, and why not borrow internally from those funds. Ramsay said the
138 Treasurer had indicated that our interest earned on these funds is around 2.3% and the
139 interest on loans is 2.7%, so any savings would be negligible.

140

141 Dunnington also asked about the estimated reduction in Battell Trust rents, and Ramsay said
142 there was a change with one tenant on the radio tower, but with the new radio tower
143 complete they are anticipating new tenant contracts. Dunnington asked about the balance in
144 the Land Conservation Fund, and Ramsay said it was \$300,000.

145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191

Victoria DeWind had several questions on the budget, including borrowing for vehicles, Police Department overtime, and the new position proposed in Accounting. She also urged the Board to consider using more of the Local Option Tax to keep the tax rate down.

Carpenter said the Board intended to deliberate further before finalizing the budget and they needed to provide guidance to Ramsay on what they're comfortable with as a Board. He said they also need to find out what the implications are to the school tax rate with our reappraisal. Ramsay said she was waiting to hear back from the company doing the reappraisal on what the timing is on the new reappraisal numbers and Common Level of Appraisal (CLA).

Carpenter said with there being no further comment regarding the draft FY20 General Fund budget, he declared the public hearing closed.

8. Consider Memorandum of Agreement with Marbleworks Partnership Regarding an Easement for Lazarus Park

Carpenter said that the Town had been working with Marble Works Partnership (MWP) on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a perpetual easement to allow the development of an ADA accessible pathway through Lazarus Park onto a portion of land owned by MWP.

Jim Gish said that Kim Smith of Marble Works Partnership had agreed to grant the Town a permanent easement for this pathway from Main Street to Marble Works, at no cost to them for construction or maintenance. He said if the Board authorizes the Town Manager to sign the MOU on behalf of the Town, then the next step will be to conduct a survey of the easement area, which the State has agreed to pay for. The State will also construct the pathway as part of the bridge project.

Artim moved to authorize Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Marble Works Partnership (MWP) outlining terms for the conveyance of a perpetual easement to the Town to facilitate development of the future Lazarus Park. Khan seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.

MOTION PASSED.

9. Follow-up from January 10, 2019 Infrastructure Committee Meeting

9.a. Grant Application for Funding for Construction of East Middlebury Village Flood Resiliency Measures

Seeley said this is the final phase of the East Middlebury Flood Resiliency project and is a grant for the construction of the project. She said this grant is for \$1,428,000, which is 75% of the total project cost, and the Town's portion would be \$476,000. Ramsay said they are anticipating a bond vote for the Town's portion of the costs, but it was felt it was best to hold off taking it to the voters until there is approval on the FEMA grant funds.

Artim asked of the life-expectancy of the project. Seeley said there will be measurements taken from specific points in the river to determine the amount of sediments. She said Public

192 Works, or someone, will keep track of the measurement and regular maintenance may be
193 required to keep these sediments from building.

194

195 Seeley made the motion to approve submittal of a grant application, including a local share of
196 \$476,000 begin public outreach regarding the project in anticipation of scheduling a Special
197 Town Meeting. Nuovo seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.

198 **MOTION PASSED.**

199

200 **9.b. Consider Bids for Resurfacing of Harold Curtis**
201 **Basketball Court in East Middlebury**

202

203 Dustin Hunt joined the Board and said that when this project first went to bid last spring, the
204 bids that came in were over what was budgeted, so the project was put off to be bid out at a
205 better time of year. He said the bids they received this time they're comfortable with and they
206 are recommending Vermont Recreational who comes with good references from other parks
207 and recreation departments around the state. He said with a \$14,000 match from the East
208 Middlebury Fire District, plus some money set aside for improvements to the Harold Curtis
209 Park, they have the funding in place.

210

211 Seeley said the full bid was \$42,095, but was reduced by \$1,230 because they've decided to
212 go with fixed basketball standards rather than adjustable, bringing the final cost to \$40,865.

213

214 Seeley made the motion to award a contract to Vermont Recreational for the Harold Curtis
215 Park Basketball Court Replacement project, for a total cost of \$40,865. Fuentes-George
216 seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

217

218 **9.c. Consider Award of a Phase 1 Evaluation and**
219 **Study Services of the Library Heating System**

220

221 Seeley said this is the first phase of evaluating what type of system to convert to as well as
222 the type of fuel to be used. She said the request is just for Phase I at this time.

223

224 Seeley made the motion to award a contract to Engineering Services of Vermont LLC, for a
225 Phase I Evaluation and Study of Ilsey Library's heating system, for a total cost of \$2,200.

226 Nuovo seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION**
227 **PASSED.**

228

229 Artim asked if this would also include looking at possibly relocating the system to somewhere
230 else in the building that would be more efficient. Dana Hart said that they didn't talk about
231 placement, but they did talk about the scale of the system being able to handle renovations
232 and expansions. Artim thought it might be something they should explore.

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240 **10. Art Loan Agreement for Gravity Sculpture by Eben Markowski**

241
242 Ramsay said Sheldon Museum Director Bill Brooks had heard of the availability of this art
243 sculpture and reached out to the Town to see if there was a location the Town would be
244 willing to host it in a prominent location. She said they met with the artist and the
245 representative of the owner of the art, and they are agreeable to displaying it on the Town
246 Offices plaza for one-year. She said Town Attorney Benj Putnam has some suggestions for
247 the indemnification clause, but other than that he has reviewed it and is fine with it.
248

249 Khan asked about any costs associated with this, and Ramsay said there may be some costs
250 for signs to warn people to stay off the art, but is looking to do some fundraising for that.
251

252 Dunnington asked about the possibility of the rust from the steel staining the plaza, and the
253 liability if something damages it. DeWind said it's an impressive structure, but wondered if it
254 would be a distraction to drivers in the rotary.
255

256 Seeley asked if it had to be there for a year, of we find it to be a nuisance with people
257 climbing on it, could it come down sooner. Ramsay said they had been very easy to work
258 with, so she thought they would be agreeable if it didn't work for either party. Carpenter said
259 he felt they'd want to move it if it was found it was difficult to patrol.
260

261 Someone asked about College Park, and Ramsay said the owner had looked at several
262 locations, and it was felt the plaza was the best location. Nuovo thought it was a magnificent
263 piece of art and it's worth trying.
264

265 Nuovo made the motion to authorize Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay to sign a one-year Art
266 Loan Agreement for "Gravity." Khan seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in
267 favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**
268

269
270 **11. Review First Draft of 2019 Town Meeting Warning**

271
272 Town Manager Ramsay went over the Town Meeting Warning with the Board. There were
273 the usual articles, and she said that instead of voting to collect taxes in three installments,
274 this year we would be proposing two installments on October 15, 2019 and March 15, 2020.
275 She said this was to allow for tax bills being delayed due to the reappraisal, and to allow
276 enough time for the reappraisal to be completed and hear grievances. Carpenter asked if
277 this would be for one year only, and she said we would see how it went and how it was
278 received by taxpayers.
279

280 Ramsay suggested moving Article 5 before the budget adoption since the budget assumes
281 this will be approved, so if it isn't approved, it would mean an 8 cent increase in the tax rate. It
282 was felt that made sense.
283

284 She went over the Articles to be voted by Australian Ballot, which include the 350VT Climate
285 Solution Resolution, and appropriations for Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity,
286 NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, Habitat for Humanity of Addison County, and the ban
287 on plastic bags.

288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333

Ramsay said in her tax rate impact memo, she could also include the tax rate impact of approving the new funds being asked for by these non-profits. Seeley wondered if they'd produce anything at Town Meeting on their budget and what this is used for.

Ramsay said there is an e-mail in the Board packet from Assistant Town Manager Chris English as a cover to an analysis he did of the High School and Mary Hogan School for the location of Town Meeting. She said both are currently available, but we need to confirm soon.

Fuentes-George asked if the audio problem at the High School had been solved. Town Clerk Ann Webster said the last time the meeting was at the High School there were Justices of the Peace ready to take hand-held mikes to anyone who wanted to speak, and there was the microphone on the stand in the front. She said no announcement was made these mikes were available, so people just kept quiet and mentioned it afterwards. She said she would have at least 3 microphones ready to take to people who wanted them.

The Board agreed the High School made more sense, so Webster will have a Board of Civil Authority meeting before the next Selectboard meeting to formally approve having Town Meeting at the High School.

12. Consider a Request from Friends of Middlebury Hockey, Inc. to Add a Question to the Town Meeting Warning Asking Voters to Approve the Addition of \$90,000 to \$100,000 to the Town's Note with National Bank of Middlebury to Complete Improvements to the Second Floor of the MSC and Extend the Term of the Note.

Friends of Middlebury Hockey President Michael McAuliffe joined the Board to present this request to the Board, and also present was Devin McLaughlin who is in charge of fund raising and Bill Ford, who was available to answer questions about the previous application and addition.

McAuliffe said they are very close to reaching their fund raising goal of \$350,000, with pledges of \$271,000, and they've reached a point where they feel secure to take on additional debt to close out the campaign and get the work started to finish Memorial Sports Center. He said they've been talking to Meghan McLaughlin at National Bank of Middlebury to take another \$100,000 loan and add it to their existing debt service and extend the terms out another 5 years. He said that would actually lower their loan payment from \$12,000 per quarter through 2028, to \$11,000 per quarter through 2033. He said that would put Friends of Middlebury Hockey on track to finish the campaign and begin the work, and hopefully complete the Memorial Sports Center in time to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of Friends of Middlebury Hockey.

Carpenter asked about the interest rate of the loan, and McAuliffe said that the current rate is 3.75% and while they don't have the rate of the new loan yet, the original loan would stay at 3.75%.

334 He said while they've had corporate donations, the bulk of the donations received have been
335 small donations of less than \$2,000 and the average of those is \$272 each, so this has
336 captured the community's passion for completing the Sports Center.

337
338 Carpenter asked if they had the permits, and Bill Ford said they did, but thought some of
339 them may need to be modified.

340
341 Seeley made the motion to support a request from Friends of Middlebury Hockey to add a
342 question to the Town Meeting warning asking voters to approve the addition of \$100,000 to
343 the Town's note with National Bank of Middlebury to complete improvements to the second
344 floor of the MSC and extend the term of the note by five years. Nuovo seconded the motion.
345 The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

346
347 **13. FY19 Year-to-Date budget reports as of December 31, 2018**

348
349 Town Manager Ramsay reported that the FY19 budget is on track half-way through the Fiscal
350 Year. She said she'd checked with the Police Chief Hanley and Dir. of Operations Bill
351 Kernan, the two largest departments, and Chief Hanley said overall he's anticipating finishing
352 out the year on target, and Kernan reported they should be on track; however, gravel road
353 maintenance and stormwater are higher than anticipated so far. She said Kernan anticipates
354 overruns in the Equipment Fund and in water main repairs, and there was the \$40,000
355 overrun on the Halpin Road pump station repair. She said Wastewater Superintendent Bob
356 Wells is looking for ways in the Wastewater Budget to make up some of this overrun, and he
357 is anticipating an increase in sewer surcharges of \$40,000 and an additional \$10,000 in
358 septage dumping fees which will help the overall Sewer Department budget.

359
360 **14. Approval of Check Warrants**

361
362 Fuentes-George made the motion to approve total expenditures in the amount of
363 \$607,451.95 consisting of \$407,652.64 for accounts payable, and \$199,799.31 for payroll, for
364 the period December 19, 2018 through January 15, 2019. Seeley seconded the motion. The
365 motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

366
367 **15. Town Manager's Report**

368
369 **Second Selectboard Meeting in February.** Ramsay said since the Addison County
370 Supervisory District Annual Meeting is on the fourth Tuesday of February, the Board's
371 regularly-scheduled meeting date, for the past few years, the Board has shifted its meeting
372 either to the Monday, February 25th or Wednesday the 27th of the same week.

373
374 There was discussion of who would be available on these dates and who wanted to attend
375 the Supervisory District's meeting, and it was decided to meet on February 12th and February
376 19th.

377
378 They also discussed the January schedule and when they'd meet again. Carpenter said that
379 if they're asking the Manager to come back with budget reductions, that's a huge
380 undertaking. Carpenter said he wants Ramsay to come back with some options on what to
381 cut to reduce the anticipate tax rate increase to two cents instead of three cents.

382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429

Carpenter said he'd talked to Laura Asermily before she left on her trip, and she's also concerned about what is happening with the school budget this year. He said if the Town is always the one that toes-the-line with our budget, we will get in the position the Town was in 10 years ago with deferred maintenance on our infrastructure, and secondly the taxpayers won't feel the full brunt of what the school increases are doing. He said he understands the challenges they're up against, but he doesn't feel the Town should have to absorb the schools' impact on taxes.

Artim said in the last five years Ramsay and staff have done an amazing job of holding the line with the budget, and after all this hard work of holding the line comes the shock and the hit from the school budgets. He said meanwhile, we still have to provide all these essential services and when does it reach the point it starts breaking. He said Capital Improvements has projects we want to do now or they'll be more expensive later on, and we've done a good job improving our public buildings, but that was because they were all failing from neglect and he doesn't want to get to that point again.

Ramsay said she would do a 5-year trend of tax rates for the Board to review at their next meeting. Carpenter said it would be nice if we could foresee our school tax implications after the reappraisal is completed, because our current Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is killing us. He said we can't be blind to the school taxes, but we can't forget our essential services.

Carpenter said they could also reach a little deeper into the Local Option fund, so he thinks it's good to have that discussion first at Town Meeting to see where taxpayers stand on the utilization of the Local Option funds.

Seeley said the Infrastructure Committee is not in unanimous agreement on whether to use the Local Option funds as an offset to the tax rate, so she is unsure if that's a reflection of how taxpayers feel. She said some feel that using the Local Option funds as a tax-rate offset is not right and we shouldn't get used to using these funds. Carpenter said we also hear we absorb the cost of the outlying communities' services, and the Local Option Tax is one way they can participate in these costs. He said most outlying communities come to Middlebury to do their shopping for everything, so their 1 cent tax goes a long way for paying for these services.

Fred Dunnington said the City of South Burlington was looking into trying to increase their local option tax to 2 cents. He said it's also a benefit to the State, because they take a cut of these taxes. He said at the time this was voted in, the funds were specifically for the bridge at the time, because we weren't sure how it was going to work, but it's turned out to be successful even through recession, so what an economic development boost it would be to take almost \$1 million off the amount to be raised by taxes. He thinks the argument that it will drive shoppers to go elsewhere isn't valid, and doubts someone is going to drive to Bristol to save 30 cents on a \$30 can of paint.

Seeley said to keep in mind there is the anticipated bond for the Town's share of the East Middlebury Flood Resiliency Project, and the possibility of a bond vote in November for some major water projects that could use a portion of these Local Option taxes.

430 **Update on Selectboard Project Priorities.** Ramsay let the Board know she had prepared
431 the January 2019 status report & update on Selectboard Project Priorities for them.

432
433 **Resignation of Lister.** Ramsay said the Board of Listers reports that Lister Robert
434 Poppenga has resigned his position, so there is a vacancy on the Board of Listers that will be
435 elected at Town Meeting in March. Potential candidates interested in running for this position
436 should contact Town Clerk Ann Webster as soon as possible.

437
438 **Purpose Energy/Middlebury Resource Recovery Center.** Ramsay informed the Board
439 the Town staff met with Todd Hasselbeck and Eric Fitch of Purpose Energy for an update on
440 their plans to construct a waste-to-energy facility in the industrial park which will treat
441 wastewater from Agrimark and Otter Creek Brewery in an anaerobic digester. She said they
442 are working to submit their application to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a
443 Certificate of Public Good CPG in early- to mid-summer and will meet with the Selectboard
444 around the same time to provide a full update

445
446 **The report on the Evaluation of Corrective Action Alternatives (ECAA) for remediation**
447 **of contaminated soils at the David Page’s Cotton Mill (a/k/a the “Powerhouse”).**
448 Ramsay said this report has been reviewed by the Department of Environmental
449 Conservation and the Department concurred with Lincoln Applied Geology’s recommendation
450 of Alternative #3, signage and fencing to prevent trespassing and exposure to contaminants
451 in soils. She said the next step is the preparation of a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), (i.e. an
452 implementation plan) for the approved alternative. Lincoln Applied Geology has proposed a
453 fee of \$5,000 for the preparation of the plan and that amount is included in the FY20 general
454 fund budget request.

455
456 **Follow-up to the Board’s February 28, 2018 approval of Amendments to Middlebury**
457 **Zoning & Subdivision Regulations.** Ramsay said as a follow-up to the Board’s 2018
458 amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, the Board asked for a one-year
459 reminder to provide feedback to the Planning Commission on any specific subjects the
460 Selectboard believes should be addressed during the next Bylaw Amendment cycle. She
461 said, as suggested in Director of Planning & Zoning Jennifer Murray’s Process for
462 Selectboard Requesting Changes to Zoning, the Board may want to discuss providing input
463 on specific topics at its annual planning retreat.

464
465 **Addison County Solid Waste District Drop-off Center.** Ramsay said Town staff recently
466 met with Teresa Kuczynski, District Manager of the Addison County Solid Waste District, who
467 provided an update on the District’s effort to locate a drop-off center for residential waste in
468 the northern part of the county. She said since efforts to acquire property in Ferrisburgh for a
469 drop-off facility were not successful, the District is now is considering other options for
470 providing a residential drop-off facility, which could include expanding its existing facility on
471 Route 7 South.

472 473 **16. Board Member Concerns**

474
475 Khan thanked Ramsay for taking him and Fuentes-George on a tour of the Town facilities.
476 He also said he’d had a couple of local businesses reach out to him with concerns on the
477 potential ban on plastic bags. He said smaller businesses use plastic bags rather than paper

478 bags, so if it is an outright ban, it will increase the burden on small businesses. He said a lot
479 of stores in Massachusetts you have the option to use paper or plastic, but if you want paper
480 you have to pay extra for it. Artim said it helps to remind people to bring their reusable bags
481 if they have to pay to get a paper bag.

482
483 Fred Dunnington suggested looking at the Brattleboro Ordinance to see how it's been
484 working and how it's enforced. Dunnington said he thought the Ordinance is intended for the
485 "single use" plastic bags that are super thin and usually thrown out. Khan doesn't believe a
486 paper bag is reusable either. Carpenter said one town is looking at approving it with a
487 transitional period to ease into the ban.

488
489 Artim asked if there was anything within the Town operations that would be impacted by the
490 U.S. Government shutdown. Ramsay said the FEMA application for the Flood Resiliency
491 Project may be impacted. Artim said the Government needs to be made aware that enough
492 is enough and if Washington can't lead, maybe it's time for each State to tell them to get their
493 act together. He wondered if the Board should send a letter to Montpelier to put this as their
494 top priority. Ramsay said she'd prepare a letter for the Board to sign at their next meeting if
495 the problem isn't resolved by then.

496 **17. Executive Session – Anticipated – Contracts**

497
498
499 Seeley said in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Law requirements, she moved that
500 the Board find that premature general knowledge of the consideration of contracts would
501 clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage, because the Selectboard risks
502 disclosing its litigation strategy if it discusses the contracts in public. Khan seconded the
503 motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

504
505 Seeley further moved that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss contracts and,
506 under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1) of the Vermont Statutes. Khan seconded
507 the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

508
509 The Board entered Executive Session at 9:02 p.m.

510 **18. Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session and Adjournment**

511
512
513 The Board exited Executive Session and adjourned at 9:29 p.m. with no further action.

514
515 The next meeting of the Selectboard is Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Large
516 Conference Room of the Town Offices at 77 Main Street.

517
518 Respectfully submitted,
519 Beth Dow

520
521
522