

## MIDDLEFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING

Middlefield Town Hall

May 16, 2011

Present: Noreen Suriner, Chair Mitch Feldmesser Alan Vint

- Meeting began at 6:00p.m.
- First part of meeting was held in the auditorium. Craig MacDonnell, Dept. of Fish and Game; Chris Curtis (PVPC); Kerry Banks, Division of Ecological Restoration, Carl Lefreniere, Westfield River Advisory; Dave Pierce, Friends of Keystone Arches; Lauren Johnson, Land Owner; Tom Austen, Police Chief; and many interested people were present.
  1. Chris Curtis Informed the Select Board and interested citizens of Middlefield, of his history searching for grants to restore the Keystone Arches. Chris is hoping for a \$1.5 million dollar federally funded grant. Funding is contingent on getting easement secured with reauthorization of landowner-Lauren Johnson.
  2. Dave Pierce stated history of Arch Bridges= 1<sup>st</sup> stone arches -mountain bridges erected.
  3. Kerry Banks stated that the Westfield River Advisory Committee is very interested in helping to get this grant.
  4. Craig MacDonnell stated that they have negotiated a right of way from CSX which would include flaggers throughout the construction. Herbert Cross Rd. would be too costly to improve in order to use that as access for construction equipment.
  5. Tom Austen stated that lack of regulation of area are is responsible for vandalism. Would like to see some kind of impediment at each end of trail.
  6. Lauren Johnson suggested that the \$200,000, that will pay the CSX flaggers, should be used to reconstruct Herbert Cross Rd, to make entrance accessible at all times.
  7. Craig MacDonnell, Chris Curtis, and Kerry Banks will do further research on several matters, and will return on July 25, @ 6:00 p.m. to establish rules and regulations along with any interested parties in Middlefield, as well as Becket, and Chester, for the Keystone Arch Bridge Trail.
- Meeting resumes @7:35p.m. In Select Board's office.
- Select Board signed letters expressing full support from the Town of Middlefield for the application for a planning category grant from Hilltown CDC for the Wired West network, also an endorsement, and agreement to participate in the application of the Hampshire Council of Governments to the Dep. Of Public Utilities for the Municipal Aggregation of Electricity. Secretary will photocopy onto Select Board stationery.
- May 9, 2011 minutes were read. MF made a motion to approve the minutes as read, Alan seconded the motion. All were in favor. So Ordered. Minutes were signed. Previously approved minutes of May 2, w/amendments were signed.
- Marge will submit minutes from annual town meeting on June 13.
- Alan submitted draft of ad for Adm. Asst. position. Alan scouted for potential advertisers and found that the Country Journal and the MMA on the web are the best options. Noreen suggested that Alan call the MMPA to ask if their services also allow the Select Board to advertise for personnel for free or with some sort of benefit. Alan will submit ads.
- Skip Savery submitted Summary of Law concerning guidance for Board of Health Implementing M.G.L. c.131, s.80A Threats from Beaver and Muskrat-Related Activities. Discussion ensued.
- Alan stated that a letter received from Town Counsel concerning Employee hiring states: Part-time employees should not work more than 20 hrs. Per week. Skip was asked to submit a job

description, and assist the Select Board to write a help wanted ad on May 23. Skip also should do the preliminary interviewing and then, at least 3 finalist will be interviewed with the Select Board in a public session. Discussion ensued.

- MF informed Skip that Mark Stinson recommended that culverts should be made of metal or concrete instead of plastic on an intermittent stream, because plastic becomes a virtual barrier for creatures trying to get upstream. Discussion ensued.
- Alan made a motion to adjourn at 9:34p.m. MF. Alan seconded the motion. All were in favor. So Ordered.
- Meeting reconvened at 9:35p.m.
- Warrants were read. MF made a motion to approve W11/23 for \$97,654.90, and WP11/23 for \$4,582.75. Alan seconded the motion. All were in favor. So Ordered. Warrants were signed.
- MF made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Alan seconded the motion. All were in favor. So Ordered.

Meeting minutes submitted by Suzanne C. Lemieux

**MIDDLEFIELD SELECT BOARD**

**Noreen Suriner, Chair**

**Alan Vint**

**Mitch Feldmesser**