



## Town of Middlefield Board of Selectman

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### SELECTBOARD MEETING

August 27, 2018

Board Members present: Chair David DiNicola, Members Judith Hoag and Al Sirard

Finance Committee: Joseph Kearns, Scott Artioli and Curt Robie.

Attendees: Sherry Venditti, Tamarin Laurel Paine,

Meeting opened at 6:00

- **Chester Rd Bridge:** A motion was made and seconded that the Selectboard vote its intention to lay out the Chester Rd portion of the town way as shown on the map. Dave DiNicola and Al Sirard were in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Dave delivered the vote to the Planning Board. Judith Hoag arrived after vote was taken. **Finance Committee:** Dave reported on a meeting held two weeks ago with Financial Advisor Clark Rowell. Rowell works with 20+ towns who decided to build their own network. He showed the impact of borrowing money if the town chooses to do the same. A 2/3 vote is required at a town meeting to borrow, and it may also be necessary to override the levy limit. The Finance Committee recommended that Town Counsel be consulted at this point. Rowell's best guess is that after it is put out to bid, the town could borrow 1.1 million notes each year that would roll over for 10 years. After 10 years, the town can borrow on a 5 year note at a fixed rate. Some additional expenses will include the costs of conducting annual audits. Dave contacted three of the towns that are in the process of borrowing and they have stated that they have no qualms with their decision to build their network. After their research, the Broadband Committee has asked the Selectboard to consider either WG&G or Comcast. Curt Robie requested the full copy of the Broadband Committees' report. Meetings will be scheduled to inform the towns of their choices.
- Treasurer Jane Thielen is retiring Sept 30. Bev will take over the Treasurer's position. The Accountant's position will be advertised.
- The Stabilization accounts and the Cemetery funds have been moved to Adams Community Bank for better interest rates. The Finance Committee stated that municipalities need to follow a process by checking with DOR to find out if we had to go out to bid. The Board will check on that.
- Curt Robie announced that Curt, Skip and Duane worked on the application for the MassWorks grant for the repair of Skyline Trail. The application has been submitted and the award will be made in October. Several letters of support were submitted from Jean LeClaire, Economic Development Director, Jay Swift and Tamarin Laurel-Paine.
- The condition of the roof was discussed. There was a recommendation that the roof be power washed and correction of work on the roof vent be completed at a cost of approx. \$1,100. Dave will check on the recommendation.
- The Fire Department received the grant for the air pacs but not for the fire truck.

- Skip required signatures for an estimate for guard rail repair that was originally estimated at \$12 a foot, but should have been \$24 a foot. The Selectboard obliged. Road maintenance was discussed.
- Motion was made and seconded to approve 2018-08-15 minutes. Motion passed. weeks.
- Next meeting: Sept. 10

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux  
Recording Secretary