

SELECTBOARD MINUTES
MAY 7, 2018

Meeting opened at 6:12pm

Present: David DiNicola, Chair; Albert Sirard; absent: Judith Hoag
Duane Pease, Town Administrator

Warrants signed; Payroll: \$6,788.90; Expenses: \$55,404.53

Minutes of April 23rd approved on motion by Dave, AI 2nd; vote 2-0.
Minutes of April 27th approved on motion by Dave, AI 2nd; vote 2-0.

Zack Holt of Hampshire Council of Governments spoke to the Board about the advantages of the town using Hampshire Power to supply the town's electricity. Currently, Eversource charges .11421/kw and the Hampshire rate is .09. All other charges such as delivery, etc would remain the same. The town uses approximately 20,000 kw a year. This would give the town a fixed rate of supply over a contracted period varying from 12 to 36 months. There would be no change in rate depending on the season that Eversource charges. If the town opted to go with a green power supply, the cost would increase by about \$20/year. The billing would still be done by Eversource and the Hampshire Power service charge is included in the Hampshire charge. Holt said the Town would have to make a decision by June 22nd to be included in Hampshire Power. The Board thanked him for this information and would advise at a later date.

Steve Harris, who is the town's representative for the IT Grant told the Board he had attended a meeting today as to how the \$150,000 grant could be allocated. He said the Middlefield is requesting a cell phone booster for the Town Hall, a laptop computer for the Planning Board as well as covering the costs of placing the MBI service to the Town Hall underground. He is also recommending signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and PVPC who is handing the grant. Dave motioned to sign, AI 2nd; vote 2-0 and Dave signed the MOU.

Highway Superintendent, Skip Savery, told the Board that he had originally spoke with Kathy Olsen regarding the Jack Cobb property soon after it was learned that a portion of the highway garage was on Jack's property. He made the call as he had previously met her, he explained what the town would like to do and she seem amicable to this. He explained the appraisal process and that a board member would be in contact with her.

Skip said he would be hiring Brennan Foley as summer help again this summer; he has worked well over the last two summers. He is also considering hiring Wayne Suriner as the 2nd summer help if Wayne would be willing to do it, if not, he would hire back the same person from last year.

Skip plans on paving a portion of River Road and Cone Road this summer. He also has contacted Lane Construction to have them give an estimate on the reclamation and paving of Skyline Trail so this can be submitted with the STRAP Grant the Town will be submitting. If approved, he would use the millings on some of the gravel roads in town. Line painting will also be included in the application.

Chester is the lead town for the Vocational Transportation bid and the Board was advised that Lecrenski Transportation will continue to transport for a 1.7% increase over last year. The Board agreed to this increase and TA will advise Chester.

Judy retained her Selectboard seat with a 91-21 margin at the Annual town Election.

Dave said that Worthington voted to have Comcast be their internet provider at their ATM; that means that Matrix will not be involved in providing Middlefield with high speed internet as it was dependant on Worthington being involved. Al said he doesn't see any other alternative other than Comcast for Middlefield.

Dave said that Dan Jacques attended the Middlefield ATM and would be willing to come speak to the town when a decision is made on our provider. He also said that Montgomery did not have to pay any additional monies for the Comcast service.

Board was also advised that PVPC would be holding a meeting on the cannabis issue on May 10th.

Dave motioned to adjourn, Al 2nd; vote 2-0 and meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Town Administrator

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

David DiNicola, Chair

Albert Sirard