

West Rutland Select Board Minutes
February 23, 2015

Public Hearing:

Sean opened at 5:45 PM for the public hearing. In 2010, a \$1M Grant was awarded to the Town under the Vermont Community Development Program. Joel from Neighborworks was present to speak about how the grant was used. Between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2014 150 residential units were rehabbed, 4 units were upgraded for handicap accessibility and 18 units of lead abatement were completed in the Rutland, Addison and Bennington counties. Also, 1638 households received pre and post purchase housing counseling and 161 first time homebuyers purchased over \$21M in housing.

Sean asked what were the terms of the loans. Joel explained the different programs including the Heat Squad success.

The public hearing was closed at 5:53 by Sean.

Present: Chet Brown, Peter Bianchi, Mitch Frankenberg, Sean Barrows, Mary Ann Goulette, Joe Skaza, Mike Moser, Tom Burditt, Tyler Gregorek and Peter Kulig.

Call to order: Sean called the meeting to order at 5:55 PM with pledge of allegiance.

Agenda: Sean added item C under action items to approve Stewarts liquor license. On a motion by Chet and seconded by Mitch the agenda was approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: There was a clarification by Chet regarding the Vplow mentioned in the 2/9 minutes for the highway truck purchase. It was written as 96 but should have been referenced as 9'6". Also Sean had talked about providing better access to crosswalks after a storm. He wanted the Clarendon Avenue crosswalks cleared and it was written as Westway Mall crossing Main Street. Chet made a motion to adopt the minutes of 2/9/2015. Peter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Concerns: None

ACTION ITEMS:

Resolution to oppose the closure of Rutland's PSAP- Mary Ann provided a resolution to oppose the closure of the Public Safety Answering Point scheduled for June. She informed everyone that many other towns have submitted resolutions opposing the closing. Joe Skaza has gone to a number of meetings and expressed his concern about the potential closure. Joe said the Rutland location is going to be moved to Rockingham resulting in losing 20 jobs. Joe spoke about the importance of keeping the local dispatchers as they know major landmarks that allow them to get to an emergency quickly. Dispatchers not familiar to the area, relying on GPS, may not be as efficient in trying to direct emergency vehicles. This is a huge concern and many towns and representatives are not in favor of this and are vocal about it. By closing the Rutland and

Derby locations it will save the state \$1.4M. Mike Moser suggested sending signed petition to the Commissioner Of Transportation-Keith Flynn and the board further suggested sending it to our representatives and the Governor. Mitch made a motion to sign resolution and it was seconded by Chet. Motion passed unanimously.

ATV Landowner Agreement-

Tyler Gregorek from the ATV club was present to request that the town sign a new landowner agreement as the current one has expired. VAST is planning some maintenance work on the trail which is in the town's municipal land. He was confused about boundaries between West Rutland and Ira particularly on Clark Hill Rd. The board with Mary Ann instructed him on the boundary lines. Tyler will be sending Mary Ann an agreement in the mail with the correct boundary information.

Stewarts Store #198 Liquor License Approval-

Peter made motion to approve the license and it was seconded by Chet. It passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Town Manager

The town has 5 frozen water lines. 3 out of 5 of the pipes are frozen on the town's area. Mary Ann mentioned Rutland City has 90 and they are trying to thaw them with a steam machine they own. It appears to be working. Ed is looking into options that will help the situation and priced a steam machine like Rutland is using. The Town's responsibility is from the curb stop to the main. Mary Ann did put a notice out for residents to trickle their faucets. The highway guys have been out plowing nearly every day. Derrick gave his notice and is going to Omya. The town was able to bring back Steve Duprey and will be starting March 9th. Derricks last day is Friday. Sean suggested they should keep culverts buried for insulation, and keep storm drains clear of ice.

BOARD CONCERNS –

Chet- We need to fix the major pot holes this spring and clean the fire hydrants better after snow storms. He suggested using a blower versus sidewalk plow.

Peter- Is the one ton running again? Mary Ann said yes and they did have to fix the radiator as well.

Sean- How is the Whipple Hollow Bridge situation? Mary Ann is meeting with Bryan from the state soon. Sean would like Mary Ann to also follow up on the paving of Clarendon Avenue so it's on the state's radar. Tom Burditt mentioned it to the chair of transportation and will hopefully be getting a date soon.

Joe Skaza informed everyone that the fire truck is coming off the line this Tuesday. They will be gone on the 3rd, 4th and 5th to go through it and inspect it. It is happening quicker than they thought which is good.

Peter made a motion to adjourn the meeting 7:01 and Mitch seconded. Passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Christen FitzGerald