

MINUTES
WEST RUTLAND SELECT BOARD
Monday, October 24, 2016

Present: John Harvey, Sean Barrows, Nick Notte, Mitch Frankenburg, Mary Ann Goulette.

Others Present: Peter Kulig, Bill Kulig, Mike Moser, Joe Skaza, Lindsey Fischer

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Sean Barrows with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Mitch moved and John seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Minutes: The minutes of 9/26/16 were reviewed. Motion by John and second by Mitch to accept the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

Public Concerns: None

Board Member Concerns: There were no board member concerns.

Approve Orders: Board approved orders

Discussion Items: Dog Park Proposal: Lindsay Fischer spoke to the board about a proposed dog park in the recreation area. She gave the board a draft of the proposal. She also shared that Rutland is looking for a dog park. She said that the Committee will do the funding for fencing. She inquired if the group could possibly get some of the money from the licensing of dogs. There will be a sign for the rules of using the park. The plan would be to have start up in the spring and in the winter the committee will be fundraising. No objections by the board. Mitch volunteered to sponsor it and also the one in Rutland. Mary Ann will research the best place for it. Industrial Park was also a suggestion.

Vermont Transportation Board Report: We got the rights to the access from Boardman Hill to the recreation area. Nov. 14th was a suggested date for beginning construction. There are several things the town has to do. Culvert is already purchased. Mary Ann will meet with Ron Fabian to set the culvert.

Town Manager's Report:

Town owned parcels: Town owns 50 acres on Whipple Hollow – Jeff Biazussi, the zoning administrator, will give us an assessment of the land. Another parcel is on Sheldon Avenue which is 1.73 acres but it is in the flood plain. Otter Creek is looking to see if any of the remaining lots are buildable. Will have more information at the next

meeting. The town did sell the property at 165 Marble. There are 6 or 7 more parcels the town is looking at selling.

Ski lodge proposal:

Their property is on RT 133. It is a large parcel that is narrow and deep. They are looking to swap the grassy area that the town owns close to the road and give up some of their property in the back. They would be willing to do a subdivision and/or pay for legal costs. Mary Ann reminded the board that we were considering adding a pedestrian access at that location. Another option is to let them just use it. The board decided to give have them sign a waiver and just let them use the land for now.

Action Items:

- a. Approval of Smart Growth Connection Plan:** This information was handed out to the board previously, but we now have the final draft. Mary Ann said we should adopt it as a board and then the town can work on implementing some of the recommendations. We can reserve the right to choose other alternatives. John made the motion to approve the Smart Growth Connection Final Plan involving West Rutland and Rutland Town. Nick seconded. Unanimously approved.
- b. Municipal Planning Grant Resolution:** We already have a planning grant for the village master plan. We met last week trying to get input as to what townspeople want to see. This new grant is for Westway Mall redevelopment. We will look for ways to redevelop that parcel of land. The grant total is \$26,000 with \$20,000 from State and a town match of \$6,000. Westway Mall has agreed to pay half of the match or \$3,000. Motion to approve resolution for Municipal Planning Grant by John and second by Mitch. Unanimously approved.
- c. Regional marketing plan contribution:** REDEC and Chamber of Commerce want to start a regional marketing effort based on a report from the Vermont Futures. The regions' population decline is concerning. Mary Ann is going to get a copy of the Vermont Futures report. They will hire a marketing firm to implement the marketing campaign. They asked the city to contribute \$100,000 and have already raised \$100,000 of private money. Letter in packet for the select board describing the group goals and their message. Mary Ann will serve on the regional committee. Board agreed to give \$1,000. John made the motion and Nick seconded to give \$1,000 to the cause. Unanimously approved.
- d. TCE Trading Community benefits package:** Solar Company wants to put solar panels behind Frank and Joe's garage. The company will give the Town of West Rutland a one-time amount of \$30,000 once the project is built and operational in exchange for support from the Town. The board was still unclear on the size of the project. Mary Ann gave the board a copy of the public presentation which indicated the solar project would be 3.5MW. Mary Ann suggested going back to

the town plan and having DRB review it similar to all other solar projects to make a decision. Mitch is in favor of a resolution stating that West Rutland reserves the right to tax on the highest and best use. The issue was tabled until DRB reviews the project to see if it conforms.

Executive session: The board went into executive session at 8:00 p.m. on a motion by John and a second by Mitch for a legal issue. The board came out of executive session with no action taken at 8:58 p.m. on a motion by John seconded by Mitch.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:59 on a motion by Nick and a second by John. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Charleen Bowen