

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042**

**SELECT BOARD MINUTES
January 23, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Paul Keenan. Other members present: Andrew Smith and Claudette Sortino. Also present: William Hetu, Lois Boemig, Nessa Flax, Cheryl Slayton, Nelson Elder, Richard Hodgson, two representatives for bid openings on a new town truck.

Minutes of the January 9th meeting were read and approved on a motion from Claudette seconded by Andy that carried. Minutes of the January 16th Budget Meeting were approved with the following changes: Adding William Hetu's name as present that evening and correcting the Highway Budget item to read " It was also decided to decrease the Machine Fund figure to \$75,000 rather than \$80,000 * and level fund the Gravel Budget at \$56,000* cutting the Highway Budget by \$14,000." Andy moved the minutes as corrected and Paul seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Sealed Truck Bids were then opened for the trade on the 2009 truck.

Company & Truck	With Trade	Before Trade	After Trade
Charlesbois			
Freightliner	\$34,000.	\$90,020.	\$55,750.10
Western Star	34,000.	92,800.	58,530.10
Clark's Trucks			
International with N10	36,000	87,993.	51,993.
International with Cummins	36,000.	88,553.	52,553.
Sheldon Mack			
Mack with Cummins 350	18,000	97,400.	79,400.

No bid was received on a Kenworth

After discussion, Andy moved to try the Freightliner. He believes service is available in Lyndonville and that is a great consideration. Paul seconded the motion and it carried.

Under Public Comment, the Clerk asked to add the following items: Zoning By-Laws, Nessa Flax with Water Concerns and more information on the water. Nessa has come as a concerned citizen, not as a reporter. She saw the minutes in the paper about Tim Murray's well. She got

copies of the letters about the situation and had a few questions for the Select Board. She wondered if she should have her own well tested, and if there was salt added to the sand piles by her house. There is not. Nessa's primary concern is the quality of the water not the Town's liability. She asked if the Town had been in contact with the State. The Board replied it is following the legal advice of the Town Attorney. Any information people are bringing the Board is being sent on to the Attorney. There is no salt mixed into the sand pile at Ryegate Corner. Lois Boemig would like more detailed minutes of the Board's meetings. The Clerk mentioned the Coleman's in Ryegate Corner have had their well tested for salt and it is high.

Treasurer's Report: The Board viewed bills and signed orders. A waste disposal bill was received from the former Paton property in South Ryegate. There was no hazardous waste present. The Board authorized payment from Cemetery Funds.

A budget Review followed. Andy felt the Town should give raises to all town officers rather than some. He wondered if the Town should start budgeting a separate line item for Select Board Clerk. Currently the Town Clerk is the Board's Clerk but that may not always be the case. Realizing there are about 27 meetings a year he suggested \$3,000 a year to be paid on an hourly basis. After discussion Andy moved the motion, Paul seconded it and it carried. Salaries for the Listers, Auditors, Zoning Administrator, Ballot Clerks, Treasurer and Clerk will be finalized at the Organizational Meeting after Town Meeting. Richard Hodgson said often town work is done as volunteers but salaries should be kept in line for future officers. These discussions increased the proposed budget by \$1,000.

Road Report: Truck bodies were discussed. Clark's has fixed the coolant leak after 1.5 months. New batteries had to be purchased for the 2011 Loader. The Road Crew hopes to take a Flagger Course on March 14th in St Johnsbury. Richard Hodgson wondered if the Extended Warranty should be put under maintenance rather than the cost of the truck.

It is fine with the Board to have a table at the back of the Town Hall the day of Town Meeting, inviting people to join the Ryegate Historical Society. There being no public comment Andy moved adjournment at 8:45 PM. Claudette seconded the motion and it carried.

----- Marsha Nelson, Clerk

