

**Town of Moretown
Office of the SELECTBOARD**

Draft – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 12/14/09 special meeting of the Selectboard held for the purpose of working on the town budget and budget related items; meeting with the capital budget committee; sign grant reimbursement requests; town meeting articles; insurance benefits for 2010; and a grand list correction.

Selectboard members present were: Rae Washburn, Stephanie Venema, Rob Roberts, Dave VanDeusen, John Hoogenboom arrived at 6:25

Guests included: Don LaRocca, Rita LaRocca, Ben Sanders, Denise Sanders, Kara & Ruby Herlihy, Amy Deutl, Jonathan Siegel, David Deutl, Cheryl Brown as assistant for the Board.

Rae called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Don introduced a preliminary Capital Budget (CB). Discussion included:

- A Resolution for the Selectboard to formally adopt the Capital Budget.
- Purpose of a Capital Budget is to have planned decisions about where monies for capital needs will come from; maintain order during growth; identify future needs; etc.
- Impact fees – to require the beneficiaries of new development to pay their proportionate share of the cost of municipal and school capital projects which benefit them and to require them to pay for or mitigate the negative effects of construction. Impact fees could be structured to follow Moretown's development plan/Town Plan.
- The Capital Budget can be changed at any time.
- Someone from the CB committee should sit in with the Selectboard during the budgeting process. Don volunteered to sit in tonight.
- A five year plan makes sense.
- The CB needs to be updated every year for budgeting.
- Break down allocations from the Capital Reserve Fund and the Capital Savings Reserve each year for road projects/capital projects.
- Place a line item in the town operating budget from the CB, of what was planned for capital expenditures.
- History statement – inventory, history, value etc. will be included in the CB

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Don LaRocca was given a round of applause for all of his hard work on this preliminary capital budget.

Grant reimbursement requests from AOT – were signed for \$1,743.82 and \$26,752.50.

Insurance benefits for 2010 –

Health insurance options - were reviewed with Craig Eilers. For the time being, Blue Cross/Blue Shield is the most competitive plan. Craig recommended the \$2,000/\$4,000 as the best option to compare to the 2009 plan/costs.

John moved to continue with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for health insurance at this time, continuing with the Health Savings Account/HSA Blue Care \$2,000/\$4,000 Plan. Rae seconded.

Discussion about even though the deductible increased to \$2,000 for a single plan and \$4,000 for a 2-person plan, the board would level fund the health insurance budget, contribute the \$1,500 for a single plan and \$2,250 for the two-person plan, and employees would contribute the difference for their deductible.

Vote: All were in favor.

Short Term Disability (STD) – Craig Eilers said there are really no alternatives that compare with US. Life's coverage and pricing.

Discussion followed about re-writing the contract so that if there is a claim, the employee would receive benefits tax free. Stephanie moved to accept the Short Term Disability Insurance for 2010 as is currently in place, for full-time town employees. John seconded.

Discussion – elected officials are not eligible for Short Term Disability Insurance and about whether or not the premium being less if Craig re-wrote the contract.

Stephanie withdrew her motion. John withdrew his second.

Craig will look into this and get back to the board.

2010 budget draft review discussion –

- No CPA audit this year
- The draft budget does not include enough for quarry litigation. Rae thinks the Selectboard have committed to put additional spending for quarry litigation before the voters, not in the operating budget.
- Ben and Denise Sanders spoke in favor of placing money in the operating budget to support legal spending on developmental issues related to supporting Moretown's Zoning Regulations and Town Plan.

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A lengthy discussion continued about whether or not to include quarry litigation in the operating budget or present an article to the voters. No decision was made tonight. Discussion was tabled until next week.

Capital Budget – the preliminary capital budget was compared to the budget draft and revisions were made to reflect the town budget numbers.

Washington County Sheriff's Department (WCSD) contract – There was discussion about whether or not to put money in the operating budget for WCSD law enforcement. The town has very little control over where/when WCSD patrols and for what services WCSD provides to the town other than law enforcement.

The decision was to not renew the WCSD contract for 2010 and increase the Constable budget from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Articles:

\$2,500 maintenance of town trails – will be a floor article

\$10,000 Bridge and Culvert Fund – will be by Australian Ballot

\$10,000 Restoration Land Records – will be by Australian Ballot

\$180,000 Highway Truck – will be by Australian Ballot. Craig needs to firm up/bids for the pricing.

Use of landfill revenue – over the past few years, the Selectboard have had various articles for allocating a percentage of the landfill revenue to lower taxes. There was a lengthy discussion about what percentage to use this year to lower taxes, and what percentage of the rest of the revenue should go to the Capital Reserve Fund and/or the Capital Savings Reserve.

Further discussion was tabled until next week.

Selectboard orders - # 105 and 106 were approved as submitted.

Stephanie moved to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. John seconded. All were in favor.

