

**CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
TOWN HALL
FEBRUARY 26, 2018**

APPROVED

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS: Lane Morrison, Chair; Carrie Spear, Fritz Tegatz, Frank W Tenney, Matthew Krasnow.

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Town Administrator.

OTHERS: Aaron Brown, Lieutenant Robert Luce (Vermont State Police), Trooper Matthew Daley (Vermont State Police), Peter Joslin, Michael Russell, Hans Ohanion, Susan Ohanion, Charlie Baker, Tom Cosinuke, Rob Mullin, Dick St George, Patrice Machavern, Randy Archer, Charlie Russell, and others.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 5:30 PM Interview applicant for Zoning Administrator (executive session is likely)
- 6:31 PM 2018 Draft ECOS Plan (Regional Plan)—update/presentation
- 7:15 PM Vermont State Police—biannual update on traffic enforcement
- 7:30 PM CVFRS—quarterly financial update
- 8:15 PM Town Meeting presentations

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Morrison, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INTERVIEW APPLICANT FOR ZONING ADMINISTRATOR (EXECUTIVE SESSION IS LIKELY)

MOTION by Ms. Spear, seconded by Mr. Tegatz, to recess the regular meeting and enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Matters where premature knowledge would place the Town of Charlotte at a disadvantage, and to invite the Zoning Administrator candidate(s) and the Town Administrator to attend.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

The Selectboard recessed the regular meeting and entered Executive Session at 5:31 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Tegatz, to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

Executive Session was adjourned and the regular meeting reconvened at 6:32 p.m.

MOTION by Ms. Spear, seconded by Mr. Tegatz, to hire Aaron Brown as the Charlotte Zoning Administrator/Sewage Control Officer/ Health Officer/E-911 Coordinator for a 40 hour per week position at a starting wage/rate of \$20.43 per

hour, Pay Grade 14, Step 5, effective as soon as possible, and conditioned upon a reference check.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

2018 DRAFT ECOS PLAN (REGIONAL PLAN)—update/presentation

Charlie Baker, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) Executive Director, reviewed a draft 2018 ECOS Plan and schedule for public hearings (2nd public hearing on May 16, 2018) and adoption date (June 20, 2018) at the Annual Meeting. The transportation, energy and development sections will need to be re-adopted every 5 years. The energy piece will include mapping protected Charlotte land resources and areas and to identifying areas for solar development, said Mr. Baker.

There was discussion regarding cold climate heat pumps as augmentation to existing heating systems; renewable energy impacts to existing fuel sources, such as natural gas, and energy code enforcement; resource maps that will vary from town to town related to areas to be protected from development; and Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) funding.

Hans Ohanion, resident, pointed out that the ECOS municipal plan does not use comparable data of population and land areas that the Regional Plan employees. Both plans must reflect comparable data. The allocation calculations on the municipal and regional levels utilize an average of population and average of renewable land space. You can't take a percentage of population and a percentage of land area to meet the goals of ECOS. Regarding renewable energy, the wind in the Champlain Valley is weak in most areas. Windmills would be cost prohibitive; for example, a 10 kW windmill in Charlotte only produces 0.7-0.6 kW. Why is there no mention of buying Hydro-Quebec renewable energy at \$0.05-0.06 per kW hour versus renewable voltaic energy at three times that cost, asked Mr. Ohanion. Mr. Baker explained that the ECOS is not a plan of what should happen. It is a task by the State of Vermont on how you could get to 90 percent renewable energy. Chittenden County and the Northeast Kingdom are at different ends of the spectrum. The suggestion to use Hydro-Quebec may be correct, said Mr. Baker.

TASKS:

- Research - CCRPC staff to see if a Charlotte Transportation Map is included in the projects list (transportation connections via the ferry crossing that connects New York to Vermont to bike and pedestrian paths through Charlotte)
- Research – CCRPC staff to provide costs for cold climate heat pumps to the Charlotte Selectboard
- CCRPC staff to review ACT 174 to see if the municipal plan reflects the regional plan related to population and resource/land areas

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Ms. Spear stated that the new chair sample is fine.

MOTION by Mr. Tegatz, seconded by Ms. Spear, to order new chairs from Office Furniture Exchange.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

VERMONT STATE POLICE—BIANNUAL UPDATE ON TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Vermont State Police Trooper Matt Daley and Vermont State Police Lieutenant Robert Luce, Williston Barracks, reviewed a Traffic/Incident Report and breakdown of stops in Charlotte.

There was discussion regarding the current 8.5 hour per week patrol contract; driving issues that included rolling stops at stop signs/lights; and the number of ticketed traffic violation stops on Greenbush Road, Hinesburg Road and Mt Philo Road.

Ms. Spear asked that Carpenter Road and high school drive times be added to the patrol schedule. Lieutenant Luce said that secondary roads and commuter hours were being patrolled. The VSP does monitor Front Porch Forum for community feedback and trouble areas, said Lieutenant Luce.

Mr. Morrison asked if a July 1st contract renewal date was acceptable. Lieutenant Luce replied yes.

Mr. Krasnow asked if it was possible to exchange some winter hours for summer coverage.

Tom Cosinuke asked if it was possible to compare a Shelburne Incident Report to Charlotte's. Lieutenant Luce explained that a power point presentation could be created to show the number of calls for service regionally.

Randy Archer, South Greenbush Road resident, asked if there has been an increase in the number of tickets issued on Greenbush Road. Lieutenant Luce said yes; 143 tickets were issued on Greenbush Road. The Town has been identified as a trouble area. If people see an issue and are willing to be more active, such as noting license numbers or times, then the VSP can target those areas, said Lieutenant Luce.

The Selectboard thanked Lieutenant Luce and Trooper Daley for their reports.

CVFRS-QUARTERLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Tom Cosinuke, Dick St George, and Patrice Machavern, CVFRS representatives, reviewed a second quarter CVFRS Operating budget income versus expenses. Overtime expenses will be 3.5 percent over budget for the FY18 January/February months. Overtime expense is built into the FY19 budget, said Mr. Cosinuke.

There was further discussion regarding the following:

- Equipment replacement and maintenance expenses that included an unanticipated service contract expense for defibrillators
- A cost sharing savings with a joint Shelburne/Charlotte purchase for new hoses and fittings for the new pumper truck that will be paid for over a two-year period
- Anticipated increases in health insurance
- Increased insurance on fire apparatus – removing a 1987 fire truck and replacing it with a 2007 fire truck
- Telephone expenses related to “connectivity across services” communications
- Budget impacts of the new pumper truck starting next year anticipated higher apparatus insurance offset by decreased maintenance expenses for the new truck
- Air Pack replacement costs offset by decreased maintenance expenses
- Internal self-assessment regarding fraud related to purchases and cash flows
- Current consolidated dispatch center services through the Shelburne Police Department versus a proposed regional consolidated dispatch center related concerns (unknowns include costs, loss of local knowledge and personnel familiarity, response time, decrease in service, etc)

TASKS:

- CVFRS to review telephone expense related to “connectivity across services” communications in the future year’s budget
- CVFRS to separate out corporate telephone expense from “connectivity across services” expenses
- CVFRS staff to create a 2018 Town Meeting power point presentation and a verbal talking point presentation during Article 6
- Selectboard to present a Selectboard budget review after Article 1; then a Recreation Committee presentation; then the CVFRS presentation and a verbal notation that “CVFRS will talk in more detail regarding Article 6 Capital Reserve Funding Requests”

TOWN MEETING PRESENTATIONS

There was discussion regarding the order of power point presentations as follows:

- School District presentation
- Selectboard to present a Selectboard budget review after Article 1; then a Recreation Committee presentation; then the CVFRS presentation and a verbal notation that “CVFRS will talk in more detail regarding Article 6 Capital Reserve Funding Requests”
- Article 3 concerns regarding Article 3 language as proposed by the Town Treasurer, or as warned by the Selectboard

Regarding Article 3 language, Mr. Krasnow suggested presenting Article 3 as warned and without the additions as proposed by Ms. Mead. For example, “...dollars to be raised \$1,761,899 by taxes...”

Mr. Krasnow suggested editing the presentation slides as follows:

- Removing Bullets #3 and 4, and replacing them with a proposed Bullet #3 showing the difference between expenses versus revenue that is a “2.5 percent net increase in expenses over net revenue”
- Add Bullet #4 to read “... dollars to be raised \$1,761,899 for a percent increase of 5.4 percent”
- Create a next slide to address Ms. Mead’s concerns regarding a total budget “...if approved...” and show the generator’s data (Article 4) and the Recreation Commission request data (Article 5) as stand alone re-calculation summations to mirror the budget and tax rates notated
- In August, 2018, present a comparison of last year’s tax rate of 0.1715 to the FY18 August tax rate when known as an apples-to-apples comparison
- Edit the presentation, page 3 slide to read “However, the Town budget and budget related...until passed by Australian ballot.”; and the next bullet change to read: “if passed at Town Meeting ...Australian Ballot on April 3, 2018, at a Special Meeting.”
- Change the April 3, 2018, Australian ballot Article numbering to match the 2018 March Town Meeting warning (Mr. Bloch pointed out that the Town Attorney had suggested the proposed numbering for the April 3rd Australian ballot vote)

MINUTES: February 12, 2018

MOTION by Mr. Tegatz, seconded by Mr. Tenney, to approve the Charlotte Selectboard minutes of February 12, 2018, as written, with the correction:

- Page 1, line 37 – change to read “Mr. Morrison, Chair,...”.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

MOTION by Ms. Spear, seconded by Mr. Krasnow, to approve the Charlotte Selectboard minutes of February 19, 2018, as written, with the edit:

- Page 1, line 38 – replace the word “is” with “that”.

VOTE: 4 ayes, 1 abstention (Mr. Tegatz); motion carried.

TOWN REPORT

In response to a question regarding the Town Report, budget, Mr. Block explained that the municipal tax revenue included tax payments as shown on page 12 versus page 18, that the school tax had not been paid out yet.

Mr. Krasnow said that he will coordinate with Nicole Conley regarding a Recreation Commission presentation related to Article 4. Mr. Bloch suggested that Ms. Conley could verbally refresh the Recreation presentation when the Article 4 discussion comes up.

APPROVE WARRANTS TO PAY BILLS

The Selectboard members reviewed and signed warrants to pay bills.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Tegatz, seconded by Mr. Krasnow, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 5 ayes; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Kathlyn L. Furr, Recording Secretary.