**MINUTES FROM 04/28/2015** **SELECTBOARD MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Steve Aubin, Bernard Savage, Alton Bruso, Robert Creller arrived at 6:15, Donna Bohannon

**GUESTS:** Linda Gotshall, Charles Hatin Sr., Maury McCrillis

**6PM – INTERVIEWS FOR SELECTBOARD VACANCY –**

* Meeting opened at 6:09pm by Chairman Steve Aubin
* *At 6:10pm Alton Bruso motioned to enter into executive session for the purpose of conducting interviews - 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)*
* 6PM – Linda Gotshall – interviewed, asked questions, will be contacted
* 6:20PM - Chuck Hatin Sr. - interviewed, asked questions, will be contacted
* 6:40PM – Maury McCrillis - interviewed, asked questions, will be contacted
* *At 7:04pm Alton Bruso motioned to leave executive session – seconded by Bernard Savage – all in favor – motion carried – no action taken*

**7PM - OPEN MEETING:**

**GUESTS:** Linda Gotshall, Terry Tatro, Amy Erno Mashtare, Joan Krizer, Leonard Martell, Pauline Pearo, Leeann Porto, Connie Boutin, the Village trustees; – (Chair), Wendy Tatro, Beth Savage, Troy Lund, Corey Osterhoudt, Pat Hayes and Village Clerk, Amee Gotshall

* Meeting opened at 7:05pm by Chairman, Steve Aubin

**ADJUST THE AGENDA (if needed):** *None needed*

1. **APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:**
* 03/24/2015 SELECTBOARD MEETING – *Robert Creller motioned to accept the minutes from 03/24/2015 as written – seconded by Bernard Savage – all in favor motion carried*
* 04/14/2015 SELECTBOARD MEETING - *Robert Creller motioned to accept the minutes from 04/14/2015 as written – seconded by Bernard Savage – all in favor motion carried*
1. **NEW BUSINESS / MISCELLANEOUS:**
* Letter of complaint of trash on Alburgh Springs Road –
	+ *This complaint was discussed and investigated by the current Health Officer – a new Health Officer will be nominated at this meeting and will do further investigations in to this complaint.*
* Letter of complaint of trash on Industrial Park Road –
	+ *This complaint was discussed and investigated by the current Health Officer who called the Landlord but has not heard back from the Landlord – a new Health Officer will be nominated at this meeting and will do further investigations in to this complaint.*
* Animal / living conditions complaint on Truck Route –
	+ *This complaint was discussed and investigated by the current Health Officer – Clerk will get in contact with the Animal Control Officer that was present and get information from her – Health Officer spoke briefly with Landlord and will inform the new Health Officer about this complaint so further investigation can take place - a new Health Officer will be nominated at this meeting and will do further investigations in to this complaint.*
* Islander ads requesting bids –
	+ Clerk will be posting ads in the Islander for bids on hauling from the Transfer Station, lawn mowing and cleaning of the Town Office
* Children at Play signs for the intersection of Boutah Road, Littlewoods Road and Greenwoods Road. –
	+ Board to be visiting the location to determine if signs are needed and if so, how many are needed – Board members to schedule for two of them and Bing to visit this location.
* Selectboard vacancy –
	+ Board to review the interviewees at the end of the meeting – Leeann Porto also expressed an interest in the position but as she did not submit a letter of interest by the deadline she will not be considered for the position.
1. **OLD BUSINESS:**
* Village of Alburgh – Trustees present to discuss liability –
	+ There was some discussion about an agreement that had been made between Town and Village in the past about the maintenance of the sidewalks – Amee Gotshall, Village Clerk stated that there has not been a record of that agreement found in the Town or Village records.
	+ Wendy Tatro stated that the Village had been in contact with their attorney and she read the finding from the attorney. The attorney stated that regardless of the age of the charter it was still binding.
	+ The Village Charter states that the Town shall pay the Village 10% of the Village grand list on or before November 1st of each year. This payment of 10% will release the Town from liability or expense for the maintenance of the sidewalks and curbs. Wendy Tatro asked the Board if the Town was going to follow the charter.
	+ Alton Bruso stated that the Town does not want to be liable for the sidewalks.
	+ Amee Gotshall stated that the Town is liable now because they are not paying the 10% that was in the charter and they are not maintaining the sidewalks.
	+ The Town was paying the Village $1,500 per year for many years but discontinued that practice.
	+ There was some discussion as to when the Town stopped paying the Village and it was determined that they stopped paying when the Town purchased a sidewalk snow blower and took over the winter maintenance of the sidewalks.
	+ The Village representatives inquired as to whether or not the Town was going to abide by the Village Charter. Mr. Bruso stated that the Village charter is almost 100 years old and isn’t up to date. Amee Gotshall stated that the Charter was updated in 2013 and the Town obligation is still in there.
	+ Terry Tatro stated that if the Village was to be eliminated, the Town could take over all of the responsibilities that are currently held by the Village.
	+ Corey Osterhoudt stated that Town and Village need work together toward a mutual solution.
	+ There was more debate about this topic and it was determined that the Town Clerk, Donna Bohannon would contact the Town attorney and seek advice from him.
	+ *Clerk to email Town attorney for advice – Selectboard and Trustees to meet again at the June Village meeting currently scheduled for Monday, June 1st, 2015 to begin at 6:30pm.*
* T.D.I. New England – Update –
	+ Josh Bagnato sent an updated “Host Town” agreement for the Board to sign. Changes were made to reflect the wishes of the Selectboard. TDI will dig across Line Rd., the cable will run along Bay Rd. on the westerly side to the property owned by TDI. TDI will pave Bay Rd. the length of the work. Josh Bagnato will check to see if it would be possible for TDI to pave the whole length of Bay Rd. *Clerk to send “Host Town” agreement to Town attorney to look over and advise Town.*
* Burial Grounds in Alburgh Springs (Reynolds property) – Update –
	+ Clerk ascertained that the information from the last meeting are accurate. There has been no correspondence from Mr. Reynolds attorney pertaining to this issue. *Clerk to seek advice from Town attorney on how to proceed.*
* Joanie Krizer – Suggestions
	+ Joan entertained the crowd with “tails” of alligator antics before getting down to business.
	+ Joan understands that the Board did not accept her resignation and has agreed to continue as one of the Towns Animal Control officers.
	+ Joan suggested that the dog ordinance be enforced and a list of un-registered dogs be compiled. Donna Bohannon asked Joan if she would be willing to knock on doors and issue letters stating the rules for owning a dog in Alburgh and educating people on the fines that can be imposed. Joan said that she would be willing to do this. *Clerk to create a letter for Joan to give to people that have dogs known to be unregistered.*
* Amy Erno Mashtare – Moved to the end of the agenda.
* Health Officer term due to expire –
	+ There was some discussion about this – Steve Aubin does not want to continue as the Health officer – Bernard Savage expressed that he would be interested in assuming this role. – *Robert Creller motioned that Bernard Savage will be the new Health Officer for Alburgh – seconded by Alton Bruso – all in favor – motion carried – Bernard Savage is the new Health Officer for the Town of Alburgh.*
1. **VISITOR INPUT:**
	* Amee Gotshall – Library steps to basement
		+ The steps to the basement in the Library are unsafe. If it is raining out or people have wet shoes the steps are slippery and dangerous. The railing to the basement is hazardous for small children as there is a big gap between the railing and the steps. – *Clerk to contact Jim Honsinger (Advantage Services) to assess the steps and fix the issues.*
	* Pauline Pearo – complaint of “junkyard” in East Alburgh
		+ Pauline supplied a letter of complaint, signed by six residents of the Town, pertaining to 13 East Alburgh Rd. The letter states that there are nine (9) unregistered vehicles on this property and requests that the Board enforce the Town Junk Ordinance that states that there cannot be more than two unregistered vehicles on one property. She was also requesting that all fluids be drained from the vehicles so as not to pose a health threat.
		+ Bernard Savage took responsibility for the vehicles in question as that is property owned by him. He then stated that they would only be there for a short time and that all the fluids are removed from the vehicles.
		+ There was some more discussion about this and Bernard stated that he will have the vehicles removed in one week.
2. **TABLED TOPICS AND / OR WAITING RESULTS:**
	* Leonard Martell – Update **–**
		+ New information from the State informed all parties that Hudak Farm Stand cannot take the spinal columns and brains from the animals in question. The compost permit that they have does not cover animal remains.
		+ Leonard Martell provided the Board with a letter from Island Crematory in Isle LaMotte stating that they can accept the remains that Leonard will be creating.
		+ Leonard Martell also informed the Board that he does have one neighbor that is not in favor of the rendering plant being approved.
		+ Terry Tatro once again reminded the Board that even if they sign the Act 250 permit, there is still a process that needs to take place and the Board will still have time to ask questions or state concerns about the operation. Signing the Act 250 simply gives Mr. Martell the ability to move ahead with the plans.
		+ *Robert Creller motioned that Chairman Steve Aubin sign the Act 250 allowing Mr. Martell to move ahead with the rendering plant plans – seconded by Alton Bruso – all in favor -motion carried – Chairman Steve Aubin to sign Act 250 permit for Leonard Martell*
		+ *Clerk to check with the State of Vermont to be sure that Island Crematory can accept the remains that Leonard Martell will be generating.*
	* Act 250 Permit for Union Bible Church – update –
		+ Informational paperwork given to Chairman Aubin. The Act 250 permit is in progress for the Union Bible Church. No action needed.
	* Clean Energy Collective – Solar power – Carol Pellerins land –
		+ Chairman Aubin was given the paperwork and will bring it with him to look over at his leisure. No action needed.
	* Vermont Electric Coop substation – update –
		+ Chairman Aubin was given the paperwork and will bring it with him to look over at his leisure. No action needed.

1. Adjustment to the agenda – Amy Erno Mashtare
	* Amy Erno Mashtare informed the Board that Doug Medor did not have the equipment ready to be delivered to the Alburgh Transfer Station as they had planned. The only piece of equipment that was delivered was the glass crusher –
		+ *Chairman Aubin will contact Mr. Medor to arrange a time for the equipment to be delivered.*
	* Amy received a quote for a 6 yard container as it was determined that it would not be feasible to fabricate one container out of the two existing containers. The quote on a new 60 yard container shipped was $11.960 and it comes with a limited warranty. This quote will be valid until 05/27/2015.
	* There was some discussion about the scale and how things need to be moved around and altered to accommodate them. The compactors will need to be moved and there will need to be about seven to eight yards of concrete poured where the scales are going to sit. – *Robert Creller motioned that Bernard Savage work with Bing and the concrete company to get the slab completed – Alton Bruso seconded – all in favor – motion carried.*
	* Amy requested that the Board consider giving Dan Pecor a raise as he has been working for the Town for two years and has not had a raise in that time – it was agreed by all that he works hard and is deserving of a raise – *Robert Creller motioned that Dan Pecor receive an increase of $1.00 per hour effective immediately – seconded by Bernard Savage – all in favor – motion carried*
2. **APPROVE INVOICES AND / OR OVERWEIGHT PERMITS:**
	* All invoices and permits were approved and signed
3. **Executive session –** *At 9:10pm Robert Creller motioned to return to executive session for the purpose of discussing the prospective interviewees - 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) – Bernard Savage seconded – all in favor – motion carried – Board in executive session*
	* *At 9:40pm Bernard Savage motioned to leave executive session – seconded by Robert Creller – all in favor – motion carried.*
	* *The Board will hold a special meeting on 05/05/2015 beginning at 6:30pm to discuss the vacant Selectboard position and make an appointment at that meeting.*
4. **ADJOURN –** *At 9:42pm Bernard Savage motioned to adjourn – seconded by Robert Creller – all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned*

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Bohannon

Alburgh Town Clerk

Please note the above minutes HAVE NOT been approved. Approval or changes to the minutes will be addressed at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/12/2015