

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** First Selectman M. Alberts called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm  
**Members Present:** First Selectman M. Alberts, Selectman F. Olah, Selectman C. Paquette  
**Others Present:** Michael Dougherty, Diane Miller, Stewart Morse, Terri Lasota, and 4 others.

2. **Approve the Minutes of the March 21, 2019 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting:**

F. Olah **MOTIONED** to **APPROVE** the meeting minutes of 03/21/2019;  
C. Paquette **SECONDED**; **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. **Discuss and Approve Tax Abatements for Farm and Fruit Orchards:**

M. Alberts said the Board of Finance would address this issue at their next meeting after the Board of Selectmen as there was no ordinance requirement to hold a joint meeting.

M. Alberts read the list of applicants who have submitted their paperwork, and added that an application for Thomas Davis\* was also received and should be included on this list:

*Donald R. Bennett and/or Peter F. Bennett – Coatney Hill Farm LLC*

*Todd & Diane Morin – Fairholm Farm Inc.*

*Todd & Diane Morin – Jon & Erica Hermonot*

*Donald & Susan Hibbard – Hibbard Trust – Hibbard Hill Farm*

*Kenneth Kuper – Lookaway Farm*

*David Morse – May Hill Farm LLC*

*Miller Family LLC – Fairvue Farms LLC*

*Matthew Peckham – The Eddy Farm*

*Elm Realty LLC*

*Roland C. & Eleanor Provencal*

*Douglas Young – Quassett Hill Farm LLC*

*Margaret Salvas – Spruce Hill Farms*

*Craig Sherman*

*Allen M. Sherman*

*Marilyn H. Sherman*

*Noelle A. Twiggs*

*John W. White (2 applications)*

*Timothy Young – Lucas T. Young*

*\*Thomas Davis*

M. Alberts, C. Paquette and D. Miller briefly discussed those who are not currently on the list; D. Miller mentioned some people did receive the letter regarding the abatements sent in January, but not the letter sent out in March. M. Dougherty stated the Board of Finance will approve the Board of Selectmen's recommendations; M. Alberts said this may be a two part process but are up against a deadline for the tax collector to process these.

C. Paquette asked S. Morse about cross referencing with the previous list; S. Morse replied that

most were accounted for with the exception of a few; C. Paquette noted he would like to accommodate those few that may have not received the second letter regarding the application.

M. Alberts **MOTIONED** to **APPROVE** the list of applicants that has been submitted for the Dairy Farms & Fruit Orchards Tax Abatement, to include a request from Thomas Davis, with the understanding that there may be several individuals who have not yet submitted, and the Board of Selectmen will grant the First Selectmen the authority to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance approval. C. Paquette **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

M. Alberts said he will provide the packet of originals to K. Fitzpatrick to bring to the BOF as an agenda item.

M. Dougherty and M. Alberts discussed this being a one time fix for this year and looking at a new ordinance. M. Alberts said under the current ordinance an approval is effective for 5 years unless there is a change in the use of the property or a sale; he added the intent is to potentially expand what is covered in this ordinance.

C. Paquette asked S. Morse if the Agricultural Commission has been working on expanding the definition; S. Morse said their recommendation is to use the State definition of agriculture so it remains uniform.

**4. Approval to Go Out to Bid for Aggregate, Catch Basin Cleaning, Equipment Rental and Guardrail Installation:**

M. Alberts noted this gives John Navarro ability to proceed with getting bids for these items. C. Paquette **MOTIONED** to **APPROVE; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. Consider Adopting a Resolution Designating the Month of April as “Fair Housing Month”:**

F. Olah **MOTIONED** to **APPROVE; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6. Tax Rebates:**

Tax rebate is an adjustment for double payment of real estate taxes.  
Payment made by new owner and Corelogic Real Estate Services.

C. Paquette **MOTIONED** to **APPROVE** the tax rebate to Corelogic Real Estate Service in the amount of \$1,674.58; **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7. Correspondence and Announcements:**

M. Alberts read the following correspondence and announcements:

A thank you was received from Head of School Chris Sanford.

Peter Woodbury of Woodstock Colonial Militia Historical Group requested use of town common.

A letter of resignation from the PZC was received from Duane Fredrick; his resignation was accepted with regret and the Board of Selectmen thank Mr. Fredrick for his service.

Timothy Dodge, Chair of the Council of the Church of the Good Shepherd has reconsidered and will not pursue the option of the realignment of Bungay Hill Road and Bradford Corner Road.

Jean Pillo thanked those who supported the ECCD in submitting a grant proposal of over \$500,000.00 to help fund a holistic approach to water quality improvement in Roseland Lake.

M. Alberts noted Crystal Adams requested consideration for the available Office Manager position, and felt as a current employee of the Town of Woodstock she should be considered amongst the top few individuals considered for this position. M. Alberts also talked about the Building Office Assistant position candidates, and suggested scheduling one day agreeable to availability of the Selectmen and Paul Fiege for the second interviews of the candidates for Office Manager and Building Office Assistant. The Selectmen and M. Dougherty discussed timing, the financial aspect, pensions and health benefits, union contractual issues, and probationary periods in regards to the budget. M. Alberts and the Selectmen agreed for interview scheduling purposes, Wednesday April 10, 2019 or Friday April 12, 2019 could be possible interview dates.

M. Alberts noted a letter from Jeff Gordon of the Woodstock Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the Minchoff Subdivision and bond amount of \$20,000.00; typically by State Statute the First Selectmen or Board of Selectmen would finalize the contract for completing the required public improvements list, and Design Professional would certify that it was completed, then funds would be paid to meet that obligation from the bond money, with the Planning and Zoning Commission releasing any remaining funds.

M. Alberts provided updates on other Town of Woodstock openings for Town Planner and Zoning Enforcement Official. He said one resumé from an individual employed by the town of Thompson has been received for the ZEO position; Dr. J. Gordon will be included in the interview process. M. Alberts said D. Fey has been helpful in several matters but has no desire to take on the ZEO position. He also noted CME has submitted a proposal for the services of Inland Wetlands Agent and Zoning Enforcement Officer on an interim basis, however their quote exceeds the amount budgeted so this could not be a long term solution. M. Alberts said there is another individual who is interested in this position, however they are not currently certified; he added J. Gordon felt it could be worth investing training for this person. If this individual were to be considered it would need to be done in conjunction with the Town attorney.

#### **8. Citizen's Comments:**

S. Morse asked about the request for use of the Town Common; M. Alberts verified it was South Woodstock.

#### **9. Other From Committee:**

C. Paquette hoped to get the Woodstock Town Hall positions filled as quickly as possible. M. Alberts noted all positions are critical as there are time constraints involved with Zoning, but the Inland Wetlands Agency does have statutory authority to act. C. Paquette said it may be necessary to accept CME's offer; M. Alberts suggested the ability to negotiate.

#### **10. Adjournment:**

F. Olah **MOTIONED to ADJOURN; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**  
The meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Lasota (Recording Secretary)

**DISCLAIMER:** These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen.  
Please refer to next month's minutes for approval/amendments