

North Hero Selectboard Meeting
Monday, February 1, 2016 6:00 P.M.
North Hero Town Office Meeting Room
DRAFT

In Attendance: Selectboard: Rob Rousseau, Andre Quintin, Ben Joseph, Evan Potvin

Town Clerk/ Treasurer: Pete Johnson
Public Works: Jim Dubuque
Board Clerk: Kathie Dustira

Guests: Phillip Foy, Encore Renewable Energy

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

REVIEW AND APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Signed and approved for payment of \$7,778.33

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

The agenda was not adjusted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ❖ Evan motioned to accept the minutes of 1/04/2016. The motion was seconded by Ben and passed 4/0.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

- Phillip Foy, General Consul, Encore Renewable Energy
 - Phillip thought the North Hero landfill would be a viable piece of land for a solar project. He spoke of a few projects Encore is currently working on, including one located at the South Burlington landfill. The range of projects falls within two to five megawatts. He thought the amount of the lease payments quote given to North Hero by the developer Andy Thomas were very inflated, and a more reasonable amount to expect would be about half of Andy's quote. Phillip stated there would be no cost to the Town of North Hero, except lawyer fees.
 - Two possible projects were outlined: a "Speed Project" and "PBA with the Utility" which is a larger project of 4 - 5 megawatts, and the one preferred by Encore.
 - The biggest concern Encore has is leasing the land. They would like to see a letter of response from the other company (Andy Thomas and Michael Lazer) that they are no longer interested in pursuing the project with North Hero.

Ben Joseph gave an update on the situation with the solar project (Thomas and Lazer). Ben spent many hours trying to work out an agreement with the developers. He sent a copy of the Option Agreement to Mr. Gilles, Town lawyer and to Andy Thomas, who said he'd let us know. Andy never got back with a response. Mr. Gilles recently drafted a letter to Andy Thomas stating we (North Hero) were out of the agreement. Ben then spoke with Jack Miller, the North Hero representative on the CoOp, who suggested Encore might be interested to speak with the Selectboard.

Ben will invite the CoOp representative and a representative from Encore to the next Selectboard meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 to discuss the potential new project.

Ben informed the Selectboard of a second Grand Isle resident, an engineer living close by the Grand Isle solar project, who has filed a motion against that Grand Isle project.

Public Works: Jim Dubuque

- The trees have been cut.
 - He has cleaned and organized the shop.
 - The sand is holding up.
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- ❖ Andre motioned to sign the Certificate of Compliance for Town Roads and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory in order to be eligible for a grant. The motion was seconded by Evan and passed 4/0.
 - ❖ Andre motioned to accept the Errors and Omissions Report. The motion was seconded by Evan and passed 4/0.

Town Clerk: Pete Johnson

- Andre motioned to change the next Selectboard meeting to Tuesday, February 16, 2016 since Monday, February 15 is Presidents' Day. The motion by Andre was seconded by Evan and passed 4/0.
- Pete, along with the Water Board, is attending a VT-Alert meeting to determine if this system would meet the needs for emergency notifications.
- Absentee ballots will be available no later than February 10, 2016.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FOR ACTION OR DISCUSSION

- Plowing Community Hall - After some discussion, Andre offered to speak with Jim and Roland about sanding and plowing Community Hall before any decisions are made.

NEW BUSINESS

- None

CORRESPONDENCE SHARING: DISCUSSION OR ACTION

- The Board passed various correspondences around for review.

AGENDA BUILDING

- Solar Project - Encore and CoOp representatives
- Plowing Community Hall

EXECUTIVE SESSION

OTHER BUSINESS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- motioned to close the Selectboard meeting at 7:10 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Evan and passed 4/0.

C: Board: Robert/ Eileen / Andre / Ben / Evan
Town Clerk
Web Page File

Notice

The Selectboard Meeting for Monday, February 15, 2016 has been changed to

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the North Hero Town Office Meeting Room, adjacent to the North Hero Elementary School.

All are welcome!

**Town Clerk and Treasurer's Office 6441 US Route 2, North Hero, VT
(Adjacent to the North Hero Elementary School)**

Mailing Address: PO Box 38, North Hero, VT 05474 (802) 372-6926