Select Board Members
X Liz, Scharf, Chair
X Randy Drury, Vice Chair
X Vic Dwire
X Peter O. Hood
X Zara Vincent

MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, February 4, 2025
Middlesex Town Hall and via Zoom*
Middlesex Town Clerk's Office
5 Church Street
Middlesex, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-5915

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Liz Scharf, Vice Chair Randy Drury. Select Board members, Peter Hood*, Vic Dwire and Zara Vincent (FEMA Coordinator and Chair of the Town Roads Subcommittee). Road Foreman/Road Commissioner/MVFD Chief Eric Metivier. The meeting was recorded by ORCA and Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman took the minutes. (*indicates attended via Zoom)

Call to Order

Liz called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
MOTION: Zara moved, and Randy seconded approving the minutes of the January 21, 2025, regular meeting. The minutes were signed by those present.
MOTION: Randy moved, and Peter seconded approving the agenda for the February 4, 2025, regular meeting. The motion passed.

Highway Report

Eric delivered the highway report (see below). Regarding the repaired Kenworth truck, Randy confirmed that the $2,100 back to the Town did not account for the full bill. Eric confirmed the Town still had to pay $11,000 in repairs.
FEMA Update: Zara said she and Eric met with FEMA today. A $5,000 overcharge was found on the $705,000 submission to FEMA for repairs on Culver, Shady Rill and Government Hill roads, but that can be put toward hazard mitigation. That FEMA payment plus $155,000 for repairs on Brook Road have been approved on the federal level and are in the hands of the State of Vermont. All the payments are for 2023 work.
Liz said she's reluctant to go forward with permanent-improvement projects planned for this summer due to the current uncertainty about the future of many federal programs and the possibility that FEMA may cease to exist. Eric confirmed the normal period to complete such projects is 18 months, though the Town has asked – and been granted – an extension.
The Board discussed what work still needs to be done, including installing four box culverts totaling $1 million. With the Town $7 million in debt due to flooded-road repairs and with the chance that FEMA may never reimburse the Town for those costs, Liz said the Board may have to hold a Special Town Meeting

Approving the 2025 Certificate of Highway Mileage

MOTION: Randy moved and Zara seconded approving the 2025 Certificate of Highway Mileage. The motion passed and the certificate was signed.

Code of Ethics Investigation and Enforcement Ordinance

The Board reviewed the template for an ordinance that would outline procedures should an ethics complaint be filed with the Town under S. 171 and decided that instead of an ordinance, the Board would consider amending the current Personnel Policy to include this process. No action.

Treasurer's Report

This was passed over.

OTHER BUSINESS

All orders were signed.

Correspondence: The Board reviewed a letter from Doug Lombard and Susan Rickstad asking to renew a five-year agreement with the Town to plant flowers and vegetables in Town-owned land near their house adjacent to Town Hall.
MOTION: Peter moved and Zara seconded renewing the five-year agreement with Doug Lombard and Susan Rickstad to maintain plantings on Town-owned property near their house. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 PM.

THE ABOVE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS A WARNED AGENDA ITEM AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD ON FEBRUARY 18, 2025.

_____
LIZ SCHARF, CHAIR

_____ _____
RANDY DRURY, VICE CHAIR

_____
VIC DWIRE

_____
PETER HOOD

_____

ZARA VINCENT

February 4, 2025 Highway Report

Equipment
Kenworth- The truck is back ($2110.11 in credit back to us)
International- Running no issues
Freightliner- Running and no problems at this time
Grader- Running no issues
Excavator- Running and no issues

Road Work/Issues
Keeping up with winter weather