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**Selectboard Meeting**  
**Community Meeting Room – Ilsley Library**  
**Tuesday, August 14, 2018**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Brian Carpenter, Laura Asermily, Heather Seeley, Lindsey Fuentes-George, Victor Nuovo, and Nick Artim. Farhad Khan was absent.

Staff Present: Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, Director of Public Works Planning Dan Werner, Director of Planning and Zoning Jennifer Murray, and Community Liaison Jim Gish.

Others Present: Aaron Guyette of VHB and members of the public.

The meeting was televised on MCTV by Jim Corbett.

**1. Call to Order**

Brian Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Nuovo moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Asermily. Carpenter noted that Item #9 would be delayed until the August 28, 2018 meeting. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. The agenda was approved with one change. **MOTION PASSED.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of July 31, 2018 Selectboard Meeting**

Asermily made the motion to approve the July 31, 2018 minutes, and Seeley seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes as presented carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

**4. Citizen Comments**

Lloyd Komesar of the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival was there to voice his concern about the construction noise in and around Triangle Park. The Festival begins next Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and he was wondering if there was any way to prevent large trucks from idling while parked in that area and if the construction could end a little early or move further away on Thursday and Friday. He said this event brings a lot of people to town and they'll all be walking by this area attending movies and stopping to talk, and he would really appreciate it if the noise could be minimized those two days.

Carpenter asked Komesar what time was he thinking of construction ending or moving. Komesar said movie showings were 10:30 am and 1:30 pm at Town Hall Theater and Marquis Theater, so around 3:30 p.m., when people are getting out of the last showing.

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Jim Gish said he'd discussed this with Kubricky, and they're going to throttle back on construction around 3:30, particularly on Friday. Seeley asked if it would be possible to produce some postcards to go in the movie packets the people get, explaining the project and maybe direct them to the story boards.

Dan Brown, representing the Town Hall Theater, wanted to introduce the Selectboard to Mark Bradley, the new Executive Director of Town Hall Theater, who would be replacing Doug Anderson who will now become the Artistic Director of the Theater. Bradley said he was happy to be here in such a beautiful community.

**5. Update on Appointments to Economic Health Committee**

Carpenter reported that Mary Cullinane and Stacey Rainey, of Community Barn Ventures, met with him following the July 31st meeting and said they understood the concern about two committee members from one business having multiple votes on the Economic Health Committee. So rather than detract from the work or give the appearance of them having more weight in the outcome, Rainey volunteered to step down as a member of the Committee, although she does want to serve on another committee sometime in the future.

Carpenter said the Board would need to vote on accepting Rainey's resignation, and in the past when a committee member resigns, the Board will appoint the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate on the committee to fill that position.

Nuovo made the motion to accept Stacey Rainey's resignation from the Economic Health Committee with gratitude. Asermily seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

Seeley made the motion to appoint John Freidin as a full member of the Economic Health Committee. Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

Carpenter said the Economic Health Committee will be coming back to the Board for clarification and some suggestions regarding the Charge, about possibly extending the timeline and requesting a small budget. Carpenter said he has suggested he attend their next Committee meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup>, along with Heather Seeley, who Chaired the Economic Health Task Force and the currently Chairs the Infrastructure Committee. He thought it might benefit the Committee to have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with them about some of the issues.

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## 7. Aaron Guyette, P.E., Presentation of Merchants Row One-Way Preliminary Design Concept

93 Aaron Guyette reviewed the plans for returning Merchants Row to two-way and a plan for  
94 leaving Merchants Row one-way following the completion of the Bridge & Rail Project. He  
95 said the two-way plan allows for 40 parking spaces, and the one-way plan allows for 47  
96 parking spaces and shows grassed bump-out areas to define the parking and crosswalks.  
97

98 Carpenter asked if the fire trucks would be able to maneuver the turn into the Battell Block  
99 driveway, and Guyette thought they could. Nuovo asked what needed to be done to have  
100 wider sidewalks on the south side to make the area more desirable for businesses that might  
101 want to open a restaurant and have outside seating. Guyette said they could gain around 10  
102 feet by changing some of the angle parking on the north side to parallel parking, and that  
103 would allow them to widen a portion of the sidewalk on the south side, but it would mean the  
104 loss of around 7 parking spaces. He said you could also have wider sidewalks with the two-  
105 way option as well, but you would lose the parking spaces on the north side of the street.  
106 Seeley asked how widening the sidewalks would impact the budget, since the project only  
107 needs to replace what was there. Guyette said he didn't feel it was a large enough change to  
108 impact the budget, since you're increasing concrete for sidewalks, but using less pavement.  
109

110 Seeley said the Infrastructure Committee had endorsed the one-way option at their August 9,  
111 2018 meeting, but did have concerns about snow-removal with the bump-outs and the  
112 parallel parking spaces on the hill by Town Hall Theater. Guyette said he could investigate  
113 bump-out options that would make snow removal easier.  
114

115 Dan Brown said he would encourage the wider sidewalk to provide outside options for these  
116 businesses. Mark Bradley agreed that the loss of a few spaces was worth having the wider,  
117 more pedestrian friendly sidewalks.  
118

119 Asermily asked if there would be any advantage to having a few parallel parking spaces by  
120 Battell Block. Guyette said potentially there was an advantage, and he'd also heard someone  
121 suggest removing the mid-block crosswalk and you could pick up a few more parking spaces.  
122 Asermily said it's a very busy area and wouldn't recommend removing the crosswalk, but  
123 Guyette said if it was only one-way and narrower, you could get away without a mid-block  
124 crosswalk.  
125

126 Adam Schafer asked why this was proposed as one-way up the street and not one-way down  
127 into the downtown. Guyette said it was because of safety concerns of traffic turning left from  
128 Merchants Row onto Main Street.  
129

130 Sue Bourdon said that the problem with the one-way is people get lost and they don't know  
131 how to get back down to Main Street, so they just drive out of town and she believes that's  
132 why businesses are closing. Adam Schafer agreed that we're losing all the tourists and that's  
133 why places are closing, and feels it would be an "economic disaster" to make Merchants Row  
134 one-way.  
135

136 Mark Bradley felt if tourists are coming to Middlebury, they aren't going to just drive away  
137 because of the traffic pattern. He feels foot traffic is important to businesses too, so thinks  
138 the design should consider the pedestrians and not just vehicles.

139  
140 Amey Ryan asked about the timeline on making this decision, and Guyette said ideally they'd  
141 already have a decision since they are in the process of doing the final plans. Ryan felt that  
142 widening the sidewalk for possible outside seating for the restaurants was not worth the loss  
143 of parking spaces. Gish said when he'd spoke with Doug Nedde, owner of the Battell Block,  
144 Nedde was in favor of the one-way and the widening of the sidewalks for outside seating for  
145 his tenants.

146  
147 Komesar asked about the parking spaces and the narrowness of the road, and the chance of  
148 cars backing out hitting cars parked on the other side of the street. Guyette said that area is  
149 as narrow as you'd want to go.

150  
151 Asermily said her main concern is safety if Merchants Row was two-way, so wondered if  
152 there was a way to manage traffic at the Main Street intersection so it's safer. Schafer said  
153 the two-way pattern was better for delivery vehicles. Dan Brown said as a citizen navigating  
154 that street, the one-way has been so much nicer and safer than when it was two-way and felt  
155 it made a good flow around town, and felt it made no sense to go back to two-way.  
156 Carpenter asked how much would be gained in road width by changing one side of the road  
157 from angle to parallel parking, and Guyette said about 10 feet.

158  
159 Seeley felt some of the delivery issues would be solved by taking out the mid-block crosswalk  
160 in the one-way design, and if the decision is to go back to two-way traffic, she would remove  
161 the crosswalk across Merchants Row at the Main Street intersection. She said maybe there  
162 should be a subcommittee to look at the details of the plan once it was decided if it would be  
163 two-way or one-way. She said there would be compromises regardless of which design is  
164 chosen, especially if the sidewalks are widened.

165  
166 Nuovo realizes deliveries are important to these businesses, but he's concerned about  
167 making a decision based on them. He thinks pedestrians should be accommodated first and  
168 crosswalks on Merchants Row are dangerous when there's two-way traffic, especially when  
169 turning left from Merchants Row onto Main Street. Amey Ryan said that left turn onto Main  
170 Street is one of the most dangerous scenarios in town, and thinks if it is decided Merchants  
171 Row is two-way, then eliminating that turn is essential for safety. Rick Emilo suggested a  
172 traffic light at the intersection to improve safety.

173  
174 Artim said he's seen too many close calls at the Merchants Row/Main Street intersection, one  
175 fatal, and he said you can argue that the one-way traffic pattern is safer and people will find  
176 their way. He thinks the idea of making this a more walk-able scenario is desirable and he  
177 thinks delivery trucks will find their way. He said he's an advocate for the one-way and can't  
178 imagine going back to two-way traffic.

179  
180 Karen Duguay from the Better Middlebury Partnership said that parking is crucial for all the  
181 downtown merchants. She likes the idea of wider sidewalks, since Merchants Row is kind of  
182 a "dead area" and when they have events it's difficult to attract people to those stores. She  
183 urged the Board to think not only about the current businesses and climate when deciding,

184 but what's possible in the future. Artim agreed that we need to think of the future and he  
185 believes that the trend in successful downtowns is for more pedestrian interaction and less  
186 about cars. Nuovo said we need a place where people can park their cars and then walk  
187 wherever they want to go around, and he feels it's an essential need that's been talked about  
188 a long time.

189  
190 Ryan feels the signage in town does a poor job of directing people to parking and you have to  
191 let people know where it is, or build something so they know where to park. She thinks  
192 signage is key.

193  
194 There was some further discussion on the delivery situation and the ability to perhaps provide  
195 for ACTR drop-offs. Carpenter said he was beginning to hear a strong majority for one-way  
196 traffic and asked Guyette if they approve the one-way, could he wait for more of the details as  
197 far as parking. Guyette said it would be enough to get them started, but would need the  
198 details sooner rather than later. Carpenter asked Guyette to give him a couple more options  
199 on parallel spots and wider sidewalks

200  
201 Nuovo moved to adopt the principal of one-way headed east and for VHB to prepare some  
202 options for the Board to decide how the plan would be finalized. Artim seconded the motion.  
203 The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

204  
205 Carpenter said there were some very good points made and the Board needs to think about it  
206 before making a decision that will impact that area.

## 207 **7. Director of Planning & Zoning Jen Murray with Information on** 208 **Purpose, Timeline & Funding for Downtown Master Planning Project**

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210  
211 Jen Murray said this was discussed in 2016 when the Town applied for a grant to do a  
212 Downtown Master Plan but didn't get the funding. She said we were ineligible in 2017 due to  
213 us being in the middle of updating the Town Plan, so now she would like to reapply for the  
214 same funds for a Downtown Master Plan.

215  
216 Murray said the Downtown Plan would be a component of the Town Comprehensive Plan  
217 and could also help with the Capital Plan. She said a Downtown Plan would look at where  
218 we are now, create a vision for where we would like to go and then provide recommendations  
219 on how to get there. She said it would help in decision making and for applying for future  
220 funding opportunities. She described what was involved in creating a Downtown Master Plan  
221 and how important public process is when creating the vision for what we want, and how the  
222 Plan is broken down and may have smaller targeted plans for certain areas and an  
223 implementation plan.

224  
225 She went over the schedule for applying for the Grant, beginning with the Grant deadline in  
226 January 2019, with a final plan in early 2020. She said she has a few ideas of good  
227 consultants to help with this Plan and the projected cost is \$50,000-\$60,000. She would like  
228 to begin Phase 1 work of collecting data now, but doesn't want to get people's hopes up for a  
229 Plan if we don't get the funds.

230

231 Artim said this would be about strengthening our town core, since nowadays the trends are to  
232 live, work and socialize in an area they can walk, so he's a fan of doing this. He thinks this  
233 enhances the chance of capital investment in the area and reduces the risks. He worries  
234 about what happens if we don't get the funding for this and he doesn't want to wait too long.  
235 He's wondering about using some of the Local Option Tax funding to help strengthen the  
236 downtown, because he'd like to see this get moving soon. Murray said the last Downtown  
237 Plan was done in 2000, and it was more of a Capital Plan, so we're 20 years overdue to do a  
238 Plan.

239  
240 Duguay says we're at a critical point right now with the railroad project and the challenges our  
241 retailers are facing, and likes that we have a chance to go about the revitalization plans the  
242 right way. She thinks this is the perfect opportunity to do this and BMP is very much in favor  
243 of this.

244  
245 Murray cautioned that this is not a Retail Study, although there would be a section looking at  
246 the economic vitality of the downtown. She doesn't want people to think this will be a  
247 guidebook on how to improve the downtown economy.

248  
249 Asermily said she supports this and would like to see this get going sooner rather than latter,  
250 and knew we'd have to have matching money for the grant and wondered about using some  
251 of the Economic Development funds. Murray said we wouldn't know until March if we get the  
252 grant funds or not.

253  
254 Nuovo didn't want to see development put off any longer because we don't have a Downtown  
255 Master Plan and would like it to be a priority and to get it going soon. He asked about the  
256 timing and how long it took to complete, Murray said it would take about a year to a year and  
257 a half, so it would be done about the same time as the downtown bridges, which Artim said  
258 was really the ideal time.

259  
260 Carpenter said the Planning Commission is doing a study on the Route 7 South area and  
261 wondered if they could just duplicate their efforts on the downtown if we don't get the funding.  
262 He wondered why we had to have the funding. Murray said they're just talking about the  
263 Route 7 South study at the moment and about applying for a planning grant to get it done, but  
264 they would be hiring a consultant to do that Corridor Master Plan as well, which would be  
265 much more straight forward. It isn't a visioning plan like the Downtown Master Plan would be.

266  
267 Asermily asked about how we could better position ourselves to get the grant funds, and  
268 Murray said that is one of the reasons she wants to begin gathering data now so she has  
269 data available for the consultants should we get the grant. She doesn't want to get people  
270 excited with survey questions and get their expectations up and then not get the funding.

271  
272 Carpenter feels businesses are delaying investing until a Downtown Plan is done, and he's  
273 fearful that if we hold off too long we'll miss development opportunities waiting for it to be  
274 done. He's in favor of the Plan, but is concerned what happens if we don't get the funding.  
275 He wonders if this is something we can do internally with staff and interested citizens. He  
276 thinks we need to be thinking about what we're going to do if we don't get the grant.

277



278 Murray said she doesn't want developers to hold off doing projects just because we don't  
279 have a Master Plan. She said if NexBridge wants to do their Economic Development  
280 Initiative (EDI) project, they can go ahead, but since it's on Town-owned land we need to  
281 think about how to replace the parking and how the traffic is going to change in that area, and  
282 that's why a consultant would bring a different level of ideas. Nuovo didn't want the Master  
283 Plan to become an albatross around our neck, and he didn't know why we couldn't begin it  
284 now and encourage investors to come here. He said the timeline bothers him and he'd like to  
285 see it get going.

286  
287 Carpenter told Murray the Board is fully supportive of applying for this grant funding, but they  
288 want to know what happens if we don't get this funding. He said it doesn't have to be an all  
289 or nothing situation, and isn't there a way it could be done for less than \$50-60,000. He said  
290 they're looking for that interim solution.

291  
292 Murray said with the EDI project, they were talking about the project and trying to draft a  
293 Memorandum of Understanding and they came to a screeching halt. She said she  
294 recommended a Master Plan at the time as a solution to the problem, and now it's being  
295 perceived as an obstacle, so warned we need to be cautious of that. Nuovo said he supports  
296 the idea of the Master Plan for the downtown, but at the same time we want to actively  
297 encourage people to come and develop here.

298  
299 Artim said if someone comes into town with an investment opportunity, we want to listen to  
300 them and guide them to make the project happen and not be in a stagnant position.

301  
302 Murray asked what they want out of a Master Plan, and if they only wanted a plan for the  
303 expansion of the Library and the EDI project, then that could be done for a lot less money.  
304 She said it shouldn't be an obstacle, and if there is an awesome project, then we do the  
305 awesome project with what we have.

306  
307 Carpenter asked if there was more the Board could do to help our chance to receive the grant  
308 funds, and Murray said speaking to the Governor or other politically persuasive people would  
309 help.

310  
311 Fred Kenney, Executive Director of the Addison County Economic Development Initiative,  
312 said the Governor and other politicians will be in town on September 11<sup>th</sup> for Capital for the  
313 Day. He also said developers appreciate Downtown Master Plans because they know ahead  
314 of time if their plan will fit and they aren't going to meet a lot of opposition. He also said he  
315 didn't know too many downtown developments that aren't private/public investments, and the  
316 public investments are going to require a Master Plan of some type. He said it may not need  
317 to be as complete as the \$50,000 to \$60,000 plan proposed, but State and Federal funding  
318 will require some type of Plan. Carpenter said that is why he doesn't want to wait in case we  
319 want to apply for a Tax Increment Finance District (TIF) for a parking structure, so will support  
320 this, but would like a backup plan. Kenney said a TIF application will require some type of  
321 Master Plan in place.

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323 Murray thanked the Board and said their input had been helpful.

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**8. Director of Public Works Planning Dan Werner, with recommendations & updates from the August 9, 2018 Selectboard Meeting**

**8.a. Recommendation on bid award for tree removal in Town Green & Court Square**

Werner said the Tree Committee had identified some trees for removal in the Town Green and Court Square because they cause a potential safety issue. The removal cost would be covered by the Caring for Canopy Grant funds. He said three bids were received and the low bidder was Webb's Tree Service from East Middlebury, with a bid of \$2,900 to remove 7 trees.

Asermily moved to award a contract to Webb's Tree Service for \$2,900 for the removal of seven trees in the Town Green and Court Square. Seeley seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 opposed. **MOTION PASSED.**

**8.b. Recommendation on Bid Award for Pump Stations 3 & 9 Force Main Improvements**

Werner said this project involves realigning the Force Main for Pump Stations #3 and 9 to improve pumping capacity during times of high flows. He said consulting engineers Aldrich and Elliot had estimated a cost of \$23,000, and are recommending awarding the bid to the only bidder, Champlain Construction Company.

Asermily moved to award a contract to Champlain Construction Company, Inc. for \$21,286.49 for the Pump Station 3 & 9 Force Main Improvement Project. Seeley seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

**8.c. Recommendation on Top-Coat Sealer for Water Reservoir**

Werner said he is requesting the Board awarded a contract to G.S. Bolton to apply a top coat of TAMOSEAL to the cover of the reservoir to seal small cracks discovered during the initial cleaning of the concrete. He said the consulting engineers recommend this spray-on, breathable concrete product because it will prevent water from penetrating into the material, but allow trapped moisture to evaporate out. The estimate from the engineers was \$5/sq. ft., and Bolton's bid was for \$4.50/sq. ft. which is \$59,935.50 for the application of two coats of TAMOSEAL. He said this seal will be good for at least 10 years.

Asermily made the motion to award a contract to G.S. Bolton under the Sole Source provision of the Town Procurement Policy for the application of a top-coat sealer to the Town reservoir cover, for a total cost of \$59,935.50. Seeley seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**



374 **8.d. Recommendation on Purchase of Trailer for Water Department**

375  
376 Werner said this request is to purchase a trailer for the Water Department to haul their trench  
377 box and equipment to sites. He said Director of Public Works Operations received two bids  
378 and they are recommending awarding the bid to G. Stone Commercial for \$10,280.25.

379  
380 Seeley made the motion to award the contract to G. Stone Commercial Division for the  
381 purchase of a Hydraulic Tilt Deckover Trailer for the Water Department at a total cost of  
382 \$10,280.25. Nuovo seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.

383 **MOTION PASSED.**

384  
385 **9. Energy Committee Chair Ross Conrad, regarding the Middlebury Renewable**  
386 **Energy Policy Proposal - POSTPONED.**

387  
388 **10. Personnel Committee Recommendations Regarding Administrative Staffing of the**  
389 **Parks & Recreation Department and Formalizing the Employment Agreement with the**  
390 **Downtown Bridge & Rail Project Community Liaison**

391  
392 Asermily said the Committee endorsed Bill Kernan's recommendation not to backfill the Parks  
393 & Recreation Director position vacated earlier this year and instead create a Deputy Director  
394 position, which the Committee renamed "Parks & Recreation Superintendent" to be  
395 consistent with the level in the organization chart for that type of position, and to be on par  
396 with the Wastewater Superintendent job title. She said they still have a full-time Program  
397 Director, but agreed to the recommendation to reduce administrative staffing by a .5 Full-  
398 Time Equivalent (FTE) position.

399  
400 Seeley questioned how this worked with the Union, and Ramsay said that Superintendents  
401 are not in the Union due to their input in the hiring and firing process of employees. Seeley  
402 said the Recreation Department is doing a great job with all the programs and events they  
403 offered, so was concerned about making the Recreation Department shorthanded. Ramsay  
404 said that would be carefully analyzed going forward and since the Parks Department has  
405 been expanded, the thought is this position might be utilized more by the Parks Department.

406  
407 Seeley made the motion to approve the proposed restructuring of the Parks & Recreation  
408 Department administrative staff, including the establishment of a Parks & Recreation  
409 Superintendent position and the elimination of the Assistant Program Coordinator position.  
410 Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION**  
411 **PASSED.**

412  
413 Asermily said they approved a formal employment agreement drafted by Kathleen Ramsay  
414 for Community Liaison Jim Gish. She said this is part of the implementation of a VTrans  
415 funding grant, approved by the Board in the spring, which reclassified Gish's position from  
416 part-time contracted employee to full-time Town of Middlebury employee for the duration of  
417 the Bridge & Rail Project. She said this agreement memorializes the terms of Gish's  
418 employment, including his wage rate (funded by VTrans) and agreed-upon benefits.

420 Seeley made the motion to approve the proposed Employment Agreement with Bridge & Rail  
421 Project Community Liaison Jim Gish. Fuentes-George seconded the motion. The motion  
422 carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

423

424 Carpenter said that Gish waived some of his benefits when it was discovered that with his  
425 salary, some of the benefits exceeded the amount budgeted for the position, so this also  
426 memorializes the waiver of some of these benefits.

427

428 **11. Updated Municipal Policies & Codes as required for Vermont Community**  
429 **Development Program Funding for the**  
430 **Lindale Mobile Home Park Septic Planning Project**

431

432 Ramsay said in December 2017, the Board endorsed a grant application proposed by  
433 Addison County Community Trust (ACCT) to fund a community septic system for the Lindale  
434 Mobile Home Park and authorized a local match. She said one of the conditions of the grant  
435 award is the Town must sign the standard Municipal Policies and Codes required by the  
436 Vermont Community Development Program. She said by signing the agreement, the Town  
437 attests to its compliance with various State and Federal statutes and policies in the areas of  
438 Equal Employment Opportunity, Fair Housing, Use of Excessive Force, Federal Lobbying,  
439 Code of Ethics for Public Officials and a Drug-Free Workplace.

440

441 Asermily made the motion to approve the Vermont Community Development Program  
442 Municipal Policies and Codes for grant funding for the Lindale Mobile Home Park Septic  
443 Planning Project. Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.  
444 **MOTION CARRIED.**

445

446 **12. Designation of Town Representative to the Vermont Community Leadership**  
447 **Summit – “Making it Happen – Local Leadership for the Future of Vermont**  
448 **Communities”**

449

450 Carpenter said in Ramsay’s Town Manager’s report at the Board’s last meeting, she noted  
451 the Vermont Council on Rural Development has invited the Selectboard to designate a local  
452 leader to participate in the Vermont Community Leadership Summit – “Making it Happen”  
453 Local Leadership for the Future of Vermont Communities – free of charge. He said Board  
454 members Farhad Khan and Lindsey Fuentes-George have both expressed interest in  
455 attending this event on the Town’s behalf. Ramsay said the Town would get one free  
456 registration and could pay for the second one.

457

458 Seeley made the motion to designate Farhad Khan as the Town of Middlebury representative  
459 to the Vermont Leadership Summit at Castleton University on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and to have the  
460 Town pay for Lindsey Fuentes-George to also attend the Summit. Nuovo seconded the  
461 motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

462

463 **13. Approval of Check Warrants**

464

465 Fuentes-George moved to approve total expenditures in the amount of \$505,429.00,  
466 consisting of \$395,327.65 for accounts payable, and \$110,101.35 for payroll, for the period

467 August 1, 2018 through August 14, 2018. Asermily seconded the motion. The motion carried  
468 with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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#### **14. Town Manager's Report**

472 Ramsay said she was sorry to report that the Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge Sidewalk  
473 would not begin construction until sometime next spring, since we are still in the VTrans and  
474 Federal Highway Administration review phase, which has delayed being able to go out to bid  
475 until late in the fall.

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She said she was also sad to report that Middlebury did not get the VTrans grant funding this  
year for the Exchange Street sidewalk.

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#### **15. Board Member Concerns**

482 Asermily said the Front Porch Forum has had a lot on there about homelessness in  
483 Middlebury and she thought it was great how people could highlight all the services that are  
484 available out there. She said how fortunate we are to have Chief Hanley's experience and  
485 how he is aware of these trends. She said the Charter House is also going to opening earlier  
486 this year and are looking into being open year round and will be looking for funding support  
487 for this.

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Asermily also said there would be a discussion on opioids at the Congregational Church on  
September 30<sup>th</sup> and is an opportunity to have good dialogue on these issues.

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Asermily also mentioned how cold it had been in the conference room during the meeting and  
wondered if the Energy Committee might look at the electric bills and see if there is a way to  
lower them. She said maybe the air conditioning doesn't need to be this low.

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Seeley wanted to remind everyone to attend the Downtown Block Party Wednesday night.

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Artim said it had been a difficult summer for the Police Department with a high amount of  
injuries, so we want to thank them for working the extra hours and for their dedication, and  
also to thank their families for their understanding for the extra time they had to put in.

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Fuentes-George mentioned that author Patrick Phillips would be giving a talk at 2:00 p.m. on  
Wednesday on his book about purging of black residents from a county in George in the  
1910s.

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Carpenter asked Ramsay about the status of cleaning up the Blue Spruce Motel. Seeley said  
it had been mentioned in the Infrastructure Committee meeting and the consensus was it was  
held up in insurance. Ramsay will get information and report at the next meeting. Carpenter  
said there were also a couple of properties on Court Street whose lawns are not mowed.

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#### **Adjournment.**

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513 The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. upon motion by Seeley, seconded by Asermily.

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515 The next regular meeting of the Middlebury Selectboard will be on Tuesday, August 28, 2018  
516 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Offices at 77 Main Street.

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518 Respectfully submitted,

519 Beth Dow