

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47

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

DRAFT

Subject to approval by the Selectboard

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 23rd, 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.

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

51
52 Jim Gish said he'd discussed this with Kubricky, and they're going to throttle back on
53 construction around 3:30, particularly on Friday. Seeley asked if it would be possible to
54 produce some postcards to go in the movie packets the people get, explaining the project
55 and maybe direct them to the story boards.

56
57 Dan Brown, representing the Town Hall Theater, wanted to introduce the Selectboard to Mark
58 Bradley, the new Executive Director of Town Hall Theater, who would be replacing Doug
59 Anderson who will now become the Artistic Director of the Theater. Bradley said he was
60 happy to be here in such a beautiful community.

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

62
63
64 Carpenter reported that Mary Cullinane and Stacey Rainey, of Community Barn Ventures,
65 met with him following the July 31st meeting and said they understood the concern about two
66 committee members from one business having multiple votes on the Economic Health
67 Committee. So rather than detract from the work or give the appearance of them having
68 more weight in the outcome, Rainey volunteered to step down as a member of the
69 Committee, although she does want to serve on another committee sometime in the future.

70
71 Carpenter said the Board would need to vote on accepting Rainey's resignation, and in the
72 past when a committee member resigns, the Board will appoint the 1st alternate on the
73 committee to fill that position.

74
75 Nuovo made the motion to accept Stacey Rainey's resignation from the Economic Health
76 Committee with gratitude. Asermily seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor,
77 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**

78
79 Seeley made the motion to appoint John Freidin as a full member of the Economic Health
80 Committee. Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.
81 **MOTION PASSED.**

82
83 Carpenter said the Economic Health Committee will be coming back to the Board for
84 clarification and some suggestions regarding the Charge, about possibly extending the
85 timeline and requesting a small budget. Carpenter said he has suggested he attend their
86 next Committee meeting on August 30th, along with Heather Seeley, who Chaired the
87 Economic Health Task Force and the currently Chairs the Infrastructure Committee. He
88 thought it might benefit the Committee to have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with
89 them about some of the issues.

90

91
92
93
94

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

95 Aaron Guyette reviewed the plans for returning Merchants Row to two-way and a plan for
96 leaving Merchants Row one-way following the completion of the Bridge & Rail Project. He
97 said the two-way plan allows for 40 parking spaces, and the one-way plan allows for 47
98 parking spaces and shows grassed bump-out areas to define the parking and crosswalks.
99

100 Carpenter asked if the fire trucks would be able to maneuver the turn into the Battell Block
101 driveway, and Guyette thought they could. Nuovo asked what needed to be done to have
102 wider sidewalks on the south side to make the area more desirable for businesses that might
103 want to open a restaurant and have outside seating. Guyette said they could gain around 10
104 feet by changing some of the angle parking on the north side to parallel parking, and that
105 would allow them to widen a portion of the sidewalk on the south side, but it would mean the
106 loss of around 7 parking spaces. He said you could also have wider sidewalks with the two-
107 way option as well, but you would lose the parking spaces on the north side of the street.
108 Seeley asked how widening the sidewalks would impact the budget, since the project only
109 needs to replace what was there. Guyette said he didn't feel it was a large enough change to
110 impact the budget, since you're increasing concrete for sidewalks, but using less pavement.
111

112 Seeley said the Infrastructure Committee had endorsed the one-way option at their August 9,
113 2018 meeting, but did have concerns about snow-removal with the bump-outs and the
114 parallel parking spaces on the hill by Town Hall Theater. Guyette said he could investigate
115 bump-out options that would make snow removal easier.
116

117 Dan Brown said he would encourage the wider sidewalk to provide outside options for these
118 businesses. Mark Bradley agreed that the loss of a few spaces was worth having the wider,
119 more pedestrian friendly sidewalks.
120

121 Asermily asked if there would be any advantage to having a few parallel parking spaces by
122 Battell Block. Guyette said potentially there was an advantage, and he'd also heard someone
123 suggest removing the mid-block crosswalk and you could pick up a few more parking spaces.
124 Asermily said it's a very busy area and wouldn't recommend removing the crosswalk, but
125 Guyette said if it was only one-way and narrower, you could get away without a mid-block
126 crosswalk.
127

128 Adam Schafer asked why this was proposed as one-way up the street and not one-way down
129 into the downtown. Guyette said it was because of safety concerns of traffic turning left from
130 Merchants Row onto Main Street.
131

132 Sue Bourdon said that the problem with the one-way is people get lost and they don't know
133 how to get back down to Main Street, so they just drive out of town and she believes that's
134 why businesses are closing. Adam Schafer agreed that we're losing all the tourists and that's
135 why places are closing, and feels it would be an "economic disaster" to make Merchants Row
136 one-way.
137

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

209 **7. Director of Planning & Zoning Jen Murray with Information on** 210 **Purpose, Timeline & Funding for Downtown Master Planning Project**

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

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

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

231
232

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

279

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

324
325 Murray thanked the Board and said their input had been helpful.

326
327

328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368
369
370
371
372
373
374

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.**

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

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

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

382 **MOTION PASSED.**

383

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

386

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

390

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

398

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

405

406 Seeley made the motion to approve the proposed restructuring of the Parks & Recreation
407 Department administrative staff, including the establishment of a Parks & Recreation
408 Superintendent position and the elimination of the Assistant Program Coordinator position.

409 Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION**
410 **PASSED.**

411

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

418

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

422

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

426
427 **11. Updated Municipal Policies & Codes as required for Vermont Community**
428 **Development Program Funding for the**
429 **Lindale Mobile Home Park Septic Planning Project**
430

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

439
440 Asermily made the motion to approve the Vermont Community Development Program
441 Municipal Policies and Codes for grant funding for the Lindale Mobile Home Park Septic
442 Planning Project. Artim seconded the motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent.
443 **MOTION CARRIED.**
444

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

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

456
457 Seeley made the motion to designate Farhad Khan as the Town of Middlebury representative
458 to the Vermont Leadership Summit at Castleton University on October 1st, and to have the
459 Town pay for Lindsey Fuentes-George to also attend the Summit. Nuovo seconded the
460 motion. The motion carried with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION PASSED.**
461

462 **13. Approval of Check Warrants**
463

464 Fuentes-George moved to approve total expenditures in the amount of \$505,429.00,
465 consisting of \$395,327.65 for accounts payable, and \$110,101.35 for payroll, for the period
466 August 1, 2018 through August 14, 2018. Asermily seconded the motion. The motion carried
467 with 6 in favor, 1 absent. **MOTION CARRIED.**
468

469 **14. Town Manager’s Report**
470

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

475
476 She said she was also sad to report that Middlebury did not get the VTrans grant funding this
477 year for the Exchange Street sidewalk.

478
479 **15. Board Member Concerns**

480
481 Asermily said the Front Porch Forum has had a lot on there about homelessness in
482 Middlebury and she thought it was great how people could highlight all the services that are
483 available out there. She said how fortunate we are to have Chief Hanley's experience and
484 how he is aware of these trends. She said the Charter House is also going to opening earlier
485 this year and are looking into being open year round and will be looking for funding support
486 for this.

487
488 Asermily also said there would be a discussion on opioids at the Congregational Church on
489 September 30th and is an opportunity to have good dialogue on these issues.

490
491 Asermily also mentioned how cold it had been in the conference room during the meeting and
492 wondered if the Energy Committee might look at the electric bills and see if there is a way to
493 lower them. She said maybe the air conditioning doesn't need to be this low.

494
495 Seeley wanted to remind everyone to attend the Downtown Block Party Wednesday night.

496
497 Artim said it had been a difficult summer for the Police Department with a high amount of
498 injuries, so we want to thank them for working the extra hours and for their dedication, and
499 also to thank their families for their understanding for the extra time they had to put in.

500
501 Fuentes-George mentioned that author Patrick Phillips would be giving a talk at 2:00 p.m. on
502 Wednesday on his book about purging of black residents from a county in George in the
503 1910s.

504
505 Carpenter asked Ramsay about the status of cleaning up the Blue Spruce Motel. Seeley said
506 it had been mentioned in the Infrastructure Committee meeting and the consensus was it was
507 held up in insurance. Ramsay will get information and report at the next meeting. Carpenter
508 said there were also a couple of properties on Court Street whose lawns are not mowed.

509
510 **Adjournment.**

511
512 The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. upon motion by Seeley, seconded by Asermily.

513
514 The next regular meeting of the Middlebury Selectboard will be on Tuesday, August 28, 2018
515 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Offices at 77 Main Street.

516
517 Respectfully submitted,
518 Beth Dow