

**BRATTLEBORO SELECTBOARD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015
SPECIAL MEETING – 5:30PM
MINUTES**

Selectboard members present: David Gartenstein, Kate O'Connor, David Schoales, John Allen, and Donna Macomber.

Staff present: Town Manager Peter Elwell, Assistant Town Manager Patrick Moreland, Planning Director Rod Francis, and Executive Secretary Jan Anderson.

Media present: Tim Johnson representing WTSA.

Others present: Deborah Lazar and BCTV staff and volunteers.

Chair Gartenstein called the meeting to order at 5:30pm in the Selectboard meeting room in the Municipal Center. He confirmed that the meeting was officially warned.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

SELECTBOARD COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Schoales asked the Town Manager to instruct staff to lower the flags to half-mast at Town buildings as ordered by the Governor in memory of Lara Sobel, the DCF employee who was recently shot.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Our Town Grant – Review Screening Committee Recommendations and Determine Finalists. Elwell provided the Board with an update on the status of the NEA Our Town Grant and he reviewed the work of the Screening Committee. He said that the Screening Committee met on July 31 to review 34 proposals and then prepared a list with 12 artists that the Committee recommended as finalists for further development of their projects. He said that subsequently it was determined that an additional proposal from Deborah Lazar had been received in time but due to confusion with e-mails the proposal was not provided to the Screening Committee. He said that the Committee met again on August 6 to review and discuss the Lazar proposal that had been inadvertently omitted from the original set of proposals. He said that the Committee voted not to add the Lazar proposal to the list of recommendations by a vote of 3 to 2. Deborah Lazar was present and introduced herself and provided the Board with a history of her art work. She discussed her portrait proposal and asked that the Board add her proposal to the list of finalists. When asked by the Board, Planning Director Francis summarized the concerns of the Committee about the Lazar proposal. There was some discussion by the Board.

MOTION BY DAVID SCHOALES TO DECLARE AS FINALISTS FOR THE PUBLIC ARTS PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE “OUR TOWN” GRANT THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE FOLLOWING REGISTRANTS LISTED (SCOT BOROFKY (MURAL), CHRIS CHAPMAN, JEANNE-MARIE EAYRS, YETTI FRENKEL, JONATHAN GITTELSON, LIZ LAVORGNA, TESS LINDSAY, MICHEL MOYSE, ANDY REICHSMAN, BRENDA SIEGEL, DAN SNOW, AND ANDY WASSERMAN) WITH THE ADDITION OF DEBORAH LAZAR’S PORTRAIT PROPOSAL. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Award Bid – Green Street Retaining Wall. Elwell said that three bids were received in response to an RFP for the demolition and reconstruction of the Green Street retaining wall. He said that the low bidder misread the RFP and that change orders would have to be added to the bid in order to complete the project as intended. He said that the other two bids were substantially higher than projected. He recommended that all of the bids be rejected and another RFP issued with an extended timeline. He said

that the Public Works Department stabilized the wall so a delay to the reconstruction would not create a danger to the public. There was some discussion by the Board.

MOTION BY KATE O’CONNOR TO REJECT ALL BIDS RECEIVED FOR THE GREEN STREET RETAINING WALL PROJECT AND RE-BID THE PROJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE PROPOSED BY HAMILTON HODGMAN OF STEVENS & ASSOCIATES IN HIS LETTER DATED AUGUST 7, 2015. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gartenstein announced that Barbara Holliday resigned from the Arts Committee so there was a vacancy on that committee. He said that other committees also had vacancies and he encouraged members of the public to apply to serve on a committee.

Gartenstein said that the Board would enter into executive session and that no decisions would be made in executive session and no further business would be conducted after the session.

MOTION BY DAVID GARTENSTEIN TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACTS, NEGOTIATING OR SECURING OF REAL ESTATE PURCHASE OR LEASE OPTIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS WHERE PREMATURE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE WOULD CLEARLY PLACE THE SELECTBOARD, THE TOWN, AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED AT A SUBSTANTIAL DISADVANTAGE. AT VARIOUS STAGES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND: [TOWN MANAGER] PETER ELWELL, [ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER] PATRICK MORELAND, [PLANNING DIRECTOR] ROD FRANCIS, [POLICE CHIEF] MIKE FITZGERALD, [POLICE CAPTAIN] MARK CARIGNAN, [FIRE CHIEF] MIKE BUCOSI, [ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF] PETER LYNCH, [TOWN ASSESSOR] RUSSELL RICE, [PROJECT MANAGER] STEVE HORTON AND [ARCHITECT] RAY GIOLITTO. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Gartenstein reconvene the meeting at 8:35pm. There was no further business.

MOTION BY DONNA MACOMBER TO ADJOURN AT 8:35PM. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

David Schoales, Clerk