

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST



Volume XXVII—Number Two

November/December 2016

The P.W. McCoy Corporation by Gary Ann Lewis



GARY ANN LEWIS

Twenty years ago Patrick McCoy built a home on Bliss Road, where he has lived ever since with his wife, Margaret, and their two sons, Jackson and Jacob. He's a lifelong Vermonter who has always lived here except for one year in Arizona as a young man. He realized he didn't want to stay there and came back to Vermont where he knew he belonged.

Patrick started The Real McCoy Painting Company in 1998. His first big job was with a small crew painting First in Fitness in Berlin. Soon, the business started to shift. With a 1940 Ford 9N tractor equipped with a blade and a little bush hog, he started doing tractor work at his own place, picking up small jobs on the side. In 1999, he bought a Kubota tractor and gradually went full-time into just tractor work. "I plunged in

and bought a 4-wheel drive tractor and started rototilling gardens, bush-hogging, and repairing driveways. I started building a clientele." He changed the name of the business to the P.W. McCoy Corporation. He says, "The big change in my business came when I went to an auction and bought an excavator. Today my work is 60 percent excavation and 40 percent tractor." In addition to working for the Vermont Council on Rural Development, Margaret Gibson McCoy keeps the books for P.W. McCoy.

Thirteen years ago Patrick was injured and hired Robert Dutil who still works for him today. He has also hired local kids from the high school in their junior or senior year. "My business has evolved and I feel blessed. I never have to advertise except in the *Signpost*. Almost all my work is within a 15-mile radius; it's word-of-mouth, mostly. I also get recommendations on Front Porch Forum which is really nice. People say, 'So and so just gave you for a reference. It's small Vermont.'"

"Spring is my busiest time. I call it my 'manic spring.' I'm doing estimates and delivering a lot of material. The jobs range from half-day to two weeks. Lots of small jobs: hauling bark mulch, garden mix, and compost, repairing driveways, bush-hogging fields, and building and maintaining trails. A lot of land improvement. I really like sculpting the land—it's my art work." Other work he does includes site work for sheds and garages, lawn installation, digging for underground utility lines and propane tanks, building soccer fields and basketball courts,

McCoy, continued on page 8

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Top of the *Signpost*

Autumn in East Montpelier can't be beat. I've been taking advantage of the good weather to experience the extensive East Montpelier trails system. It's been many years since I've used the trails, and most I've never hiked before. While I've been reading for years in the *Signpost* about the extensive work that East Montpelier Trails, Inc. has been carrying on, I had no notion about the amount and extent of that work and how wonderful the end results are.

My hat is off to the dedicated, civic minded volunteers who have worked for decades to acquire rights-of-way and conservation easements, and to create a terrific recreational asset for our town. I am in awe of the many sturdy bridges, stone and wooden steps, culverts, boardwalks across swampy areas, and many water diversion structures that all go into creating sustainable way for all of us to enjoy the nature that surrounds us while protecting the habitat itself.

As I write this, I'm hoping for several more weeks of good hiking weather, and then perhaps further exploration of the trails on skis or snow shoes.

Check out these phenomenal trails at <http://emtrails.org/>. You'll find maps, history, and opportunities for volunteering. Enjoy.

—Edie Miller is a Signpost volunteer who vows to spend less time on her computer in favor of more time on East Montpelier's terrific trails.



Habitat for Humanity Continues Work in East Montpelier

Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity recently had a big boost as an eight-member AmeriCorps crew (AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region Class 22- Buffalo 4) spent 5 weeks working diligently on its two projects in East Montpelier and Orange.

The low-energy Passive House Habitat for Humanity project in East Montpelier is supervised by Bruce Landry of 5 Star Energy Tech and Chris Miksic of Montpelier Construction. Landry and Miksic worked beside the AmeriCorps crew, instructing and guiding with passive home-building techniques. The crew will spend

their last month of service in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, helping with flood relief.

The East Montpelier Habitat for Humanity project will continue interior work this season and is looking for more community members to join our volunteer crew. Please contact Debbie Goodwin to sign up: cvhfh.execdir@outlook.com or 802-522-8611.



Rendering: Habitat South

Selectboard Reconvenes Charter Committee

This summer, the East Montpelier Selectboard reconvened its Charter Committee, which was first constituted in 2013. The committee's work of that period culminated in the town's first charter which was affirmed by the voters at the 2014 Town Meeting and ratified by the Vermont Legislature that spring.

The committee's makeup mirrors that of the original group: Richard Brock, Ed Deegan, Michael Duane, Carl Etnier, Norman Hill, Richard Mastelli, Edie Miller, Jack Pauly, Julie Potter, and Kim Watson. Karen Gramer recused herself from the current work of the committee since it involves a position she currently holds.

The Selectboard has asked the committee to consider the inclusion of three items in the charter: 1) the appointment of town clerk, 2) the appointment of delinquent tax collector, and 3) the basic property tax guidelines now voted on in town meeting each year.

The committee is proceeding with its work by researching how other Vermont towns are dealing with these issues, by

interviewing representatives from other towns who have made these changes, and by talking with current and past municipal office holders in East Montpelier. The committee's recommendation will be guided by the following goals:

- to help the Selectboard more effectively exercise its ultimate responsibility for town affairs;
- to solve problems that the town currently has, has had in the past, or might have in the future;
- to be consistent with democratic control, particularly observing the principle of checks and balances;
- to avoid or minimize unintended consequences from modifications;
- to include changes that can be accomplished only through a charter;
- to keep the charter simple.

The committee is planning to submit its recommendation to the Selectboard by early December. Meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the municipal office and are open to the public.

—Edie Miller is chair of the EM Charter Committee



Tax Day is Coming: More Ways to Pay

East Montpelier taxpayers are able to process current or delinquent property tax payments online. It is important, however, that computer users understand just how the online system works.

All payments will be applied to the oldest outstanding tax first. Using a credit or debit card incurs a fee based on the type of card being used—often 3 percent of the total payment. Paying with an eCheck incurs a flat fee of \$1.50. The Town does not charge or receive compensation for your use of this service.

Before beginning the process, make sure you have the following information:

- The parcel number and the street address related to the payment you are making.
- The amount (\$) you are paying.
- The name listed on the card, card account number, expiration date, and the security code on the back of the card.
- For eCheck: the name(s) on the account, routing number, account number, account type (checking or savings) and account class (business or personal)

Start the process by going to the East Montpelier website at eastmontpeliervt.org and follow the instructions at the bottom of the home page.

The NOBLE system offers a very handy option in its payment process. If you are using a credit card, the NOBLE payment system automatically offers the option of using another form of payment (i.e., a debit card or payment by eCheck). At that stage, NOBLE will indicate the "savings" (reduction in the processing fee) you could incur by using an alternative form of payment besides a credit card.

If you have questions before or after making a payment, please call the Town Office at 802-223-3313. Otherwise, during the payment process, use the NOBLE online help service.

All payments, other than property taxes, must be made by cash or check. For questions please call Don Welch, East Montpelier Treasurer at 802-223-3313 ext 207.

—Don Welch is East Montpelier treasurer

Selectboard Adopts Amendments to the EM Traffic Ordinance

On October 3, 2016, the Selectboard voted to amend the town's traffic ordinance. The main change is the lowering of the speed limit to 25 mph on Center Road through the East Montpelier Center village area. Other changes include reorganizing the stop and yield sign section along with adding a number of stop intersections, mainly where Class 3 roads enter Class 2 roads, such as County, Center, and Towne Hill Roads. The board also enhanced the parking regulations by increasing the number of no-parking zones as well as adding specific handicap parking protections, penalties, and a formal appeal process.

The adoption of amendments triggers a 44-day window for town residents to petition for a town vote on the question of disapproving the amendments. A petition, signed by 5 percent of the town's voters, must be submitted to the town clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. If no petition is filed, the amended ordinance takes effect on Thursday, December 2, 2016.

—Bruce Johnson is the East Montpelier town administrator

Planning Commission Continues Work on Village Master Plan

The Rally for the Village on September 10 brought dozens of community residents to the Hangar Building and Cross Vermont Trail in the morning, and even more for a cookout lunch on the Village Green in the afternoon. As part of our year-long efforts to develop a Village Master Plan, the Planning Commission sponsored the Rally for the Village this year as a fun way to bring folks to East Montpelier Village, to learn about its history, and to explore what it offers today.

Currently, the Planning Commission is digesting all the public comments from the Oct. 20 Open House on village boundaries and new village zoning areas, as well as on a vision of what the Village should look like in the future. Building on what we learned from the Open House, the PC is moving forward with preparing a Village Master Plan, including details for future zoning in the Village. Look for a draft plan in spring.



TERRY ALLEN

Lazar Solar Project Approved by the Public Service Board

A 500kw solar project, proposed last November, was approved by the Public Service Board in September. It will be located on the Cassani property located behind several Route 2 residences on a field known as the "lupine meadow."

The Planning Commission raised concerns about aesthetics and orderly development. Our Town Plan clearly identifies our goal to develop the village for residential and business uses. The PSB disagreed, saying the statements in the Town Plan were not sufficiently specific about this particular area. The applicant agreed to most of the PC's requests for landscaping.

—Jean Vissering is chair of the Planning Commission

Change in Town Clerk's Office

As many of you know, we've had a recent turnover in the East Montpelier Town Clerk position, the town's most visible office. After a decade on the job, Town Clerk Terri Conti stepped down as of September 1, 2016. In her words:

It is with deep regret that I submit my resignation as Town Clerk to be effective September 1, 2016. I feel that due to my continuing health issues, I am no longer able to carry out and fulfill the duties as Town Clerk. This decision comes after much consideration, especially for a position that I love for a town that I love.

On August 31st numerous residents attended an open house at the town office to thank Terri for her years of service.

On September 7, 2016 the East Montpelier Selectboard appointed CJ Flynn, an ardent community volunteer, as the town's new clerk. As an appointee, CJ's term will expire on 2017 Town Meeting Day, March 7, 2017. The final year on Terri's original 3-year term will be up for election on that date. CJ started on the job September 22, stepping right into his leadership role as early voting began for the most intriguing election, at all levels, that we've had in some time.

—Bruce Johnson is the East Montpelier town administrator

Town Offices

PO Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651

Phone: 802-223-3313

Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9 AM–5 PM

Friday 9 AM–12 PM

Town Clerk: CJ Flynn
eastmonttct@comcast.net

Town Treasurer: Don Welch
eastmonttr@comcast.net

Town/Zoning Administrator:
Bruce Johnson, eastmontadmin@comcast.net
Hours: Mon–Fri 9 AM–5 PM

Collector of Delinquent Taxes:
Karen Gramer, karengramer@comcast.net

Fire Permits: EMFD 225-6247

First Constable/Animal Control Officer:
Sandy Conti 479-3169

Assistant Animal Control Officer:
Elliott Morse 839-8723

Listers: Rob Chickering,
Ross Hazel, Chris Racanelli
223-3313 x206,
eastmontlstr@comcast.net

Health Officer: Dave Grundy 476-4300

Service Officer: Rachael Grossman 223-3177

Selectboard

Seth Gardner, Chair
sethbgardner@hotmail.com

Carl Etnier Gene Troia
Kimberly Swazey Casey Northrup

Planning Commission

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Richard Curtis, Chair
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Kari Bradley, kbradley@u32.org
Emily Goyette, egoyette@u32.org

Elementary School

Rubin Bennett, Chair
rubin@rbtechvt.com

Lindy Johnson Kimberly Kendall
Stephen Looke Flor Diaz-Smith

State Representative

Tony Klein, 793-6032
twk@tonyklein.com



East Montpelier Town Hall, 1950s.

East Montpelier Town Hall

In 1890 the men in East Village opted to build a new town hall. Shares of stock were sold for \$25 each. The two-story building was used for dances, theatre, school graduations, and town meetings. On the first floor was a kitchen and dining area. The second floor had a stage with a big painted curtain. One town resident who grew up in the village said the boys would go to the hall on Sunday mornings after the Saturday night dance and find enough returnable beer cans to trade at the store for soda and candy.

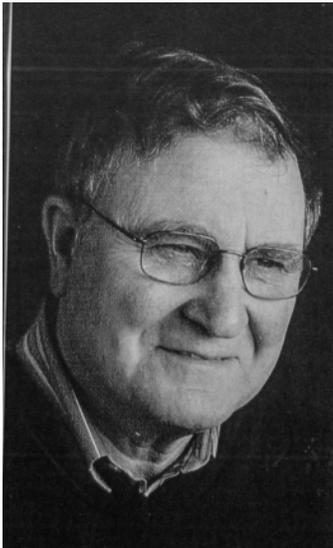
The hall was located on what is now a wooded lot on the east side of US Route 2, one house west of the cemetery entrance. Given the size of the lot it must have pretty well filled it.

One of the more interesting events held there was the Dudley Music Convention. Beginning in 1898 and continuing for thirty years, Charles F. Dudley held a two-day singing convention in January. He ran a music school where he taught singing to local residents. The events were advertised far and wide. People came from as far away as Boston to attend.

The building was demolished in 1966. Town meetings had been moved to the elementary school because there was no parking available at the old site. What happened to the painted curtain is unknown.

—David Coburn is a descendant of early East Montpelier settlers and a member of the EM Historical Society

John Hall: The Joy of Spinning a Tale



In 1954, at the beginning of my senior year in high school, my English teacher, Miss Wiley, bluntly told me, “You’ll never make it in college. You can’t write.” Consequently, she issued a challenging assignment: Write a one page paper every day and turn it in to me in the morning.

I gulped at her demand, believing I would fail because I’d been slighting school in favor of our small farm in Bennington. My dad had left to study for the ministry, leaving me at fourteen to run

the farm. I loved my responsibility.

So, writing for me came at first in the form of a threat of failure. As my senior year progressed toward spring, Miss Wiley took me aside and accused, “Lately, your papers are too good. They aren’t your work!” Instead of being an affront, her accusation was a backhanded compliment. All my submissions had been my own. When we bought the farm in East Montpelier, my writing took a hiatus for over forty years. In recent years, it’s been fun to spin and develop tales of fiction.

Publishing my first book came to me quite unplanned. I first wrote short stories for enjoyment, embellishing situations,

developing characters, and putting a spin on the details. Harold Tully, an old farmer, and his hired girl, Shirley Mason, are the main characters in my first novel. It languished, gathering dust on a bookshelf at home. Our daughter, Louisa, encouraged me to get in touch with Chris Noel, a local author and writing instructor. He worked with me as editor. Later on, at his suggestion, I called Susanna, his sister. With the guidance of both, and help from several for proofreading, I was able to publish *The West Window* in 2006. It sold well with a number of folks saying that they liked it so much they read it a second time. I must say I was humbled by its acceptance.

That effort was followed by *The Meadow* (2009) and *Cooner’s Bench* (2013). I’m currently working on a new novel, *Harmony Hill*. It’s about a year away from publication. It takes place in 1941 on a farm in the small Vermont town of Haysville.

The reader is introduced to the main character, Jubal Brown, fifteen, as he waits for his mother at the store in his folks’ truck. His friend, Maria Styles, arrives in her folks’ car which parks at the curb next to the Brown’s truck. Jubal is excited to see her, a girl he’s worked with earlier on a neighboring farm.

He slides over in the driver’s seat to say, “Hi.” Suddenly, he’s shocked. It isn’t Maria. Not the Maria he knows. Yet it is Maria. She stares out of vacant eyes—acts as if she doesn’t know him, and rolls up her window. What’s happened to her? Readers will discover the answer when reading *Harmony Hill*.

—John Hall is a retired farmer, an original owner of Fairmont Farms, and former East Montpelier selectman. He and his wife Donna live on Putnam Rd.



Colin McCaffrey entertains the crowds at the recent Rally for the Village event.

JULIE POTTER

Paulie's Recipe



Pauli Coburn and her husband, Dave, are students (and descendants) of early East Montpelier. She chooses recipes from the *Community Cookbook* which was published, probably in the 1930s (it is undated), by a women's group active in town. Pauli has tested each recipe and adds comments and hints occasionally.

Mincemeat recipes: one with meat, one without.

You could use the spices mentioned in the first one for the meatless one. (The spelling is as it was in the *Community Cook Book*.)

Mince Meat from Mrs. Lewis Coburn

3 lbs. lean beef
1/2 doz. lemons—grated rind of 2 each
1/2 lb. suet
1/2 package cinnamon
5 quarts chopped apples
1 tablespoon cloves
5 lbs. sugar, part maple if desired (1 use all maple)
1 tablespoon allspice
1 tablespoon nutmeg
3 lbs. raisins
3 lbs. currants
1/2 doz. oranges
1 pt. boil cider or more if desired
salt your meat well
cook all together well

Aunt Minnie's Meatless Mince Meat from Mrs. Burton Holt

2 qt. apple chopped
Piece of butter
1 package raisins ground
A little water
Brown sugar to suite taste
Any leftover jelly (if any)
Pinch of salt
All kinds of spice
Cook slowly one hour

VT Hunting and Trapping Dates

Big Game Hunting Seasons



- Sept. 1–Nov. 11: Early Bear
- Oct. 22–Nov. 6: Fall Turkey
- Nov. 5–Nov. 6: Youth Deer Weekend
- Nov. 12–Nov. 20: Late Black Bear
- Nov. 12–Nov. 27: Rifle Deer Season
- Dec. 3–Dec. 11: Muzzleloader Deer
- Dec. 3–Dec. 11: Archery Deer (split)

Upland Birds and Waterfowl Hunting Seasons



- Sept. 24–Dec. 31: Ruffed Grouse (Partridge)
- Oct. 1–Nov. 14: Woodcock and Common Snipe
- Oct. 4–Dec. 27: Snow Geese (includes blue geese)
- Oct. 4–Nov. 6: Canada Geese
- Oct. 4–Nov. 6: Ducks, Coots, Mergansers



Small Game Hunting

- August 19–Dec. 19: Crow
- Sept. 1–Dec. 31: Gray Squirrel
- Sept. 24–March 31: Rabbit & Hare



Furbearer Hunting

- Oct. 8–Dec. 31: Raccoon
- Oct. 22–Feb. 12: Red & Gray Fox

Furbearer Trapping

- Oct. 22–Feb. 28: Otter 2016-17
- Oct. 22–March 31: Muskrat 2016-17
- Oct. 22–March 31: Beaver 2016-17
- Oct. 22–Dec. 31: Mink, Skunk, Red & Gray Fox, Raccoon, Coyote, Opossum, Weasel
- Dec. 1–Dec. 16: Bobcat
- Dec. 1–Dec. 31: Fisher



TERRY ALLEN

Ananda Gardens



Remember the old days when the milkman delivered milk to your doorstep? Those days are long gone, but here in East Montpelier you can have produce delivered right to your door! Meet Patrick Sullivan and Melisa Oliva of Ananda Gardens. Patrick and Melisa moved here

in June with their two-year-old daughter, Ananda. They grow gourmet organic produce, cut flowers, and grafted fruit trees on one acre of land. They offer a CSA (community supported agriculture) as well as home delivery.

Melisa and Patrick met in El Salvador where Patrick was working through a Northeast Organic Farming Association farmer-to-farmer exchange. They moved back to Vermont because, as we all know, it's the best place to raise children.

They garden on a relatively small scale. Patrick tells us that to do so requires fertile soil, knowledge, and the right tools. Their initial investment was garden tools, a two-wheeled biodiesel tractor, a greenhouse, and deer fencing.

Patrick's advice for anyone wanting to start a vegetable farm is start small and don't get in over your head. Find what you love to do and do it.

In addition to raising produce, Melisa developed a line of body care products. Years ago, Patrick kept bee hives. He saved the beeswax from those hives and Melisa uses it as a base for

her products. Patrick can attest to its effectiveness on his dry hands. Ananda loves her mother's salves and holds out her hands saying, "Mists, mists."

Patrick and Melisa prepare their produce with high quality oils, butter, salt, and a few herbs. They keep it simple so that they can taste the different flavors and textures. This summer they have been sautéing eggplants in olive oil. Thinly slice the eggplant and soak it in salty water for 5-10 minutes. Heat the olive oil in a skillet and brown the eggplants. Then enjoy!

If you'd like to learn more about Ananda Gardens, visit their website, www.anandagardens.com, or email them at info@anandagardens.com. You can also arrange a visit. They love what they do and love sharing it with their community.



—Rachael Grossman is the coordinator of East Montpelier Eats for the Signpost

McCoy, continued from page 1

and brook restoration among other things. "And if I'm not the right fit for the job, I give referrals when I can. I like small jobs and meeting people. I have a sense of completion working for myself. I feel I have a spiritual connection through my job. People go to church, partly for a sense of community; my work connecting with people is my sense of community."

Patrick goes on to say, "I love Vermont—the seasons always changing. In November I shut down my business. I love to hunt. I go in the woods and get quiet time. It's a nice transition. I plow in the winter. Last year with no snow was my worst plow season. This year I'm hoping for better."

Patrick has always coached basketball. His son, Jackson, is in his first year of college, and Patrick coached his team through

all the grades. Jacob is in the 8th grade, and Patrick coaches his AAU team from February to May. Besides hunting, coaching keeps him busy in the winter months.

It is obvious that the McCoy's are the real thing when it comes to dedication to their family and helping to keep Vermont this wonderful place that we all cherish so dearly.

P.S. I want to reveal that my husband and I have recently had our driveway refurbished by Patrick and his very capable assistant, Robert. They had to remove a culvert underneath our driveway, and we were unable to go down for only a very brief period of time. It is indeed a work of art and our driveway has been restored and improved.

—Gary Ann Lewis lives on Haggett Rd. with her husband David

Thank you, *Signpost* supporters

Teresa Doyle & Chris Reed, Nancy & David Couch

Town Weathervane

MILESTONES

Births

- Kobe Kruz Sevigny, son, June 20, 2016, to Nicole & Michael Sevigny
- Cobie Ella Minor, daughter, June 22, 2016, to Stephanie & Christopher Minor
- Josiah Daniel Bair, son, July 13, 2016, to Leila & Daniel Bair
- Audrey-Rose Frost, daughter, Aug. 12, 2016, to Brittany Raymond & Brandon Frost

Marriages

- Jessica Hutchins & Craig Premont, July 5, 2016
- Crystal Sayers & Kevin Williams, Aug. 17, 2016
- Ashley White & Dustin Eckhardt, Aug. 20, 2016
- Deborah Austin & James Lacourse, Aug. 20, 2016

Land transfers

- Laura Rappold & Shawn Kasulka to Devon & Ross Mroczek, single family dwelling & 3.06 acres, Capt. Kidd Rd
- David & Elaine Hudson to Shawn Kasulka, single family dwelling & 1.1 acres, North St
- Matthew Krauss to Benjamin Lange & Petra Halsema, single family dwelling & 10.11 acres, Sparrow Farm Rd
- Elliot Kaiman & Alison Brodhagen to Kathlyn Ruddle & Micah Ball, 7.0 acres open land, Jacobs Rd
- Michelle Walker to Todd Mackay, single family dwelling & 1.6 acres, Horn of the Moon Rd
- Larry & Barbara Floersch to Jeffrey & Ann Melin, single family dwelling & 14.8 acres, Center Rd
- Michael & Patricia Hambro to Andrew & Martha Ribolini, single family dwelling & 4.4 acres, Murray Rd
- Foster Rd LLC to Seth & Natalie Chapell, single family dwelling & 27.6 acres, Foster Rd
- Emily & Levi Leighty to Joshua & Marie Bernier, single family dwelling & 5.6 acres, Stoney Corners Rd
- Patricia Antoinette Alexa Trust to Brooke MacDonald & Andrew Morse, single family dwelling & 3.2 acres, Brazier Rd
- Jessica Crotty to Linda Dole, mobile home, Sandy Pines Rd
- Anna Towne to Anna Towne & Ronald Baker, single family dwelling & 3.0 acres, Sibley Rd

East Montpelier Selectboard

August 1, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to set the 2016/17 residential tax rate at 2.5509 and the non-resident rate at 2.2198
- to recall the East Montpelier Charter Committee with a charge to consider the appointment of a town clerk, the appointment of a delinquent tax collector, and the basic property tax guidelines which are not voted on in town meeting
- to waive the homestead declaration late filing penalty
- to approve the use of \$2,859.49 from the capital reserve fund to pay for the minor renovation of the Templeton Road fire station
- to approve Access Permit 16-036 for Duane Wells on East Hill Rd

August 15, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to dissolve the Special Bridge and Culvert Fund since its use is part of the Capital Fund

- to enter executive session to discuss the employment of a public officer
- to accept the resignation of Town Clerk, Terri Conti, effective September 1, 2016, with great thanks for her years of service to the town
- to appoint Sandal Cate to the Funding Request Study Committee
- to authorize Town Administrator Bruce Johnson to sign the contract with Stone Environmental Wastewater to test the soil at the Laperle farm for suitability for soil-based water treatment
- to allow the \$398,800-increase in E.E. Packard Inc. property assessment for FY17
- discussed the recommendation to dissolve Fire District #1 and/or to merge it with the Town since negotiations to purchase Crystal Springs Water System have reached a standstill

August 29, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to authorize Town Administrator Johnson to complete the agreement to authorize ECI construction company to utilize the LaPerle farmhouse parcel as a staging area for its construction operation this fall as they work on the village bridge project
- to authorize the expenditure of up to \$1,000 for the proposed excavator services on the conditions that the contractor install a new town-supplied cross-culvert at the proper depth, in the agreed upon location on the Kaiman property on Jacobs Road, and that all work in the town's road right-of-way be overseen by East Montpelier Road Foreman, Mike Garand, and in accordance with the town's road and bridge standards
- to authorize Chair Gardner to sign the October 1 to March 31, 2017 contract for services from the Vermont State Police
- to authorize the Charter Committee to expend up to \$1,700 with hourly rate capped at \$100 for legal services
- to accept the October 10, 2016 Conservation Summit event facilitation proposal at the flat fee of \$975 from Cindy Cook of Adamant Accord, Inc.
- to approve the special liquor license for September 18, 2016 as requested by Caledonia Spirits, Inc.
- to authorize Carl Etnier to serve as the town's delegate to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- to authorize the listers to change the 2016 Grand List to include a \$40,000 veteran's exemption for Jason Gorton

September 6 & 7, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to enter executive session to discuss the Town Clerk vacancy
- to adopt the Business Deposit Account Certified Resolutions from People's United Bank to remove authorization for former Town Clerk Terri Conti to sign on the accounts and to authorize Chair Seth Gardner to sign the Resolutions
- to continue the meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2016
- to offer Christopher J. Flynn the position of town clerk
- to appoint Christopher J. Flynn to town clerk (after a call to Mr. Flynn)

September 19, 2016

Discussion items:

- Funding Request Committee seeking guidance on cap for multi-organization article for town meeting: suggestion was \$22,000



Shearing sheep at the recent Rally for the Village.

- Cross Trails Vermont seeking town funding for a trail bridge at town meeting
 - Wrightsville Beach work in progress
- Motions passed:
- to authorize Town Administrator Bruce Johnson to sign a letter of support for an Ecosystem Restoration Grant to fund a Stormwater Master Plan, in a joint project with Calais and Woodbury, and to contribute \$1,000 in-kind contribution of time, if necessary
 - to subscribe to the VLCT Health Insurance Advisory Services
 - to expend funds from the Capital Reserve's Opportunity Fund line for the Old LaPerle Property Committee expenses under contracts approved by the Selectboard
 - to approve application 16-045 for a curb cut for Taylor on Chickering Road
 - to approve application 16-046 for work in the right-of-way for Taylor on Chickering Road
 - to accept from the Conservation Fund Advisory Committee's recommendation to approve \$6,000 from the Conservation Fund to secure a trails easement in conjunction with the 361-acre parcel from the former Lylehaven farm now owned by Fairmont Dairy
 - to appoint Bill Merrylees as Town Representative to the Wrightsville Beach Recreation District

East Montpelier Planning Commission

August 4, 2016

- Discussion items all in the context of the East Village Master Plan:
- met with Alison Friedkin of Downstreet Housing and Community Development in a broad-ranging discussion of development in village centers, enablers and barriers to building affordable housing, and the roles played by different entities
 - planned for the September 10 Rally for the Village event

September 1, 2016

- Discussion items all in the context of the East Village Master Plan:
- wide-ranging discussion with the Selectboard about infrastructure plans for the village, roles and responsibilities, etc.
 - discussion with Britt Haselton and Nancy Everhart of VT Land Trust and VT Housing & Conservation Board about the history and working of the organizations and how they work with and support towns in achieving conservation and housing goals

September 15, 2016

- Discussion items all in the context of the East Village Master Plan:
- Reviewed the summary of the July 21, 2016 Open House on the village with Eric Vorwald, Senior Planner, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

East Montpelier Development Review Board

August 2, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to accept Duane Wells' Application #16-033 to further subdivide Lot 9 in his East Hill Road subdivision as submitted with the edits as follows: one of the Lot 4s needs to be changed and Captain Kid Road needs a label
- to allow the Zoning Administrator to execute an Administrative Amendment to Application 16-001 regarding the location of the platform and teepee for Orchard Valley Waldorf School

East Montpelier Elementary School Board

August 15, 2016

Motions Passed:

- to appoint Kim Kendal to the Negotiating Committee and Lindy Johnson to the Policy Committee

September 28, 2016

Discussion items:

- communication plan to better engage the community
- timeline and plan for developing budget for the next year: cuts will be needed
- community survey



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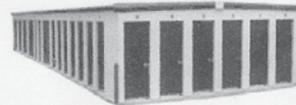
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CALENDAR

Sat. Nov 19, 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Orchard Valley Waldorf School Holiday Market, held at the Vermont College of Fine Arts, College St, Montpelier, www.ovws.org for more info

Mon. Nov 21, 6:00 p.m. Historical Society Annual Fellowship Meeting at the Old Brick Church. Pot luck followed by guest speaker, Steve Perkins, Director of the Vermont Historical Society. More information at www.eastmontpelierhistoricalsociety.org. There will be no meeting in December or January.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tues. Nov 8, 7a.m.–7 p.m. General Election, East Montpelier Elementary School

Fri. Nov 11, Veteran's Day–Town Office closed

Wed. Nov. 15, First installment of property taxes due at Town Office by 5:00 p.m. to avoid penalties and interest

Thu. Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Holiday–Town Office closed

Fri. Nov. 25, Thanksgiving Holiday–Town Office closed

Mon. Dec. 26, Christmas Holiday–Town Office closed

The deadline for the next issue of the Signpost is Nov. 30

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee

Development Review Board (DRB)

East Montpelier Elementary School (EMES) Board

East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)

East Montpelier Fire District No. 1

East Montpelier Historical Society

East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative

Four Corners Schoolhouse Association

EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO)

Planning Commission (PC)

Recreation Board

Selectboard

U-32 School Board

as needed

1st Tues. 7:00 p.m.

3rd Mon. 5:30 p.m.

Every Tues. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wed. 7:00 p.m.

3rd Mon. 7:00/6:00 p.m.

as needed

2nd Wed. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wed. 6:30 p.m.

1st & 3rd Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

2nd Mon. 7:15 p.m.

1st & 3rd Mon. 6:30 p.m.

1st Wed. 6:00 p.m.

contact: blusig@aol.com /229-5441

Town Office Building

Elementary School

EMFD Community Room

EMFD Community Room

Four Corners Schoolhouse/E. Calais

contact: rhazel@ezcloud.com

Four Corners Schoolhouse

Elementary School, Art Room

Town Office Building

Elementary School

Town Office Building

U-32 School