

JOHNSON VILLAGE TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019

**Present:**

Trustees: Scott Meyer, Gordon Smith, Bob Sweetser, Phil Wilson

Others: Meredith Birkett, Rosemary Audibert, Troy Dolan, Dan Copp, Peggy Williams, Kyle Nuse, Casey Romero, Joe Salerno, Kim Dunkley

**Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.**

**1. Call to Order**

Gordy called the meeting to order at 6:01. He said Brian would either be late or unable to come due to work.

**2. Proposed Changes/Additions to the Agenda**

No changes were proposed.

**3. Review and Approve Minutes of Trustee Meetings**

**Bob moved to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019 joint selectboard-trustee meeting and the minutes of the May 13, 2019 trustee board meeting, Phil seconded and the motion was passed.**

**4. Treasurer's Report / Approve Bills and Warrants / Budget Status Report / Action Items**

Rosemary said the grand list is complete but she hasn't yet been able to get the preliminary grand list to see what the tax rate will be. She will have it by early next month.

Rosemary said we received an engagement letter from Pace & Hawley for the 2018 audit. The price is \$8,650, which is the amount that was budgeted this year. They are finishing up the 2017 audit. (Kyle Nuse arrived at 6:18.)

**Bob moved to sign the engagement letter from Pace & Hawley for the 2018 audit, Phil seconded and the motion was passed.** (Casey Romero arrived at 6:20.)

**5. Food Trucks on the Village Green**

Casey Romero said she and others are trying to find a food truck to come to the village green occasionally this summer, preferably at breakfast/lunch time. She wants to find out what is required for that to happen. She understands that there is policy that if someone is going to sell there they have to pay a fee. Meredith said that is what we have talked about. She is not sure if anyone has sold things there. Rosemary said the farmer's market was there for a couple of years. They did not pay. Casey said if the food truck was using electricity the vendor would pay for it.

Bob said he is not against it, but he knows of someone who is trying to buy the Plum & Main building. He is concerned about possible competition when they are trying to get started. Casey said this is temporary. Peggy Williams said it might show potential real estate buyers that people are lining up to buy food

Casey said they were thinking of having the food truck here on weekends and days near weekends.

Meredith said we want to have some sort of formal process in place for use of the village green, with an application. It would be first-come first-served. We would charge a nominal fee that would

not drive people away. Electricity there is not metered so there is no way to charge a fee per kWh, but an electricity fee could be wrapped into the fee for use of the area. We would need proof of insurance and a Vermont Department of Health certificate. Tuesday Night Live vendor fees are \$175 for 8 nights. That is \$7.30 per hour, which would be \$53 per day or \$1750 per month. That seems too high. She thinks maybe \$10-15 per day, including electricity, would be reasonable.

Casey suggested that given the temporary nature and the fact that this is filling a gap, maybe for this summer \$10/day could be the fee.

Kyle said she is hoping if there is enough traffic and business maybe the vendor would consider moving into a building.

Phil suggested having them pay by the month. Meredith said there is the question of whether we want to lock one person in for the whole summer. She thought we might do it on a daily basis in case more than one vendor wants to come in.

Phil asked if we would limit it to one vendor at a time. Meredith said she thinks we would to start. Kyle said there is actually room for 2 vendors in a spot that will not take parking spots away, tucked into a corner near the back of the green. Casey said the truck would be most visible closer to the street. If was just one or two days a week, could a truck or cart be on the green up front and visible? Peggy asked, what about parking on the street in a parking place? Meredith said she will have to double check with VTrans to see if there are any restrictions that would prevent that. Rosemary said it's two hour parking. Meredith said we have to ask if we can change that. Her biggest concern would be taking parking away from people wanting to go to other businesses. Troy said depending on what side they serve from it could be an issue if they were parked on the street. We wouldn't want people on the street. Phil said he thinks if there is just one truck it would be best to park on the street.

Meredith said she was hoping to put a simple registration form together that we could then use to advertise this opportunity. She asked if Casey is envisioning having a truck through the end of August. Casey said it could go into fall. If she were the vendor she wouldn't want to commit to more than a trial period. She thinks maybe we should do it month by month. Meredith suggested maybe the opportunity could be available until the end of October.

The board agreed Casey can go ahead and work on this. Meredith said she will try to come up with a form and talk to AOT.

Kyle mentioned that spikes on the timber barrier on the village green are sticking up. Troy said his crew can knock them down.

Kyle said she went to the Vermont Studio Center's 35<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration and took a tour of their buildings. She got a copy of their inventory plan, which she gave to Meredith. They are making their buildings very energy efficient. The next one they will work on is on Pearl St.

Peggy Williams said she is dying for places to eat and shop. She posted on Front Porch Forum about Viceland. She is interested in what if anything the village can do to attract businesses. Is there a way to get a sense of what the community wants? She used to be downtown 2 to 3 times a

day. Now she hardly ever comes downtown and she can always find a parking spot. She understands we couldn't tell Viceland not to come, but how can we market the village? She is interested in learning about what incentives there are.

Meredith said both the town and the village offer community improvement loans. The village is more flexible with its requirements. The village has close to \$175K to loan out. The loans can be used for building improvements or business support. She said we have had a lot of focus on the Railroad Street corridor in the last few years. We created some marketing materials with LCPC. We did some environmental studies to ease the burden and lay the groundwork for potential owners. That work is still underway. Meredith works a lot with Johnson Works. They are trying to be more proactive. They are creating a flyer primarily for Airbnb's to support existing businesses and they created one to be handed to people looking to start a business. The flyer talks about our 3-phase power, water and sewer availability, federal programs, tax credits, etc. We are a designated village center. That provides some tax benefits if a property owner makes certain types of improvements to a village center building.

Peggy asked if there is anything we can do with vacant buildings on Main St. Kyle said the town is close to finalizing a vacant and derelict building ordinance. Under that ordinance owners will start getting fines for some buildings.

Kyle said another thing she has been doing is talking with NVU. They are very interested in doing a coworker space. At the Vermont Studio Center board meeting they talked about seeing if part of the building adjoining the bookstore could be converted into café space.

Phil asked if we have a marketing slogan. Casey said Doug Molde had suggested a phrase like "where all the trails meet." Peggy said being in the middle of one of the only stretches of the rail trail that is done is an asset we have. Phil said the downtown Johnson sign we put up has more room on it. Kyle said Johnson Works is doing a mural with symbols representing business types. Phil suggested also putting those on the Johnson sign.

Kyle said she and Casey have been cold calling businesses about opportunities here. A number of potential buyers have said the available buildings here are overpriced and need work. The photography studio is moving out of the building where it is currently located and Dollar General is for sale.

Gordy said we learned when we did the sewer project that 12,000 vehicles go through Johnson every day. He mentioned the byway is another thing we are involved in. Meredith said we got Johnson added to the byway, which helps us leverage state marketing dollars.

Phil asked, what about using the existing pedestals for art work? Kyle said that is complicated and expensive but she has been working on it. There are many factors that need to be considered, such as insurance and transportation, but she is determined to get it done with the help of the Studio Center. She is hoping they will have a residency program just for community art. What they make would be integrated into our community.

Kyle asked if there was ever a discussion about planting grass on Railroad Street. Meredith said the village told the town we would pay for material if they would spray the green strips with the

hydroseeder on their way back to the garage. It sounded like they were open to it. (*Peggy, Casey and Kyle left at 6:55.*)

**6. Water/Wastewater Report and Action Items**

Dan said all wastewater samples met state requirements. The E-DMR and WR-43 were submitted for review. There was one callout at the River Road pump station on May 25. Pratt Electrical was called to troubleshoot. There was a bad breaker on the power pole that feeds the station. A new breaker was purchased and the pump was back up and running within three hours. The belts on the belt press were pressure washed. The influent drywell was tested for lead paint in preparation for building maintenance. It tested negative. The rep from Slack Chemical visited to dial in the polymer usage for the press. The rep is sending samples for us to test on the next run. The drive motor from the belt press was pulled and brought to Farrell Electric to be rebuilt. It was overheating and failing during the press run. It got a new bearing and a loose power wire was repaired. Farrell Electric thinks that will cure the problem. If not it will have to be sent out for new windings. Belts were replaced on the sludge holding tank blower. A spare set was purchased for backup. Efficiency Vermont performed a walkthrough of the plant. Dan is waiting for the report and suggestions. Dan told the contractor to go ahead and do the work on the cupola but he is not sure he can do it this year. He will try; if not, it will be done first thing next spring. We hosted the Water Quality Day open house at the wastewater plant. It was well-received with 14 visitors.

Dan said he has identified 4 big upgrades that are needed. Our UV system is out of date and not supported anymore. He got a quote of \$159K to upgrade to a new one, not including installation. The belt press is on its way out. If we replaced the coarse bubble diffusers with fine bubble diffusers there would be payback for that. The River Road pump station needs work. His parent company could do work and roll the cost into monthly payments to avoid a bond. There is not much grant money available currently. Where does the board want Dan to go with this?

Meredith said she needs to spend time familiarizing herself with the process if we were to go out for bond and hone in a little better on cost estimates. Dan said he is thinking the total cost for the four things he mentioned would be around \$1-1.2 million.

Phil said we also have talked about the Lamoille View water line. Meredith said a rough estimate we got for replacing water and sewer lines and catch basins in that area was \$300K. We might want to roll that into a bond.

Dan said all coliform samples taken at the water plant were negative. There were no callouts for the water system. Champlain Associates installed the mission control for the water plant, Clay Hill and the reservoir. It now controls the pumps and alarms for the system. It is operating well. The water department assisted with the water line break on Main Street. Both Tim and Dan passed the Class 3 water exams, giving the village 3 licensed operators. (*Dan left at 7:10.*)

**7. Foreman Report and Action Items**

Troy said the crew replaced a pole, installed a new anchor and upgraded the secondary service at the French property on Gould Hill. At this point the solar interconnection is complete. The crew upgraded the secondary service at 21 Clay Hill from 100 to 200 amps. They also completed meter reading, re-reads, disconnection notices/disconnects and various Dig Safes.

All sweeping has been completed in the village. We were able to coordinate with VTrans and complete the sweeping on Route 15 through the village. The process this year involved more man-

hours due to the wet weather conditions and the abundance of material that was used during the winter. Gordy asked Meredith to thank AOT for working with us on street sweeping. The crew completed the hydrant flushing and also coordinated fire flow testing during that time. Meredith said fire flow testing is part of our asset management plan.

All linemen completed the required annual pole top/bucket rescue during May's safety meeting. Backup cameras were installed on all village trucks. Jeff and Chan participated in the mandatory apprentice rodeo at NEPPA. They both completed all required tasks well within the allotted time for each skill test.

Troy worked with the Frenches and SunCommon to complete their solar interconnection. Meredith and Troy have been taking measurements and planning for the sidewalk replacement on Pearl Street/Clay Hill. *(Joe Salerno arrived at 7:13.)*

8. ***Village Manager's Report and Action Items***

Meredith reviewed the goals and estimated costs of the sidewalk project. There are 4 main decision points to arrive at a final design.

Phil asked what our next project is. That would inform us if we can spend down our reserve fund more. Meredith said a section of School Street is in rough shape. We have gotten a lot of requests to add a sidewalk on the library side of Railroad Street but that may not be feasible from a space perspective. Gordy said the rail trail through Parker and Stearns is another possible project.

Meredith said certain grants available from the state provide 80% funding. Phil asked if we are limited in how frequently we can get 50-50 grants like the one we are getting for this project. Meredith said she thinks not officially. She can double check.

Phil asked how much we have been putting in the sidewalk fund every year. Meredith said we had been putting in \$15K. That will be a challenge for us if we want to continue to level fund the tax rate.

Gordy said he would want to work on School Street before Railroad Street. Troy agreed.

Meredith reviewed the four decision points: whether to add green space in front of 125 Pearl Street, whether to add green space in front of 103 Pearl Street, whether to add a bump out with green space at the northeast corner of Pearl and School Streets, and whether to increase the width of one green strip. *(Scott arrived at 7:21.)*

Meredith said Vermont Studio Center has had problems with water flowing toward their building. At the last meeting, when Jim MacDowell attended, he was under the impression that if we put in the additional green space in front of 125 Pearl Street there wouldn't be a curb, but there would be one either way, so some of the water problems for that building will be solved either way. Dufresne estimated the additional cost for adding green space in front of 125 Pearl Street would be \$1,675. Phil said that seems reasonable. Bob said it would be more to maintain.

Gordy said he feels we should skip at least the first 3 possible additions to the project because someday we will do an intersection redesign and much will get torn out. The additions will narrow the street and make it harder for large vehicles to navigate.

Scott said maybe we should check with the Studio Center. They should understand that if we add green space in front of their building they can't park trucks on the street. Joe Salerno said in his conversations with Jim MacDowell he has heard that VSC doesn't require parking there. Scott said currently they have room to park on the street. If they still want to park there after the road is narrowed that will congest the intersection. Joe said they park on the other side of the street or in the parking lot at the Red Mill building. His understanding is that VSC doesn't require parking there. Scott said cars do park there to offload into studio buildings. Phil said that is behavior and it can change. Scott said if we do the green bump out they need to understand that they can't block traffic. Meredith said stormwater was Jim's main concern.

Meredith said her estimated cost for additional green space in front of 103 Pearl Street is \$3,500. They would need to build another curb in front of the one that is already there.

A bump out at the northeast corner of Pearl Street and School Street would add some green space. The estimated additional cost would be \$2,500. She thinks it would impact operation of the intersection. Generally we would want to do a traffic study in cases like this but we haven't, so she would be hesitant. There is a big push to look at this whole intersection. She thinks that is when this would be considered.

The green strip on the east side of Pearl Street/Clay Hill currently varies from 3.5 feet to 4 feet. The current sidewalk varies from 5 feet at the north end to 4 feet farther south. The sidewalk has to be 5 feet wide to meet standards. The current road width north of School Street varies from 24 ft. 7 inches to 26 feet. The narrowest point is at the utility pole in front of 24 Clay Hill. There is 9 feet between the pole and the edge of the roadway. The town right of way extends several feet beyond the edge of the current sidewalk.

The initial design widened the green strip, made the sidewalk 5 ft. wide and straightened it. It didn't move the sidewalk edge at all to the east. It kept a maintenance buffer – space to push snow into, etc. To accomplish that the design would narrow the road in some places close to 22 ft. Jim MacDowell had brought up the Lamoureux and Dickinson study that was done 10+ years ago and Meredith sent it to Elizabeth Emmons. Elizabeth probably didn't think narrowing the road would be a huge deal because that study recommended a 22-foot road in that area, but it is up to the town to decide on road width alteration. We would have to talk to them.

Looking at the options available, Meredith thinks the most affordable and simple is to put the new sidewalk up against the utility pole, moving it east about 10 inches. It would still be within the town right of way. The road width would stay the same. That is most in keeping with the original scope and estimated project costs. But people have commented that they wanted to see as much green space as possible. If we wanted a wider green strip and wanted to keep the road width the same we would have to move at least one utility pole at a cost of \$5-6K. We would not put that cost onto the ratepayers because it would be voluntary.

Scott asked about communications equipment on that pole. Troy said he doesn't know how soon Consolidated Communications would come to move their equipment. Meredith said it would not work if they waited to move it. She said shifting the sidewalk a few feet to the east may require us

to obtain easements. The recommendation from Dufresne was not to completely consume the right of way with sidewalk. They recommended keeping some right of way space on the other side.

Gordy asked if Troy knows where the curb stops are. Troy said he is not sure. Nate suspects some may be in the construction zone. Meredith said the further east we go the more chance there is of running into them.

Phil said he likes the idea of the additional green space in front of 125 Pearl Street. Bob said it looks good but practically he doesn't think it is a good idea. Phil said he thinks the parking behavior could be changed. Bob said he has seen so much from the Main Street project that was done for beautification and caused problems with traffic that he is against it. Bump outs are a pain in the neck. He sees a lot of traffic on School Street because it is hard for a tractor trailer to pull out of 100C onto Main Street. Gordy said we could affect Tuesday Night Live by removing some parking. Bob said it would be more for our crews to maintain. Gordy said he is against the first 3 items. Bob said trucks usually seem to park on the other side. They park right in the street. Where the green space is proposed he has never seen a problem with parking but he is not in favor of this. He would like to keep it open. Scott said he likes it. He hopes it will slow people down, which we need. But he would want to see "no parking" signs there because parking there would jam up the intersection. He likes it for traffic calming. He is okay with the cost. Phil said while we are there doing that work he thinks this is something we could add for the long term. Even if we redo the intersection he assumes the future work won't be on that side. Bob said the people opposite park in the road. Parking shouldn't be allowed there. You can't see around that corner. Troy said it will eliminate people parking where we put down a barrier for water. Meredith said we ran this by Brian Krause but we still need to get permits from the town to do work in their right of way. Scott said we could chalk it out and ask school bus drivers and any delivery trucks going to the school if they have enough clearance. Joe said he sent Meredith pictures of what happens with snow there in the winter. That is basically an unused portion of road. With two board members in favor of adding this to the project and two opposed Gordy said Brian will have to be the tie breaker.

Scott said adding green space in front of 103 Pearl Street is out for him. Phil said this is more expensive than the previous addition. It seems out of reach. No board members indicated support for this option.

No board members were in favor of the bump out at the corner of Pearl and School Streets.

Meredith said for the green strip on the east side of Pearl/Clay Hill, the cheapest, simplest option results in a 5 ft. sidewalk and 4 feet between the sidewalk and the street, including 6 inches of curb. It would be more costly to move the pole in order to gain additional green space. Phil and Gordy both said they like the cheaper option that does not involve moving the pole. Scott said he thinks the difficulty of coordination between us and others with equipment on the pole stops this one in its tracks. Meredith said she will tell Dufresne to maximize green space that can be achieved without moving the pole or narrowing the road.

Gordy suggested meeting at 125 Pearl Street to discuss the possible addition of green space there. Scott asked if we have to check in with the selectboard about it. Troy said he talked to Brian Krause. The town was good with the way it is drawn on the plan. The village picks up some snow there and the additional green space will add a level of difficulty.

Gordy asked if the option Meredith described for the green strip on the east side of the road is workable for Joe. Joe said it will be a vast improvement to what is on the ground. His thinking on the pole was that the project was being pinched by one pole. He noticed poles on Railroad Street with cross boards cantilevered out. He thought if we did something similar it would be less costly to move the pole and have cross arms where they currently are and it would allow us to pick up some space. His thinking is that a larger green space gives an opportunity to just leave the snow there and not have to move it, saving labor. Now there is barely enough room to pile snow on that side. There is space in the right of way to move the sidewalk closer to his house and he has no problem with the sidewalk shifting that way. He could move his bushes.

Meredith said she thinks it would be wise to set up time before the July meeting for the board to go out to 125 Pearl Street and set up cones to see how the proposed addition would affect the site. It was agreed to plan to meet at 4:00 on June 17. Board members discussed putting in chalk lines that someone could show to Brian later if he is not able to come then.

Scott said the streets were swept last week and about an inch and half of slime was left near the Woolen Mills. It has since been cleaned up. Troy said the sweeper couldn't lift it because it was too wet. It was left until Friday to dry out. The contractor came back the next morning and got what he could. Scott said he made it clear to the person he talked to from the state that leaving that kind of condition in front of our businesses is not nice. The contractor could have taken a shovel and cleared it off the sidewalk. *(Joe left at 8:01.)*

Meredith said our LCPC board representative needs to be reappointed. She had suggested appointing an alternate but they don't have a provision for alternates. They recommended identifying someone on the board to be copied on materials but there is no method for someone to take Meredith's place at meetings. She will be gone October through December. Gordy suggested Kim Dunkley could be the contact person. **Phil moved to reappoint Meredith Birkett as the Village of Johnson representative to the Lamoille County Planning Commission board, Scott seconded and the motion was passed.**

Meredith said Larry McCuin has applied for a wastewater permit for a proposed single family home lot off McCuin Drive. The lot was previously permitted in 2008 and he got an extension in 2009 but never completed the project. He has completed plans and a state permit. In the initial approval from 2008 there are a few conditions she thinks we would carry forward. There is a shared line with another property. We required an easement and a maintenance agreement, which was provided. We would want that stipulation to continue forward. We required an inspection of the neighbor's line. That was done last year. The permit referenced a private well. Meredith asked for documentation of why they are using a private well. It may have been a cost issue. The water question is not a reason to not give him his wastewater permit but she needs that resolved. The board signed to give preliminary and final approval for Larry McCuin's wastewater permit.

Gordy asked if there are any plans to run sewer lines up Clay Hill Road. Phil said the Planning Commission will discuss that at its next meeting. Meredith said she thinks that came out of Walter suggesting that the village should be allowed to expand the sewer system. The town felt the Planning Commission should decide where we want sewer lines to go.



Meredith said the fire department should get a new truck in August. They envision selling the one that is being replaced. But Arjay has no leads on selling it so he is looking to use Firetec to help market the truck. They need a contract to be signed. The commission is 10% of the sale price. Meredith read the portion of the contract about the commission. We are supposed to check whether the party purchasing the truck had any contact with Firetec so they can get their commission if it is due. Phil said the contract language seems to indicate that if we sell anything else within a year the contract would apply. Meredith said she thinks they have nothing else to sell. **Scott moved to approve the contract with Firetec for marketing of the Rescue 1 truck that is being replaced, Bob seconded and the motion was passed.**

Meredith said as part of the ongoing efforts to solve the SHEI transmission constraint one thing that came up was the need to upgrade the B20 between Johnson and Lowell. Once that is done then the B22 becomes the constraint and has to be upgraded. Morrisville and Johnson are co-owners of the B22. We have a 15% interest but GMP is willing to assume all cost for this project. Both Johnson and Morrisville may have some legal expenses but it is a small price to pay for getting this upgrade done. Both towns use the same attorney so we will pay 15% of any attorney fees. We need to be a co-petitioner on the Certificate of Public Good for the project. **Scott moved that the village participate as a co-petitioner with Morrisville and GMP in the Certificate of Public Good process for upgrading the B22 line, seconded by Bob.** Phil asked how much the upgrade will increase capacity. Meredith said she would have to ask Craig Myotte. **The motion was passed.**

Lamoille Valley Bike Tours again requested use of the old mill house lawn to support operation of e-bike rentals and tours this summer. That went fine last year. This year they would like to explore leaving their trailer overnight on Fridays. Scott said they were set up this weekend and renting bikes and it was a huge welcome mat. It is such a nice perk for us. Meredith said she and Brian Story will check with our insurance to make sure there is no reason they can't leave their trailer. Their insurance is probably what covers it. **Phil moved to approve the facility use request from Lamoille Valley Bike Tours for use of the old mill house lawn, Scott seconded and the motion was passed.**

Meredith said she spoke with KAS last week. The contract between KAS and the village for the powerhouse demolition has been signed. She received their certificate of insurance. NRC is working to prepare the demolition plan to be reviewed by KAS and submitted to EPA. It will take about 30 days for the EPA to approve it. KAS is getting state permits for asbestos. We have started to talk about how to anchor netting around the building. They suggested anchoring it across the bank within the high water mark. If it is anchored higher we may need permission from the property owner. They need the river to fall below 75% of August peak flow for safety reasons for their employees. Hopefully the demolition will happen in late July.

Meredith said municipal staff met with CHSLV in May to get an update on the current conversations on health services in Johnson. They mentioned feedback they got from the congressional delegation and the state that they need a municipal partner to take a stronger role. She thinks they were looking to the town to really champion this project. They want to know how involved the village wants to be. She is sure they would be willing to have a special meeting or come to one of our meetings. Gordy said any trustees who are interested could go to a selectboard meeting where it was discussed. He feels there is no point duplicating efforts and we should let the town take the lead. Meredith said she agrees we don't need duplication of effort.

Scott said according to Front Porch Forum posts the primary focus of efforts at Johnson Elementary is healthcare for students. Would that be for students in grades K-12? Meredith said she believes so.

Kim Dunkley arrived and Gordy asked her if she would be willing to represent the village on LCPC while Meredith is gone for 3 months. Meredith said Kim would not attend meetings, just get the agendas and keep abreast of what is going on and whether anything needs to be brought to the board. Kim agreed she could do it.

Phil asked for an update on progress on a health center. Meredith said CHSLV is fast-tracking school-based services because the school has space and demonstrated need. They are hoping to have something up and running by fall or winter for students, not the general public. They are continuing to work with the Tatros about using the former St. John's Church property. There are covenants on the building that limit use for providing medical services but perhaps that building can be used for transitional housing and another building can be constructed on site for more traditional health clinic services. The Tatros and CHSLV are trying to get permission from the diocese for that model. She will keep the board informed as efforts move forward.

Meredith said at the recent joint meeting she had mentioned that we may hire Andrea Blaisdell as a temporary part-time employee. But there are minimum wage requirements. She will have to do the math and see what her hourly rate comes out to based on her proposal. If it is not above minimum wage we would keep her on as a volunteer.

Meredith has heard from one person other than Peter Moynihan who might be interested in doing gardening work in the village. If he is interested we would need to interview both him and Peter. Otherwise she will get Peter started. *(Kim left at 8:39.)*

Gordy said he spent \$45 to buy flowers to put in front of the fire station assuming the board would authorize reimbursement. **Bob moved to reimburse Gordy \$45 for purchase of flowers, Scott seconded and the motion was passed.**

Gordy asked if there is a way gardening projects could be separated so some would be solely Meredith's responsibility and some would be solely Brian Story's, to make things easier for Meredith and Brian. He said it had been suggested at the joint meeting that the Beautification Committee should make decisions about gardening but some supervision is needed.

Scott asked, we are shooting for perennials, right? Meredith said she thinks perennials don't make sense at the municipal building if we intend to dig it up next year. Perennials make sense at the welcome signs. The flowers in the flower boxes have to be annuals.

Meredith said she heard from a resident who might be willing to volunteer to work at the cold spring so she decided to take that off Peter's list.

Gordy said George Pearlman told him the Studio Center will take care of flowers by the Studio Center building on Main Street.

Troy said he made an agreement with Andrea Blaisdell that the village would be willing to pick up topsoil and dump it at the village green. Gordy said that will mean a price reduction. Troy said he also agreed to place the soil with the Bobcat.

**9. Adjourn**

**Bob moved and Scott seconded to adjourn at 8:45 and the motion was passed.**

*Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths*

UNAPPROVED