

TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE

(802) 644-2251 www.TownofCambridgeVT.org

SELECT BOARD MEETING Monday, December 5, 2016 TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE - JEFFERSONVILLE, VT

Agenda:

Approve minutes of November 21th

6:30 pm	David Armstrong	Green Mountain Transit Ridership / 2017 Funding
7:00	David Jones Mark Schwartz	Animal Control & Fines
7:15	April Tuck	Village to Village Program
7:30	Mark Schilling	Delinquent Tax Policy

To do any other business

Attendees: Dana Sweet, Larry Wyckoff, Mark Schilling, Sally Reynolds, David Armstrong, David Jones, Mark Schwartz.

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm.

David Armstrong presented an allocation request for Green Mountain Transit fiscal year 2018 and ridership figures to date. The program was previously fully grant funded, with the town allocation held by GMT to offset future budget costs. The founding grant has now expired and the allocation request is substantially larger. Armstrong proposed meeting with other participating towns to discuss the issue, and will get back to the board to schedule. The board also discussed cost per rider and strategies GMT could use to increase ridership and income.

David Jones and Mark Schwartz discussed the Vermont Municipal Violation tickets being issued to them and proposed raising the fines for animal control violations. Changes to the Animal Control ordinance would require public warning and meetings. The board instructed the constables to present a written proposal, and the Select Board will act accordingly. The constables will begin using the new tickets immediately under the current fine schedule. There was also a brief discussion of enforcement on the Cambridge Greenway and LVRT rail trail.

April Tuck was unable to attend the meeting.

Mark Schilling addressed the Board as Delinquent Tax Collector. Mark presented a revised policy for collection of delinquent taxes. The statement elaborates on the current policy drafted in 2009, detailing both the rights of taxpayers and specific actions which will be taken when taxes remain

unpaid. The new policy will be effective with the 2017 tax year, and existing debt will be collected on a specific schedule. The board reviewed and endorsed the policy, which is attached to these minutes, will be published in the next town report, and will be included with the next tax bill.

Motion to approve the minutes of November 21st. Seconded, so voted.

Other Business: The Board received a letter from surveyor Brad Holden warning that curbing on the proposed sidewalk installation could possibly create drainage issues, and offered to review the situation with the Board. The Board received the resignation of Douglas Babcock as Emergency Management Director, due to relocation and effective with his replacement. The Board thanked Doug for his service, and decided to ask the Fire Company and Rescue Squad for recommendations. The Board signed two agreements relating to the FEMA flood projects VT-4120-5-R and VT-4022-149R. The Board approved the installation of a rain gutter on the rear of Town Hall to prevent freeze damage to the rear wall.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded, so voted.

Mark Schilling
Town Clerk

December 5, 2016

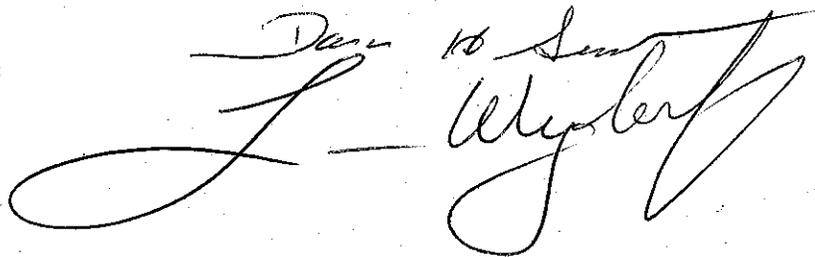
Select Board
Town of Cambridge

Attached is a revised policy for collection of delinquent taxes. This statement elaborates on the current policy, detailing both the rights of taxpayers and specific actions which will be taken when taxes remain unpaid. The purpose of this revision is to establish clear guidelines, so that all delinquent taxpayers will know what to expect and be treated fairly.

The new policy will be applied to tax years 2017 and beyond. In this past year, delinquent taxes for years 2009 through 2012 were collected and removed from the rolls. 2013 and 2014 will be collected or sent to tax sale in the coming year, and 2015 and 2016 will be satisfied in the following year. At that point, there will be no delinquent taxes older than one year.

The Collector of Delinquent taxes requests that the Select Board review and endorse this policy, so that it may be presented to the town. This policy replaces the previous version which was drafted in October 2009.

Mark Schilling
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Cambridge

Don 10 Sam


Delinquent Tax Policy – Town of Cambridge

IMPORTANT TAX PAYMENT INFORMATION

Taxes for each fiscal year are due on November 15th of that year by 7:00 pm. By statute, actual receipt of full payment by due date is required. Tax due dates that fall on a Sunday will be accepted without penalty on the following Monday (32 V.S.A. §3004). Saturday tax due dates in Cambridge will be handled as on Sunday above. FEDERAL POSTMARKS ARE ACCEPTED. Any taxes not paid when due are delinquent for that tax year, and will incur an 8% penalty, plus 1% interest calculated monthly.

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines, so that all delinquent taxpayers will know what to expect and be treated fairly.

Taxes are considered delinquent on November 16th of each fiscal year and will incur an 8% penalty, plus 1% interest calculated monthly. Within 15 days after the tax due date the treasurer will issue a warrant and a copy of the tax bill to the Delinquent Tax Collector (DTC) for each amount that remains unpaid. Notice of Delinquent Taxes (including total taxes due, penalties, and interest for the fiscal year) will then be sent to all delinquent tax payers, and again monthly thereafter. The first notice will include a copy of this tax collection policy, a sample payment agreement, and information on applying for abatement.

Payment arrangements that pay the bill in full before the due date of the next year's bill will be accepted. Partial payments will first be applied to penalty, interest, and then to principal. If a payment agreement is not executed by the delinquent taxpayer within 90 days of the due date, or if any terms of such a payment agreement are breached, the DTC will initiate formal tax sale proceedings.

If full payment is not received under the conditions stated above, the DTC will contact the town's attorney and the tax sale date will be set in accordance with procedures specified in 32 V.S.A. §5252. The taxpayer and all lien holders will be notified of the date by certified mail. They will be advised of the date by which full payment must be received to avoid the sale, and the costs to expect once the sale process begins. Any and all costs associated with the preparing and conducting tax sales will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer as authorized under 32 V.S.A. §5258.

Each taxpayer has a right to apply for abatement of property taxes based on any of the grounds listed in 24 V.S.A. §1535. A taxpayer who would like to schedule a meeting with the Board of Abatement should contact the town clerk.

In the event that no one purchases the property at tax sale, or if a tax sale is inadvisable in the judgement of the Select Board or tax collector, the DTC shall collect the delinquent taxes using any or all of the methods permitted by law.



Mark K Schilling
Collector of Delinquent Taxes