

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2015**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.
Meetings may be video taped and such recordings are held by Green Mountain Access Television.
Recording info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park, VT 05655; info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 802-851-1592*

Members Present: David Gagnier (DG), Chair; Brian Jones (BJ), Vice-Chair; Roland Boivin (RB) and Roger Audet (RA)
Members Absent: Pete Couture (PC)
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Deanna Judkins; Green Mountain Access Television videotaped this meeting.

DG called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome**, public comment. No public comment.
2. **Review minutes**: Deferred 12/11/2014 minutes until February.
3. **FY2016 Budget – Recreation**. Recreation Committee member Deanna Judkins presented the FY2014 recreation budget actuals showing a remaining balance of about \$936. The proposed FY2016 budget is the same as FY2015 at \$7,700 with \$4,500 in projected revenues. Ron noted that \$10,000 is added to the proposed FY2016 capital outlay projects for a cash grant match for a proposed Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.
4. **2015 Land and Water Conservation Fund** – DG stated that he would not agree to a new LWCF grant for new picnic tables, pavilions and a basketball court unless the 2004 grant restrictions were removed. DG recommended to the Board that a new grant must be awarded with conversion language to allow the town to relocate the ballfields and extract the gravel from under the current ballfields. Deanna stated that the new location for the ballfields would be in the northwest corner of the parcel, along the Manosh gravel pit boundary line. Ron and Ken Harvey are working on the application which is due Feb 12. If awarded, the Board will look for the approved conversion language.
5. **Recreation Park Rules** – Deanna stated that the committee has reviewed the current park rules and the Committee has no changes, except the previously approved Rule #2 regarding firearms. Deanna noted that the committee is looking at moving to a wooden bat only softball rule to reduce risk of injuries to players that is increasing from the use of newer metal bats that significantly increase ball speed of the bat. The Board thanked the committee for their work at the ballfields as the town benefits from a great facility enjoyed by many people. Deanna expressed appreciation for Gary Nolan's on-going volunteer work at the facility.
6. **Town-Wide Reappraisal** – Town Lister Deanna Judkins noted that with \$113,000 in the reappraisal reserve account, reappraisal would not require any town budget money to complete the work. Deanna suggested that doing it now will help resolve some of the equities in land values and bring interior renovations on to the books that have not been inspected or valued for at least 10 years. The Board of Listers is meeting next Wednesday, January 14th at 1:00 p.m. to discuss reappraisal and the Selectboard and public are invited to attend. DG expressed concern for spending money on reappraisal primarily to address one issue for large landowners, over assessed compared to market value, which will then result in an increase to the tax rate on all property owners to make up the difference. The State has not ordered a reappraisal, which they would do if the Common Level of Appraisal drops below 80%. The Town's 2014 CLA is 106.83% (2013 was 101.68%). The Town's 2014 COD is 14.51% (2013 was 16.19). Deanna agreed to have one or more listers at town meeting to present the decision making process, if the Listers decide to begin the reappraisal in 2015. Rodjenski noted that there is \$5,100 in the FY2016 proposed budget that should be removed if the listers start reappraisal.

7. **2015 Town Meeting:** The Board agreed to meet at a special meeting on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to finalize the budget and sign the annual warning. The Board reviewed a draft expense budget of \$2,266,900 which is resulting in a proposed tax rate increase of 6.84%. The Board agreed that representatives from the Library Trustees and Board of Listers should be present at Town Meeting to answer questions. DG asked if the 6.48% could be reduced with general fund balance, to which Rodjenski said yes, but he would have additional information for the board on the 26th.
8. **Town Report:** The Board reviewed the annual Selectboard report to be included in the Town Report and will send any final corrections to Ron. The Board reviewed the list of past dedications. Motion by RA to dedicate the 2014 Town Report to Ken Alexander with a picture on "his backhoe". Seconded by RB. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
9. **Service Agency Funding Requests** are coming in with four agencies not submitting requests for FY2016 yet. A few service agency changes need to be approved by the Board under the Service Agency Policy. Motion by BJ to approve the following service agency changes:
 - a. Name change to Vermont Association of Conservation Districts from NRCD.
 - b. Name change to Capstone Community Action from CVACC
 - c. Amount increase for Lamoille County Special Investigations Unit to \$1,906, rounded to \$1,910 by the Selectboard for FY2016 without a petition requirement
 - d. Amount increase for Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (NRCD) to \$100 without a petition requirement.Seconded by RA. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
10. **Monthly Reports:** 'Town Project List' ; 'Grants Watch' report & LCSD Police Incident Report
11. **Review Town Orders:** Motion by PC to approve the town orders. Seconded by RA. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
12. **Other Business:**
 - i. Painting of Town Garage Interior with Vermont Corrections – DG reported that Brian Shattuck is interested in painting the inside of the town garage for about \$3,500 – wash and two coats, paint included. The cost estimate is based on \$25 per person, per day. Motion by RA to approve the painting of the interior of the town garage by VT Corrections. Seconded by RB. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - ii. LVRT Memorandum of Understanding – Ron explained that the request to use a portion of the rail corridor for the trailhead may have one final chance – getting VTTrans to test the project area and then entering into a license rather than entering into a license first without testing for environmental contamination. The Board agreed to ask one more time with assistance from LCPC.
 - iii. Town Clock MOU – A proposed amendment to current clock maintenance agreement was distributed and the members will take some time to review and discuss with others in Town. Duncan Tingle is also reviewing the draft.
 - iv. Dave Gagnier noted that the insurance opt out payment was approved in May 2014 and in October 2015, the town should consider the value of this before offering again in 2016.
 - v. Roger Audet asked if the North Hyde Park fire station could be sanded with an alternating schedule between Hyde Park Highway and Eden Highway. The Board agreed that Roger can schedule the shared sanding schedule.
13. **Adjourn:** Motion by RA to adjourn. Seconded by BJ. So voted at 8:30 p.m.