

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
July 1, 2015**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.
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recording info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park, VT 05655; info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 802-851-1592*

Selectboard Members: David Gagnier, Chair; Brian Jones (BJ), Vice-Chair; Pete Couture (PC) and Roger Audet (RA);
Village Trustees: Charlie Aronovici, Jack Anderson, Peter Gallo, Riki French and Tim Yarrow
Members Absent: Roland Boivin (Selectboard)
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Nancy Tingle, Barbara Potter. GMATV did not videotape this meeting.

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

1. **Welcome, agenda changes, if any.** Riki French handed out a draft Village Traffic Ordinance for review.
2. **Public Comment:** No public comment or changes to the agenda.
3. **Johnson Street Extension Sidewalk – Joint Grant Application**

Both boards were present to discuss the current status of the Johnson Street Extension sidewalk project and the need for additional funding under the 2015 VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program. Riki reviewed the Trustee's 20 year effort to install new sidewalks within the Village of Hyde Park. Prior grants had required 20% local matches and the proposed grant, due July 17th, requires 10%. Doug Weber, PE provided an overview of the plans for Johnson St Extension which included a 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the east side from Main Street to the Route 15 right-of-way. Charlie stated that the trustees' long time goal was to connect the two schools. Ron stated that having the Selectboard sign a letter of support would help the grant ranking. Ron and Carol will need to resolve whether or not the Selectboard is required to apply jointly under this grant program, or if the Letter of Support is sufficient. Dave noted that he liked the proposal to modify the Main St intersection to a T-Intersection. Nancy Tingle noted that the house on the northwest corner is for sale. Tim noted that the Catholic Church has a sign easement on the northwest corner. Roger asked about the project costs and if the town voters should be asked to approve any town support. Ron noted that the Sidewalk Reserve Fund could provide some match to the project without voter approval. The fund has about \$40,000 available at the present time and another \$20,000 to be transferred by June 30, 2016. Snow removal was discussed with Jack Anderson stating that the grant terms would require year-round maintenance. Pete suggested that the Village contract out sidewalk maintenance to save money. The Selectboard asked where snow would be pushed and Pete Couture suggested that the best, but not least expensive, is to snow blow the sidewalk snow into a dump truck. Jack stated that the sidewalk was intended to be used by both bicyclists and pedestrians to which Roger stated that appeared to be a liability issue as bicycles are not normally permitted on sidewalks. Dave Gagnier asked for financial information on the project to date and the cost to complete the project. Doug Weber said he could provide the information by the Selectboard's next meeting on July 9. Jack noted that after the Johnson Street Extension sidewalk, the Trustees would focus on repairs to Main Street sidewalks. Dave offered that the Selectboard would review the financial information at their next meeting on July 9 and also consider a letter of support for the Bike-Ped Grant.

The Selectboard recessed their meeting to move to the upstairs conference room to consider setting the 2015-2016 tax rates.

4. **2015-2016 Tax Rate**

Dave reconvened the meeting and reviewed the draft tax rates for 2015-2016 with the four Selectboard members, Kim Moulton and Ron Rodjenski present. The town rate is increased by 2 cents and the school homestead rate decreased by about 2 cents. See attached tax rate sheet. Motion by RA to approve a municipal tax rate of \$0.6715 and a school homestead tax rate of \$2.0931 for FY2015-2016. Seconded by BJ. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

5. **Adjourn** – Motion by Brian to adjourn. Seconded by Roger. So voted at 9:13 p.m.