

**HYDE PARK ROADS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
July 14, 2014**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Committee;  
please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.*

**Members Present:** Brian Jones, Greg Paus, Troy Hayford, Mike Dubie,  
**Members Absent:** Jim Heath  
**Others Present:** Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Jim Fontaine, Diggins Road

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Ron called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. **Minutes** – Motion by Greg Paus to approve the 06-23-2014 minutes, as written. Seconded by Mike Dubie. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
2. **Road Categories and Public Benefit Discussion** - Diggins Road resident Jim Fontaine was present to present his statistical information on Diggins Road owners and property values as well as similar information on other Class 4 roads with year-round homes. Jim noted that town records show the road was never officially upgraded to Class 3 standards but prior owners along the road have made some improvements and the town has done some improvements. Jim's information showed that Diggins Road contributed far more annual tax revenues than any other Class 4 road, about \$58,000 in annual town taxes. Jim provided a Waitsfield Class 4 road policy which had a number of levels of improvement based on need and use. The committee's June 23<sup>rd</sup> private road memo was reviewed by the Selectboard on July 10, resulting in a special meeting to be scheduled in August with those landowners. Mike Dubie will visit the four private roads (Crabapple Lane, Sylvan, Mason and Hemingway) to provide some basic information to the Selectboard on their condition and any needed improvements. Mike advised that some issues such as right-of-way and steep grades would require professional engineering to estimate the costs to upgrade. The Selectboard will need all of the information to then decide if the roads should remain private or be upgraded to public. Ron Rodjenski noted that the standards are in place to reduce future town maintenance costs for roads. The question of who pays for the upgrades and any legal or surveying work will need to be answered by the Selectboard.
3. **Next Tasks** – Ron R to expand the report from Jim Fontaine to include all roads subject to further discussion. The report will provide an initial list of facts about the road; such as tax revenue, number of homes, public services or facilities on the road, classification mileage, state aid and known significant issues, such as steep grades, large structures and drainage issues.
4. **Other Business** – The Selectboard has asked that a special meeting be held for the Selectboard to meet with the owners of the four private roads which are presently being maintained by the town. The Committee agreed that their August 11<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting could be used for this purpose. Ron R will confirm the date with the Selectboard then notify landowners.
5. **Next Meeting** – August 11, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.
6. **Adjourn** – Motion by MD to adjourn. Seconded by GP. So voted at 5:35 p.m.