

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 8, 2012**

*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](mailto:info@greenmountainaccess.tv) or 802-851-1592*

**Members Present:** David Gagnier (DG), Vice-Chair; Mike Dubie (MD); Roland Boivin (RB); Brian Jones (BJ); and Roger Audet (RA)  
**Members Absent:** None  
**Others Present:** Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Kerri LaMaster; Matthew Tracey; Green Mountain Access Television videotaped this meeting.

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

1. **Welcome and Public Comment** – The Board welcomed new member Roland Boivin.
2. **Review Minutes** - Motion by BJ to approve the February 9, 2012 as written. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
3. **Organizational Meeting** – Motion by MD to nominate DG as Chair. Seconded by RA. So elected without objection. Motion by MD to nominate BJ as Vice-Chair. Seconded by RA. So elected without objection. Motion by RA to appoint Ron Rodjenski as clerk, set meeting dates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 p.m. and designate *The News and Citizen* as the official newspaper for public announcements. Seconded by MD. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

The Board discussed the draft mission statement and will review at a future meeting. DG offered that his goals for 2012 were to meet the current budgeted expenses and keep operations level funded. Committee appointments will be made in April, including Mary Foss to Cemetery Commission and Jim Heath being interested in a position on the commission as well.

4. **Liquor Licenses 2012** – Motion by MD to approve the liquor license for VFW. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Motion by BJ to approve the liquor license for Sweet Crunch. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
5. **Access Permit LaMaster** – Fluery Road – Matthew Tracey explained that it would be thousands of dollars more expensive to build the driveway as previously approved by the town coming off the private road than to come directly off Fluery Road. Kerri LaMaster explained that the approved driveway crosses other properties and runs along the rear yard of an existing house, so those properties would be negatively impacted by the approved driveway. The Board discussed the desire to reduce the number of cuts onto town highways when possible, but also recognized that there was a lack of a written policy to that effect for Class 3 roads. Rodjenski noted that there were access policies in place for state highways and Class 2 town highways. The Board felt that the culvert size should be revisited with the road commissioner, possibly upgrading to 18” from the recommended 15” diameter. Motion by MD to approve access cut for Lot 1 onto Fluery Road. RA seconded. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
6. **New Town Highway Standards** - Rodjenski advised that while there may be costs to comply with 100% of the new standards on all new projects and in annual maintenance activities, the town should be working toward compliance with the standards over time as they are directed toward reducing erosion and more stable roads. A new policy draft will be reviewed in April.
7. **Better Back Roads** – The application for 2012 is still pending.
8. **Town Garage Lighting** – The contractor is moving in next week.
9. **Town Highway #38** – The Board discussed the value of an existing through-road easement and asked if there was any public value to discontinuing Class 4 roads. The Board felt that they could not predict the future and should not give up public rights-of-ways. Rodjenski will advise the neighbors that the board is not inclined to approve the request to discontinue TH #38.

10. **Overweight Permits** – Motion by MD to appoint Dawn Slayton as the town agent to review and issue overweight permits each year; such appointment to continue annually until a new person is appointed. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Motion by RA to add the below restrictions to the approval of overweight permits for 2012, and for each year following, until amended by the Selectboard:
- a. For all town highways, village streets and bridges there shall be no truck traffic during Spring Thaw from March 1 to May 15, unless permission is granted by the road commissioner for individual trips on specific day(s) and/or time(s).
  - b. Whitcomb Island Road Bridge – no traffic in excess of 24,000 lbs at any time.
  - c. Village Streets – no weight in excess of 24,000 lbs at any time of the year, except for local traffic having business within the village limits, but not including traffic on Route 15 and Route 100 which is governed by the state highway limits and approvals.”
- RA seconded. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
11. **Class 2 Paving and Town Highway Structures Grant** – Motion by BJ to approve the grant applications for Ferry Street paving and Garfield Road culvert at the Beaver Lake outlet with Dave Gagnier authorized to sign any additional paperwork. Seconded by MD. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
12. **Internal Controls** – Rodjenski noted that it is important for the town to continue to work on policies to address internal controls and to adopt specific methods to address unassigned fund balances. The board agreed that a goal of having policies in place by year end is desirable. Rodjenski reviewed a FY12 revenue projection showing budgeted revenues exceeded by \$200,000 but he noted that projected expenses may offset that additional revenue. The Board will look at expenses and any projected increase to the unassigned fund balance in April.
13. **Tax Stabilization** - The Board asked that Rodjenski prepare a few examples of different stabilization programs and how each one could impact residential property owners in town.
14. **Animal Control Ordinance** – The 02/27/12 draft was reviewed and the board asked that it be provided to the animal control officers and the general public to help prepare a second draft for public hearing.
15. **Facility Use Policy and Fees** – The Board would like to see a town application form similar to the State BGS form. The form should have potential users broken down into groups and then each group would have specific fees, or no fees, associated to that group. The requirement to have insurance or TULIP coverage would depend on the type of use proposed. A new policy and application form will be discussed in April.
16. **Solid Waste District Commissioner** – Motion by MD to appoint Harold Bailey for the remainder of the open term. Seconded by BJ. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
17. **Town Service Officer** – Motion by BJ to appoint Ron Rodjenski as the Town Service Officer. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
18. **Town Holidays** – Motion by DG to adopt the following schedule 11 holidays each calendar year which would apply to all town employees, to be consistent between highway and town office staff, with hours pro-rated for employees working less than 40 hours per week as averaged over a calendar year:
- New Year's Day
  - Martin Luther King Day
  - Presidents' Day
  - Town Meeting Day FLOATER HOLIDAY
  - Memorial Day
  - Independence Day
  - Labor Day
  - Columbus Day FLOATER HOLIDAY
  - Veterans' Day
  - Thanksgiving Day
  - Christmas Day
- Seconded by RA. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained (MD), Motion passed.

19. **Fringe Benefits**— The Board reviewed the taxable fringe benefits and will adopt a policy at a future date, however, the town staff should examine this issue and make any required adjustments, if needed, to comply with IRS Rules after informing town employees if any changes would be made to their existing payroll or tax situations.
20. **Peddler's License**— The request for a hot dog cart on Main Street was referred to the Village trustees for comment and opinion on whether the town or village or both should permit use of town and village streets for this type of activity.
21. **LVRT Act 250 hearings** - Motion by DG to appoint RA to be the Selectboard representative at the upcoming hearings on the LVRT. Seconded by MD. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
22. **Myette Zoning Enforcement Matter** – BJ and Rodjenski are attending a mediation with the town attorney on March 16th in Waterbury.
23. **Front Porch Forum** – Rodjenski requested that the Board approve the implementation of the email community service now through the use of the unassigned fund balance which would be recovered in FY13 as approved by voters at town meeting. Motion by MD to borrow \$1,150 from the unassigned fund balance to immediately start the FPF service, such amount to be paid back in FY13. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
24. **Town Orders** – Motion by RA to approve the payroll order. Seconded by BJ. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained (MD – town employee), Motion passed. Motion by MD to approve town warrants. Seconded by RA. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
25. **Adjourn** – Motion by BJ to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Seconded by MD. So voted.