

HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES June 28, 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 or 802-851-1592

Members Present: David Gagnier (DG), Chair; Brian Jones (BJ), Vice-Chair; Mike Dubie (MD); Roland Boivin (RB); and Roger Audet (RA)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Town Treasurer Kim Moulton; Harold Bailey; Deanna Judkins; Carolyn Jones; Debbie Slayton and Chasity Fagnant

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

1. **Sterling View Mobile Home Park** – Ken Harvey noted that the town received a state grant in 1988 to assist in the construction of a senior mobile home park (originally co-sponsored with the towns of Morristown, Hyde Park, Eden and Wolcott; now only Hyde Park and Wolcott). The amount was in excess of \$188,000 and was borrowed for construction. Ken Harvey signed a promissory note to make it affordable, beginning with a 0.0% increase in year one (1999), then gradually increasing up to 4.0% in 2011, until paid with a balloon payment in 2014. Harvey noted that water, sewer, and trash fees are covered by the park's \$200 monthly lot fee, which is not true for most other parks. The principal amount due now is \$94,922. DG suggested that the town might consider refinancing since only 0.25% interest has been charged since 1999. Ken said he would consider anything at this point. DG suggested that the town could propose a refinancing schedule and new promissory note that would be close to the current payment amount being paid to Hyde Park and Wolcott so as not to significantly impact the residents. Ken noted that the State Housing Authority has a first right-of-refusal to organize the tenants to help them purchase the park.
2. **Recreation Field Alcohol Use** – Deanna Judkins was present to discuss alcohol use at the McFarlane recreation fields. The Board asked the recreation committee to investigate what other towns do to allow alcohol use during softball league games and report back to the Board on July 12th.
3. **Special Motion** – DG noted that there are a bunch of things Ken Harvey does for the town, such as truck inspections and loaning his mulcher, which he never bills for and DG publicly thanked him for things he does. Motion by MD to authorize the release of unused chloride pellets at the highway garage to Ken at no cost. Seconded by RB. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **VTrans Bike Facility Grant** – The Board reviewed a bike rack grant to fund a new metal rack that would be located at the Lanpher Memorial Library to replace the existing wooden bike rack. Grant applications are due June 29, 2012. Motion by MD to approve the submittal of the 2012 bike rack grant to VTrans with no match funds required from the town. Seconded by RA. Discussion: Rodjenski noted that the library trustees are working on the concrete pad installation which is not funded by the grant. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
5. **Fiscal Year End Action Items**
 - a. **End of Year Invoices** – Invoices to be paid on July 2 or 3 next week total \$35,644.54 from the general and highway funds. Library has \$1,845 and Recreation

has \$6,178 which will be paid out of their funds. Generally, the town is on track to meet its budget.

- b. **General Fund Commitments** – Rodjenski advised that the projects identified are paving, fire department tank removal, HPFD electrical generator, and cash payment for the North HP/Eden Fire Department rescue truck, noting that the Selectboard could also “un-commit” those funds at a later date to free up those funds. Motion by MD to commit the funds for the five projects from the projected unassigned fund balance per the list below.
- i. Commit \$99,253 for FY13 paving (Source: FY12 FEMA Spring Flooding Grant Revenue)
 - ii. Commit \$50,000 for FY13 paving (Source: Unspent FY12 Paving Funds, Unspent Wages)
 - iii. Commit \$10,000 for FY13 fuel tank remove and replace at HPFD (Source: Unknown prior years)
 - iv. Commit \$6,000 for FY13 installation of electrical backup generator for HPFD (Source: Unknown prior years)
 - v. Commit \$21,560 for FY13 purchase of NHP/Eden Fire Dept. Fire Rescue Truck (Source: Unknown prior years)

Seconded by BJ. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- c. **FY13 Tax Rate** – Kim Moulton presented a FY13 tax rate calculation based on only a 0.6% increase in the Grandlist and about a 5.5% increase in expense budget at 5.5 cents more than FY12. Motion by BJ to approve a tax rate of \$0.6284 for FY13. Seconded by RA. Discussion: The Board understood that limiting the tax rate to 4 cents, less than 5.5 cents calculated, could require that the additional funds come from the town’s unassigned fund balance. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- d. **ACH payments** for taxes (electronic payments directly to town acct). Kim explained that the new system would allow taxpayers to sign up for automatic withdrawals from their checking account to pay town taxes on a quarterly basis. Kim will include forms in the tax bill mailings and on the town website. All fees are paid by the taxpayer. The Board concurred that Kim should continue to setup the ACH option.
- e. **Closing recreation account** and opening new account due to security issues with lost checks. Kim explained that they discovered a missing book of checks so there was a need to close the account to protect against unauthorized check use. The Board agreed that the account needed to be closed and approved the opening of a new one.

6. **FY2013 pay adjustments for town employees.** Mike Dubie left the room. Motion by DG to award a 2.9% wage increase for employees, effective July 1, 2012. Seconded by RA. Discussion: The town employees have been reviewed and a new system is being implemented for next year’s annual reviews. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, MD abstained, motion passed.

7. **Other Business** – Roger Audet is continuing to work on an update to the North Hyde Park/Eden Fire Department’s Articles of Incorporation to clarify that upon dissolution of the department, should that occur, the department’s fixed assets will stay with the Hyde Park Fire District #1 and all vehicles and other non-fixed assets will be evenly split between the towns of Hyde Park and Eden. The Board agreed that HPFD should only be delivering water to Hyde Park properties which means a request to deliver water to a Morrisville residence should not be allowed. RA noted that he is also continuing to work with the Hyde Park Fire Department on new job descriptions for their fire officers and firefighters.

8. **Adjourn** – Motion by RA to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by MD. So voted.