

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 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*

Members Present: David Gagnier (DG), Chair; Brian Jones (BJ), Vice-Chair; Roland Boivin (RB), Pete Couture (PC) and Roger Audet (RA)
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Kim Komer, Lamoille County Conservation District; Jared Nunery, Tree Warden; Dana Gravel; Ricky Morin; Chad Whitehead, Dufresne Group; Library Trustees Emily Dickinson and Jim Noyes. GMATV videotaped this meeting.

DG called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. **Welcome, public comment.** No public comment.
2. **Minutes:** Motion by Brian Jones to approve the minutes from December 11, 2014, January 8, 2015 and January 26, 2015, as written. Seconded by Roger Audet. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
3. **Ash Borer Plan** – Jared Nunery presented the Ash Borer Preparedness Plan describing the potential threats from the invasive species and potential costs to taxpayers. Jared worked with the high school to educate students and assist them in completed the town wide roadside inventory. Jared provided large scale maps showing the roads with highest and lowest concentrations - 601 trees were identified within 25-feet from the center of town roads. The inventory did not include private wood lots. Only larger diameter trees over 12" (146 trees) should gradually be removed over 10 years (15 trees per year) - \$60 per tree is the estimate or \$900 per year. Jared noted that the ash borer has not been observed yet but is in all surrounding states. Jared advised that one public hearing would be held to implement an ordinance and notify the public of the tree removal plan. Jared suggested that since ash is a good firewood it could be donated and the forester school in Hardwick might help with removal. Dave asked if starting now was too early and Jared said he would normally advise against cutting trees before they are diseased, but since trees along public roads create a higher safety risk, he advised that those should get ahead of this risk. The next step would be for the board to consider adopting the ordinance to facilitate implementation of the plan.
4. **Town Ordinance Review** – Dana Gravel and Ricky Morin were present to seek approval to allow snowmobiles on the north end of Garfield Road. The 1 ½ mile between Wolcott on Morey Hill Road and onto Garfield Road into Eden would be allowed on a temporary basis. A permanent ordinance could also be pursued if needed. The board had no concerns with the use for the remaining of this year and will review the VAST Landowner Permission Form for use of the public roads. Dana advised that VAST will create the trail outside the travel lanes and install the appropriate signage.
5. **Kim Komer, Aquatic Organism Passage Grant** – Kim reviewed the Cleveland Corners Road culvert which was installed in the 1970's and now has problems at the outlet due to erosion. Trout are also blocked at this one location on the Rodman Brook – otherwise fish passage is open to the Lamoille River. The material and special equipment costs would be paid by US Fish and Wildlife but highway would contribute labor and regular town equipment for about a week and one-half in 2016. Kim is seeking approval to bid and perform final designs and construction plans. The Board agreed to move forward with the bid process and Kim will be sending out two projects, the other location being in Eden.

6. **Land and Water Conservation Fund** – FY2015 Grant Application due February 16. The Board discussed the existing restriction on 13 acres of the 32 acre town gravel pit parcel. The restriction was created when a 2004 LWCF grant was accepted. LWCF provides 50% grants for recreational projects. Motion by Pete to not apply for LWCF funds this year but prepare a conversion plan, working with the recreation committee, and then seek conversion approval before seeking more LWCF funding. Seconded by RA 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
7. **New Village Planning Commission** – Dave attended last night’s meeting with the Trustees and reported that Tim Yarrow said if they had to make another similar significant change they would have done it in a different manner. Dave reported that the Trustees are willing to continue working with the Selectboard on other town-village issues. Ron summarized the process outlined by the Trustees – first creating the village planning commission, then a new village zoning bylaw, new appointing a new village DRB and village administrative officer.
8. **Annual Certificate of Mileage** – Motion by RA to sign the annual mileage certificate adding Locke Avenue as a Class 3 Town Highway of 0.23 miles and reclassifying 0.08 miles of Commonwealth Avenue to Class 4 (westerly end). Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
9. **Town Meeting Day Review** – The Board reviewed the major changes in the FY2016 budget and the order of the presentation at the meeting. A recent request from the Library trustees was also discussed to improve handicap access to the library during the winter months. In regard to on-street parking and towing, Ron reported that the request for an updated village parking ordinance was forwarded to the Village Trustees.
10. **Purchase Orders** - Motion by Roland to approve an amendment to PO#29, increasing the FY2015 amount to \$95,000 for winter salt. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Motion by Roger to approve PO#32 for \$6,500 for the replacement of the freightliner plow truck hydraulics pump. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Ron noted that to date, winter salt expenses have been \$80,500 and highway hopes that \$95,000 will get them through the remainder of the winter.
11. **Review Town Orders:** Motion by RA to approve the town orders. Seconded by PC. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
12. **Other Business:**
 - i. **Grandlist** - Motion by Roger to approve the “Certificate of No Appeal or Suit Pending” for the 2014 Grandlist. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - ii. **Road Name** - Brian Jones relayed a road name issue from JB McKinley that the name should be McKinistry Hill Road with a second “ i “. Ron provided a 1957 USGS map using two “i’s “ and a 1790 genealogy document using one “i“. More research needed.
 - iii. **VAST Permission Form** – Motion by Roland to authorize Dave Gagnier to sign the Permission Form with conditions; a map of the VAST trail be provided and snowmobile travel to be outside the highway travel lanes. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - iv. **Chad Whitehead** – Introduced himself and explained that he was working with the Village on water and sewer facility improvements in the village. Chad would like to be on the contact list for any town road and bridge projects.
 - v. **Executive Session** – Motion by Roland to move into executive session to talk about a personnel matter. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
13. **Adjourn:** Motion by Brian to adjourn. Seconded by Roger. So voted at 8:00 p.m.