

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
July 9, 2015**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.  
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Selectboard Members: David Gagnier, Chair; Brian Jones (BJ), Vice-Chair; and Roger Audet (RA)  
Members Absent: Roland Boivin; Pete Couture  
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Jim Fontaine; Robert Lair; Dave Despault; Barbara Potter; Andrea Day, Dufresne Group; Nancy Tingle; Emil C Albright; Ralph Larson; Peter Gallo; Charlie Aronovici; Jack Anderson; Howard Manosh; Allen Spitzer. GMATV videotaped this meeting.

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

1. **Welcome, agenda changes were accepted as “Revised Agenda”.**
2. **Public Comment**

Mason Road Acceptance – Mr. Despault from Mason Road asked if anyone had heard from the project developer, Mrs. Smith. No one had heard anything. The Board will send a letter to Mrs. Smith asking her to work quickly on preparing the road deeds to Mason Road and Hemingway Road.

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail – Allen Spitzer presented a written update on the construction of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, entitled “Rail Trail Progress 2015”. Spitzer noted that the trail maintenance crew doesn’t have funds to buy a mower for the trail sides however it is in the plans for the future. Allen asked is Hyde Park would donate mowing within the town limits this year – from Sterling View Road to Depot St area. One pass on each side is needed to keep tall grass and weeds from entering the trail. Dave G suggested it might only be possible if the highway crew has time. DG will talk to Road Commissioner Ken Alexander about his summer schedule.

North Hyde Park Scoping Study - Nancy Tingle asked about the cost, which is \$31,250. Ron noted that additional costs listed on the capital reserve plan cover a number of years beyond the first scoping study phase and future costs could be much more if anything is built. Nancy felt that the North Hyde Park residents at the last meeting did not seem excited about sidewalks being built and seemed to prefer other improvements first.

3. **Hyde Park Connectivity Grant – Local Concerns Meeting**

Andrea Day, PE reviewed the process of a scoping study and asked for public comments. Current discussions have identified limitations to crossing Route 15, parking constraints, utilities and non-connected sidewalks. Nancy Tingle felt that a crossing at the roundabout would not be safe and was built to improve safety for vehicles at the intersection. Nancy advised that the existing sidewalks need improvement first. Dave Gagnier noted that the elementary school may be moving which would take away another community amenity to connect. Nancy agreed that there were higher priorities along Main Street compared to crossing Route 15. Andrea noted that the scoping study takes a long-term look at improvements and a Route 15 crossing could be listed as less important today. A draft Purpose & Need statement from Springfield VT was reviewed. Andrea encouraged people to fill out the questionnaire and return it to her to be included the report. Nancy Tingle stated that people walk anytime during the day and night and are presently walking through neighborhoods and other loops using seriously deteriorated sidewalks. Nancy explained that the courthouse generates walkers and we should be making the village more attractive to the new visitors now using the Rail Trail. Allen Spitzer said that no one in their right-mid would cross at the roundabout but a crossing at Lamoille Union would get used more to get onto the Rail Trail. Dave G stated that crossing Route 15, even with an automobile, is now difficult. Allen noted that trail construction is coming to end this season. Nancy noted that East Main Street is a curving road with low visibility so any new pedestrian use would be difficult. Jack Anderson stated that he observes walkers on East Main Street and a safe

route, other than along the road edge would be beneficial. Jack stated that East Main Street connects to the future commercial area near Route 15 so it would be good to plan pedestrian improvements to that area to improve safety. Jack noted that he has seen visitors to Hyde Park that come just to visit the village sidewalks. Peter Gallo would like to see improvements that link Village locations to the Rail Trail, noting that Sweet Crunch has just started to see new customers from the Rail Trail. Charlie Aronovici stated that the Johnson St Extension project was intended to eventually connect the municipal offices and high school to the Village sidewalks. Peter Gallo supported improving connections to the trail. Jack did not want to overlook East Main Street as that area is likely to see the most commercial growth. Nancy noted that the elementary school parcel is pretty wet and improvements would be costly if a village to commercial area connection is pursued south of East Main Street. Peter Gallo stated that Moss Woods and the French House will become more public in the future and those should be included in the connections. Dave G agreed that improving the trailhead connections would be a good to continue to pursue. Charlie offered that the first trailhead location has not been approved due to environmental issues and an alternate location has not been identified. Charlie expressed support for bike lanes within the Village. Dave G cautioned that adding a bike lane could impact snow removal to which Andrea stated if the road is narrow the bike lane would basically be a painted shoulder so that area is most likely already being plowed. Nancy expressed concern for losing on-street parking with the addition of bike lanes. Nancy stated that the village streets do have lighting. Ron offered that the current LED street lighting is for vehicles and new pedestrian lighting could be installed that is directed to sidewalks but still provide light for the street. Peter Gallo stated that the LED street lights are lighting up homes and streets and asked if there was a way to modulate that level of lighting for pedestrians and streets. Allen Spitzer noted that the new Rail Trail pedestrian bridge in Morrisville was \$225,000 and maybe a tunnel under Route 15 at LUHS could be cheaper. Jack Anderson offered that granite curbing with concrete is a better long-term investment for sidewalks and Barb Potter noted that granite was more attractive. Nancy suggested more outreach and Jack agreed that an insert in the electric bills would help give residents a chance to offer input at this early stage. Andrea thanked everyone for their time. Ron handed out the contract for Dufresne Group for the Selectboard to review. Motion by RA sign the Agreement with Dufresne Group for an amount not to exceed \$34,400 and to authorize Ron R to sign any paperwork necessary for the grant. Seconded by BJ.. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

4. **Johnson Street Extension** – Jack Anderson stated that the July 17<sup>th</sup> is the grant deadline for 2015 Bicycle Pedestrian Program Grant and a Selectboard letter of support suggesting some level of town funding commitment would be good. Dave stated that approving funding at this point is hard for him with unresolved issues on maintenance. Jack noted that it would be necessary to plow in the winter and that issue can be resolved. Jack asked for the letter of support to mention the possibility of town funding support versus committing at this point. Brian agreed and was concerned at the \$421.00 per foot cost for this section of sidewalk. Brian feels that due to the expense of the project future town funding support should be voted by the taxpayers. Roger noted that earlier tonight he heard that some village residents felt other existing sidewalks needed improvement first. Roger agreed that adding more length to village sidewalks when existing sidewalks are not being maintained needs more discussion. Motion by BJ to approve a letter of support for the Bike-Ped Grant application but to have any town funding requests on the 2016 Town Meeting warning. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

5. **Access Permits** –

- a. **Webster Road** – Ralph would like to install a 5-foot diameter used fuel tank on Webster Road and near the Lague home. Ralph stated that property owner's using the road will maintain the Class 4 road to Grimes Road. Ralph would like to replace the plank bridge before winter and 5-foot is sufficient for the stream. Ralph offered that he would also provide an as-built survey of the existing road at his cost. Ron noted that the existing maps are unclear so surveying the road is recommended at this time. Ralph was asked to pursue a state stream alteration permit for the bridge work and, when the survey is completed, the Selectboard could begin the formal town highway relocation proceedings.

- b. **Puckerbrush East Road** – Emil Albright Access Permit – Dave reported that the road commissioner looked at the depth of the existing gravel on the grassed loop portion of Puckerbrush East Road and both of them felt that since the gravel base was there, the road only needed to have the grass removed to then fine grade to prepare for plowing. Some gravel may be needed in the southeast corner of the loop. Commissioner Alexander felt that the work to complete the road was minimal and could be done by the town this summer. Motion by BJ to approve the work by the town which was a condition of the access permit for 440 Puckerbrush West Road with work completed later this summer. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- c. **Tyler Maynard** – Ron asked how the town wants to address land development on deficient town highways, such as Diggins Road and Puckerbrush East. Jim Fontaine noted the two subdivision projects resulting in 13 new parcels had no conditions to improve the hill section of Diggins Road's Class 4 section. Dave G noted that if Class 4 roads wanted to upgrade a Class 3 road then it is the landowners' responsibility which is a different situation from minor improvements to a Class 3 like Puckerbrush East. Dave suggested that the town engineer should provide an estimate of the upgrade costs to the fire pond. Jim noted that underground power runs along Tyler's property and should be reflected on the plans. Jim noted that getting an engineering estimate would help the discussion move forward. Motion by DG to table Tyler's highway access permit and authorize Ron to obtain an engineering estimate for the upgrade of Diggins Road. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
6. **Monthly Reports** – The Board reviewed monthly reports.
7. **LCPC Representatives** – Motion by BJ to appoint Paul Provost as the town's representative to the LCPC Commission and appoint Mike Dubie to the LCPC Technical Advisory Committee. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
8. **Review minutes:** Motion by RA to approve the July 1, 2015 minutes as written. Seconded by BJ. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. The Board tabled the June 11, 2015 minutes until a quorum is present.
9. **Review Town Orders** – Motion by BJ to approve the town orders. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
10. **Other Business**
- i. 2015 Town Unified Bylaw - The Town Planning Commission's zoning bylaw draft dated July 1, 2015 was received. Dave G noted that the bylaw was 155 pages long and should be discussed at a special morning meeting with Greg and all five members. Ron will set up the meeting.
  - ii. Town Listers Request - Motion BJ to approve the town listers' Errors and Omissions adjustment to the 2015 Grandlist regarding Tyler Maynard. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
  - iii. Town garage and fire station – The State's underground injection notice is being reviewed by Ron and it may result in floor drains being filled or redirected. Ron is waiting for clarification from the State on discharges to the surface being allowed if an oil separator is installed.
11. **Adjourn** – Motion by Roger to adjourn. Seconded by Brian. So voted at 8:22 p.m.