

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2016**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.
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Members Present: David Gagnier, Chair; Brian Jones, Vice-Chair; Lucy Hankinson; Roger Audet;
Roland Boivin
Members Absent: Teresa and Twig Farquharson
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator

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

1. **Welcome:** Two agenda changes; add Morrisville Water and Light appeal of state permit and move road personnel issues to the end of the meeting. No public comment received.
2. **Town Health Officer Appointment** – Ron noted that he met with Keith Ulrich and Keith recently retired as a paralegal with the State of Vermont and is now looking to volunteer within the community. Motion by Brian to accept Dave Gagnier's resignation from town health officer and appoint Keith Ulrich to town health officer for a 3-year term. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
3. **Personnel Policy Amendment** – Continued discussion from the last meeting to extend health benefits for long-term employees. Ron presented a revised page 19 to the 2016 Policy for review. Lucy suggested changing the town share to 89% for each step of the three steps; 2, 3 and 6 months based on length of. Motion by Roger to approve an amendment to will allow the current 89% town cost share to continue as long as the employee is terminating employment on good terms and had been enrolled in the current plan for at least 5 years prior to the date terminating. Seconded by Roland. Discussion: Ron noted that the town offers employees a payment cash-in-lieu option and the Board confirmed that this was only applicable to employees enrolled in the health benefit plan. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Highway Department Matters**
 - a. **Working Group on Village Streets** – Motion by Roger to appoint Jim Fontaine and Susan Bartlett to the Village Streets Working Group with Lucy being the Selectboard representative. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - b. **Mason Road & Hemingway Road** – Set Site Visit & Hearing Date. Motion by Lucy to set a hearing date and site visit for November 14, 2016, beginning with a site visit at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
5. **Courthouse Pocket Park** – Ron reviewed the history of this project noting that the pocket park perimeter was staked this afternoon for the Selectboard and side judges to view. Ron asked that the Selectboard consider using some reserve funds to help complete the project this coming fall. Motion by Roger to approve funds for the pocket park, not to exceed \$2,000, from the Pedestrian and Sidewalk Reserve Fund. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
6. **Lamoille Valley Rail Trail** – Ron reviewed the multi-year process. Motion by Roger Audet to authorize Dave Gagnier to sign the VTrans lease for the trailhead facility once all the paperwork is in order. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Dave will be out of town for the last two weeks of October and first two weeks of November.
7. **Town Listers' Errors & Omissions Report** – No assessment changes were required, just informational changes regarding two parcels; Maxham and Burnham. Motion by Brian to approve the changes to the Grandlist, seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

8. **Review Monthly Reports:** Reviewed the Sheriff, budgets, Task List & Grants Reports. Dave asked about the status of the Maynard road damage claim and Ron noted that Maynard may have hired an attorney to challenge the town's claim. Ron will relay the on-going 19 VSA 1111 permit compliance concerns regarding Tyler Maynard's new house on Diggins Road to the town attorney.

9. **Review minutes:** Motion by Brian to approve the minutes from 08/11/2016, 8/16/2016, 08/23/2016 and 08/26/2016, as written. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

10. **FY2018 Budget Planning**

- a. Ron reported that most departments are familiar with the past goals of 0% to 2% growth in expenses, especially considering that the Grandlist has been averaging a growth rate of 0.50%. Budget meetings will start in October and continue through January.
- b. Ron reviewed the idea for a County Code Enforcement Officer to be added to the sheriff's department. The patrol budget committee has discussed it and funding would be similar to the process used for the new detective position when it was added 5 years ago. Code Enforcement would be similar to the school resource officer position, which is designated to serve the needs of the school system; this position would be a community resource officer, to enforce local civil ordinances and be in the community, meeting with businesses and assisting the towns with non-criminal issues. The idea is new, so feedback from anyone would be appreciated, pro or con.

11. **Review Town Orders** – Motion by Brian to approve the town orders. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

12. **Other Business and Notices**

- a. October Selectboard Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th due to the Columbus Day holiday on the second Monday.
- b. HPES 100-yr sugar maple. Ron, Dave and Brian attended the site visit today and heard from Town Tree Warden Jared Nunery that the sugar maple is a hazard tree and should be removed by the school district.
- c. Patrol Budget Committee Update – Ron noted that the next meeting is Sept 22nd.
- d. Request for double-yellow on Battle Row Road – Dave G. asked that the State be called to see if they will stripe the road. Ron thought that the state may have done it 5 years ago but recently has only been painting Class 2 town highways.
- e. Dry Hydrants – The Selectboard is supportive of the highway department working with the fire department to resolve the operational issues at the three dry hydrants identified in a recent inspection. The Town of Johnson just installed a dry hydrant off Wilson Road, so that will support North Hyde Park's service needs.
- f. The annual Lamoille Economic Development Corporation's luncheon is on October 20, 2016; for those interested in attending they should RSVP to John Mandeville.
- g. A recent fire department invoice was paid late recently and incurred a \$75.00 late fee. The billing date is now changed to give the department more time for processing; if that doesn't work the Selectboard will request that the billing address be changed to the town clerk's office.
- h. Vermont Public Service Awards – Dave presented Roland Boivin with a recognition award for over 20 years of Community Service from the Vermont Secretary of State.
- i. Green River Reservoir – An appeal by Morrisville Water and Light has been filed in Superior Court regarding the State of Vermont's water quality certification. The Selectboard decided to not participate as it will be a big fight and there are other projects for the Selectboard to work on.
- j. Delinquent Taxes – Roger asked for a summary status report from the Delinquent Tax Collector for the review at the Selectboard's October meeting.

- k. Tax Sale – Ron noted that a tax sale is coming up. Motion by Brian to authorize Roger Audet to represent the town at the upcoming tax sale. Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - l. Cake for Lucy's birthday enjoyed by all.
13. **Executive Session** – Discuss Ken Alexander transition plan & possible new Lead Crew Member Position. Motion by Brian to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Motion by Brian to authorize Dave Gagnier to sign a letter of hire for the lead operator position, conditioned on the response of the employee. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
14. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Lucy. Seconded by Brian. So voted at 8:07 p.m.