

# Joint Meeting Town Working Group & Village Working Group

***November 28, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – 344 VT15 West***

**Present: Jim Fontaine, Susan Bartlett, Ken McPherson, Don Waterhouse, Lucy Hankinson, Dan Young, Ron Rodjenski**

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1. Agenda Review, Additions and/or Deletions, Approve

Tim opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. asked if there were any changes to the agenda; none made.

2. Open Public Comments \* *limited to a total of fifteen (15) minutes, five (5) per person*

No public comment received.

3. Town Working Group, report by the Chair, Lucy Hankinson

No update other than the Selectboard is excited to hear that work is progressing well.

4. Village Working Group, report by the Chair, Tim Yarrow

Don Waterhouse was present to review the village facilities located within roadways; water, sewer, electric and sidewalks. Tim provided an overview of the road discussion which includes understanding the best way to address all layers of infrastructure within roads, such as water, sewer and sidewalks. Don agreed, stating that tearing up roads should wait until the water and sewer mains in the roads are addressed, including the services from those mains to businesses and homes. Don noted that the water lines are 100 years old and the Village is meeting with the Vermont Rural Water Association to collect GPS information on the water lines, pumps, springs, etc. Jim agreed that looking at the infrastructure first is necessary. Don felt that since the cast iron pipes are all about the same age, you can take your pick on what to do first. Don reported that most water lines are 5 ½ feet down and sewer is deeper in some sections, with 10-foot separation since they run on opposite sides of the roads. Don noted that not all service lines are as deep as the mains. Don stated that the Prospect St main is a 6" line for a way and some of the lines have not been seen since installed. The line to the fire station is plastic. Don stated that if money was not an issue you would start at the well with a larger line and come right through the village. The existing fire service allows one hydrant to be opened, but not two, due to water pressure loss. An 8" line comes from the Fitch Hill reservoir and 16" is needed to meet fire protection needs in the village. Don Waterhouse noted that dry hydrants help and reduce demand on the Fitch Hill 200,000-gallon capacity, noting that the fire department is aware of the water system's limitations. The flow from the spring source on North Hyde Park Road was reduced from 50 to 40 gallons per minute, today, due to an overflow at the reservoir on Fitch Hill Road. Don felt that the water source has more than enough capacity for the village's future needs. The well's main line from the water supply source sends one 4" cast iron south to serve Dolly Cubit's home on VT100, then to the reservoir on Fitch Hill Road. A 6" plastic main from the spring to the reservoir via travels along Centerville Road then goes westerly to the reservoir just north of the fire station. Sewer lines were installed in 1978 and do not need immediate attention; and Don reported that they are asbestos cement. Some main water lines are 2" plastic and 6" and vary in material type. The Town office water supply is 4" from Sylvan Drive and a 2" main continues to Kristi Lane's 6-lot subdivision and ends. The forthcoming water study from Rural Water will define the limits of the water system and type of materials. Ken asked about the constraint on sewer and Don stated the size

of the disposal field is a constraint. Don stated that the pipes are large enough to carry more wastewater flow through the Village. The high school is not connected to water or sewer. Don estimated a cost of \$277 per foot to extend the line from the Catholic Church to the LUHS about 1,700 feet away from the westerly end of West Main St. Dan Young noted that there is a lot going on with horizontal drilling technology to replace lines without excavating the line first. Don felt that the water line on Church St would be high priority, with 4" cast iron feeding East Main St toward MSI. Mill St is plastic, but north of Mill it is 6" cast iron along Depot St which should be replaced. Main St and Prospect etc. can be rebuilt next. Don noted that there are 20 fire hydrants and most of them now need to be replaced, noting the mains should be greater than 8" for the best fire protection. Water pressure is 80 for most of the water system and 130 PSI at bottom of Depot St. Don stated that the hydrants are not in good shape and sometimes you don't know if they will shut off when flushing. Most side streets have 6" water mains. Don stated that the poles are owned 50% by Fairpoint and 50% by HPE and Comcast rents space on the poles. The cost of burying electric is prohibitive per Don and Jim agreed, especially for a small electric department. Don recommended replacing water lines a little at a time. The sewer lines were replaced in 1978 and the village missed an opportunity to replace water mains at that time, which could have saved money while the roads if both were done while the streets were excavated. Don felt that the sewer lines are now fully disconnected from stormwater lines, based on the work completed this past summer at the final house known to have been connected to the stormwater system. Ken asked about restrictions on future development in the Village and Don stated it wouldn't be the spring source or sewer main lines. Don stated that the wastewater treatment capacity is sufficient to accommodate more growth with more engineering. Jim Fontaine started a worksheet of roads to be evaluated by the group to track the needs for each and later determine priorities. Jim stated that a written water line improvement plan is the first place to start and is being pursued. Susan asked if short-term solutions to sidewalks need to be explored and Lucy agreed that the water mains seem to be a long-term project and short-term improvements need to be discussed. Susan advised that the possibility of changing traffic patterns is a big issue and that conversation should start soon within this group. Jim asked for traffic studies of all seven routes into the Village for next summer. Ron mentioned that he got a call on the potential sale of a parcel that contains a significant percentage of the Water Source protection area on North Hyde Park Road, noting that the upcoming Village stormwater master plan is being pursued through a grant to be managed by LCCD.

#### 6. Discussion of Village road issues, concerns and priorities

Tim asked for next steps. Jim stated that the next meeting should focus on setting up a process for the committee and how it will eventually be presented to the legislative bodies. Carol Robertson will be invited to the January meeting to provide her perspective on priorities.

7. Next Meeting: A special meeting will be held on Monday, December 12 at 8:30 a.m. (rather than the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in December) at the Community Meeting Room.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 p.m.