

HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES January 9, 2017

*All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes.
Meetings may be videotaped and such recordings are held by Green Mountain Access Television (GMATV).
GMATV info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park, VT 05655; info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 802-851-1592*

Members Present: David Gagnier, Chair; Brian Jones, Vice-Chair; Roland Boivin; Lucy Hankinson; Roger Audet
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Road Foreman Mark French; Carl Powden, VT Land Trust; Don Bullard, Bullard Lumber; Greg Paus, Chair of Town Planning Commission; Mark Lehouillier; Brad Carriere, FAST Squad; Kate Willard, Dept. of Forest Parks and Recreation; Fire Chief Ed Webster; George Cook, FAST Squad; Ryan Nolan; Jim Fontaine; CW2 Matt Reed, VT National Guard; Eric Williams; GMAVT videotaped this meeting

1. **Review Agenda & Public Comment:** 3 items added to agenda: Vermont Land Trust report, Matt Reed from VT National Guard and town treasurer request to accept FY2016 Audit. Carl Powden and Don Bullard were present to review the possibility that land at the end of Heath Road would have conservation easements acquired by the Vermont Land Trust and then held by the State of Vermont. Don Bullard stated that there would not be much of change observed by the public and it would remain a working forest, noting that 58 acres is being held without easements for family members use. Kate Willard stated that 40 acres are not within easement area in Hyde Park and will be unrestricted, noting that the purpose of the conservation easement is for the land to remain working lands and remain owned privately. The state will monitor the easement over the long term. Motion by Brian to authorize Dave to sign a letter of support for the project. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
2. **Highway Department Matters:**
 - a. Wage Study: Dave stated that the job descriptions in the highway department have just been updated and no additional work on wages is needed at the current time.
 - b. Road and Bridge Standards – Motion by Brian to approve the 2017 Road and Bridge Standards. Seconded by Roger. Discussion: Jim Fontaine asked about Page 4, Exceptions. Ron stated that the except section is where the comments from the fire chief are needed to confirm that existing lots can be served by the current condition of the road. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - c. **Roadside Brush Cutting Equipment** – Mark French reported that the used tractor & roadside mower that the town has been using is available for purchase for about \$40,000, about the same as a new tractor without an attachment. Dave stated that he feels the town benefits by renting this type of equipment, not purchasing one, due to the maintenance costs. Dave noted that should the Grandlist grow in the future, he would feel better about buying new to get more use and placing one into the replacement cycle for equipment. Mark Lehouillier felt that with only two weeks of rental each year, the town would not catch up nor maintain the roadsides once cleared. Dave felt that it was an investment we would never realize if we need to replace the equipment every 10 years. Roland stated that he would like to see one tractor, not buying a second one for roadside cutting, noting that Stowe uses a belly pan for their attachment. Roland would like to try to plan for one bigger tractor to do both sweeping and roadside brush cutting. No action taken at this time.
 - d. **Centerline painting** – new item proposed for FY2018 – The town has received requests for double-yellow on various paved town highways. Motion by Brian to approve \$5,000 for FY2018 for line striping of paved roads as determined by the road foreman. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

- e. **Joint “Better Connections” Grant Resolution & Application** (due Jan 13th) – Ron reviewed the grant application that was drafted by LCPC Senior Planner, Seth Jensen. The technical services provided under the grant was estimated at \$70,000 with a 10% local match. Brian asked what happens with reconfiguration of highways and who makes the final decision. Dave asked if the Selectboard could write a letter of support pointing out that the Selectboard controls the final decision on any projects. Ron said that could go in a letter of support but it may hurt the application if ROW authority appeared unclear. Roger said that the town and village should come to an agreement on the control of roads as soon as possible. Dave felt that it was clear; the Selectboard controls highways and applying for more grant funds could muddy up the control more. Lucy felt it was a good grant opportunity to get the work done in partnership with the village and work through these issues. Motion by Brian to sign the resolution to apply for the Better Connections grant. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against motion passed.
 - f. **Mason Road and Hemingway Drive, Certificate of Opening** – Motion by Brian to sign the Certificate of Highway Opening for both Mason Road and Hemingway Drive. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
 - g. **FY2018 Budget Continued** – Town Garage Renovation – Greg Paus advised that Efficiency Vermont has assigned a project manager to assist the town in developing a scope of work, noting that paving of the yard has been added, one 24 x 60 repair bay on west end of building possibly with a truck lift, a gable over the south side entry, add fixed pane windows to north side, and new concrete work. Greg noted that the town could use \$100 per square foot as a guide. A shed attached to the north wall would contain the compressor and fuel storage and a generator for both the town office and town garage. Greg noted that the air and noise inside the garage could be addressed and the floor drains must be sent to an oil-water separator. Exterior wall siding is in rough shape and adding R-value will be important to reduce heating costs, recommending a sandwich panel to add 6.6 R-value which would result in exterior walls exceeding the new energy code for commercial buildings. Greg estimated the cost of everything would be \$200,000 or more and Efficiency Vermont will consider funding support for energy upgrades but not all renovations. The Board discussed doing everything at once and asking for an extension on the closing or redirecting of floor drains. Greg will work on a final scope of work, meet with Efficiency Vermont, and then have his firm’s estimator bring real numbers back to the Selectboard, most likely going to voters at 2018 Town Meeting.
3. **Vermont National Guard Building** – VNG Supervisor Matt Reed updated the Board on the new building construction, the closing of St Albans and Lyndonville Guard sites and moving into the new 38,000 square foot space this April. Matt noted that groups can ask for rental use of the space once it is open, such as temporary emergency services operations, equipment storage, use of a large classroom and two warm-up bays. Matt recommended that prior approval for use is best and he hoped that the community would make use of it from time to time. Matt noted if a state of emergency occurred, then the State would control the use of the facility, including serving as an emergency shelter.
4. **FY2018** – Final draft of municipal budget and first draft of Annual Warning
- a. **Fire Department Brush Truck Replacement** – Ed Webster stated that a new one-ton single-axle pickup would be set up with the existing brush truck body, with the addition of more cabinets, estimated cost is \$60,000. Ed noted that his firefighters use their own trucks to transport fire equipment, but are not covered by town insurance for that purpose. Brad Carriere asked if the VLCT vehicle insurance extends to use of private vehicles for firefighters to carry equipment, site visits by Selectboard members, etc. and FAST member responding to a 911 call. The Board asked Chief Webster to pursue bids and come back when ready to discuss again. Ron will contact VLCT on the various insurance scenarios.
 - b. **Brad Carriere, HP FAST Squad** – Brad was present to discuss an increase to the FAST budget for a stipend for FAST first responders; increase by \$3,000, to \$5,000 for FY2018. Brad noted that he is providing information following the Selectboard’s meeting with a town resident that had recommended the Selectboard consider some sort of compensation for the FAST Squad volunteers. Brad reported that there were 107 calls in 2016. 18 calls resulted in FAST squad member responses that overlapped with fire calls. The three current members responded as

follows: 81 by Brad, 40 by George, Dot responded to 18 – only 3 calls resulted in all 3 present and 12 calls had 2 members. Brad proposed maxing at \$1,000 per year; reduced proportionately if members did not respond to all calls, for example, if responding to ¼ to ½ of the calls, then the responder would receive \$500. The Board discussed an amount per or hourly and if the town had increased liability when not able to respond. Most calls were estimated to take one hour, which would be a minimum per call. The Board asked Brad to come to the next meeting and present a proposed hourly rate for a final discussion on the stipend proposal.

- c. **Town Office Cleaning** - New town employee position for town office cleaning. The Board agreed with the drafted job description but recommended reaching out to current employees first before trying to hire someone for only 2 to 3 hours per week. Ron noted that the previous cleaners charged \$15/hour.
5. **Monthly Reports;** Task List; LCSD; Town Accounts – The Board reviewed the monthly reports.
6. **Review minutes** – Motion by Brian to approve the 12/12/2016 minutes as written. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
7. **Town Orders** – The Board reviewed the town orders presented by the Town Treasurer for payment. Motion by Brian to approve the town orders, seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
8. **Other Business and Notices**
 - a. **County Budget** Hearing is Jan 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Courthouse; Lucy will attend.
 - b. **Reappraisal** – Status report from Board of Listers stated that about 15-20% of the reappraisal has been completed since July 2016. Completion is still planned for the April 2018 Grandlist.
 - c. **LVRT Trailhead** – The Court signed the settlement of DRB zoning appeal with David Ring and Roland will follow up with David Ring to see if Mr. Ring mentioned donating the 30 x 50 to the Selectboard at their last meeting on December 12th.
 - d. **Set Special Meeting** - Final budget meeting & signing the Annual Warning for Town Meeting Day; Mon. Jan. 30 at 6:00 p.m.
 - e. **Volunteer Search** – Outreach for committee volunteers has started; letters due Mar. 13.
 - f. **Casella emergency waste site** – Buzz at the Agency of Natural Resources said temporary waste materials and debris following a natural disaster would be just for the event, and be stored short-term, then the Casella operation would return to prior conditions.
 - g. **FY2016 Audit** - Kim asked that the Board vote “to accept the FY2016 Town Audit as presented by Glenna Pound, CPA”. Motion by Brian to accept the FY2016 Audit prepared by Glenna Pound. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
9. **Adjourn** - Motion by Roland to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Brian. So voted.