

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
June 29, 2017**

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

Members Present: David Gagnier, Co-Chair; Lucy Hankinson, Co-Chair; Roger Audet; Susan Bartlett; Roland Boivin

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Town Treasurer Kim Moulton; Paul Trudell, 248 West Main Street; GMAVT did not videotape this meeting.

1) **Agenda & Public Comment** – Paul Trudell was present to remind the Town that he had an agreement with the highway department, from 6 years ago, to protect his lily-planted hill near his driveway, about 500 feet in length. Paul does not know why they were just mowed this week, just prior to flowering. Susan explained that while roadside drainage and maintenance are critical to the road function, in some instances the town should be able to skip some areas that are not a road safety issue. Susan apologized for this year’s roadside mowing. Dave agreed that in some limited situations the residents may make use of the roadsides, like in the Village where roads are narrow, but confirmed that the right-of-way is for town road maintenance and it’s hard for the town road crew to jump around. Ron stated that there are three roads this summer with residents asking for mowing protection; West Main St, North Hyde Park Road and Marcoux Road. Susan encouraged the development of a policy, with written notice to neighbors to explain the policy, once one is developed. The Town will be facing increased pressure from the state to reduce roadside erosion, which may limit private uses of the right-of-way. Roland noted that structures and other private uses in the ROW will impede the maintenance, noting keeping the 25-foot from road center area clear is important. The Board agreed to work on a town-wide policy and Dave apologized to Paul for his cut flowers. Susan asked for a work session to discuss amending or adopting new policies.

2) **2017-2018 Municipal Tax Rate** – Kim presented a proposed tax rate calculation for FY2018 of \$0.6982/100. The local agreement rate for Veterans’ exemptions can’t be calculated until the school rates are received from the State later in July. The tax rate, using the same local agreement rate as FY2017, is 1.61% higher than current FY2017 rate. In the Town Report, published for the 2017 Town Meeting, the projected FY2018 tax rate increase was 2.37%. The lower increase is due to a slightly lower amount to be raised by property taxes and a slightly higher 2017 Grandlist than estimated last January. Motion by Roland to approve the \$0.6982/100 municipal rate and to approve Kim Moulton calculating and including the FY2018 local agreement rate in tax bills. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Kim noted that the mailing of tax bills may be delayed if the school tax rate information is delayed coming from the State. Kim will provide public notice of the delay, however per state law, the first quarterly tax bill will be due 30 days from the date the bill is issued.

3) **North Hyde Park/ Eden Fire Department Request for \$4,000 for thermal imager** – Roger noted that the Town of Eden recently approved \$4,000 from their share of the purchase. Motion by Lucy to approve up to \$4,000 from the fire equipment reserve fund for one thermal imager for the North Hyde Park / Eden Fire Department, such final amount to be determined based upon 50% of the actual acquisition cost. Seconded by Roger. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention (Roger works with NHPO/Eden), motion passed.

- 1 4) **MRGP Pilot Project – Letter of Intent Due July 5th** – No project has been identified and the
2 summer 2017 highway work load is full. Susan expressed concern for Centerville Brook
3 and cloudy/mud appearance lately in rain storms. Dave noted that brooks are filled in with
4 gravel which pushes on the banks and creates erosion. Ron noted that there may be a
5 second round of funding, but those projects will have the same 06/30/18 deadline. Motion
6 by Roger to table the letter of intent, seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against,
7 motion passed.
- 8 5) **Contract for Services due to no Workers’ Comp** – Three vendors need work contracts
9 with the Town because they could not provide a copy of their workers’ compensation
10 coverage document. Motion to authorize Roland to sign Contract for Services for K-N-S
11 Tire Recycling, Chief’s Maintenance and William Allen Welding. Seconded by Roger.
12 Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 13 6) **Purchase Order #8 – FY2017 Bulk Diesel Fuel** – Motion by Roger to approve purchase
14 order #FY2017-08 for highway department winter and summer diesel fuel in a “not to
15 exceed” amount of \$65,000. Seconded by Roger. Discussion: Ron noted that this PO
16 should have been approved with all other bulk PO’s at the start of FY2017. Voting: 5 in
17 favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 18 7) **Assignment of FY2017 funds to FY2018** – for highway garage or other purposes. No action
19 as the highway department is still working on the defining garage improvements to be
20 completed with the \$7,500 approved at Town Meeting by town voters.
- 21 8) **Appointment of Ryan Nolan as Town Fire Warden** – expires June 30, 2017 – Roger
22 mentioned an incident recently when a permitted burn site resulted in the call out of the fire
23 department. Dave stated that issue can be discussed under other business. Motion by
24 Roger to appoint Ryan Nolan as Town Fire Warden for a 5-year term, ending June 30,
25 2022. Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 26 9) **Appointment of Greg Paus as LCPC Director** – Motion by Roland to appoint Greg Paus as
27 Regional Director for a 1-year term, ending June 30, 2018. Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in
28 favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 29 10) **Highway Access Permit HPES** – Request for waivers – Motion by Lucy to not immediately
30 grant B-71 waivers, pending the Selectboard’s discussion at a future meeting with HPES,
31 or its representatives, regarding justification for waivers. Seconded by Roger, Voting: 5 in
32 favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 33 11) **Other Business** – Dave asked why the **Lanphear manure pit clog** was called in as an active
34 fire. Roland will follow up with Chief Webster. Dave asked about whether town insurance
35 covers damage to private property when the fire department provides community service
36 with public equipment, such as **filling swimming pools**. Ron noted that the town’s
37 insurance manager, VLCT, does not recommend providing community services due to
38 increased liability from activities on private property. The VLCT legal advice is to not do it,
39 unless it is clearly tied to a fire fighter training opportunity. Roger asked if the firefighters
40 responding to community service were paid for their time. Roland will follow up with Chief
41 Webster on call outs for community services and permitted burns and report back to the
42 Board on July 10th. Roland asked about a **Center Road culvert failure**, near Phelps
43 residence, and Dave stated highway was aware and has a temporary repair in place
44 pending culvert replacement. A special meeting was set for July 25th at 5:30 p.m. with
45 dinner for a **policy worksession**.
- 46 12) **Adjourn** – Motion by Susan to adjourn. Seconded by Roland. So voted at 9:15 p.m.