

1 **HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD**  
2 **MEETING MINUTES**  
3 **December 11, 2017**

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

7 Members Present: David Gagnier, Co-Chair; Lucy Hankinson, Co-Chair; Roland Boivin; Roger Audet;  
8 Susan Bartlett  
9 Members Absent: None  
10 Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; State Reps. Matt Hill and Dan Noyes; Gwynn  
11 Zakov, VLCT; Town Treasurer Kim Moulton; Charlie Aronovici; Scott Griswold; Mary  
12 Paul Loomis; Matt Reed; GMAVT videotaped this meeting.

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13 David opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

- 14 1) **Welcome, Public Comment & Agenda Changes** – No public comment or agenda changes.
- 15 2) **State Representative Matt Hill** – Representatives Matt Hill and Dan Noyes were present to ask those  
16 present for suggestions and topics that the state representatives could bring to Montpelier in the  
17 next session. Dave Gagnier asked whether the state could assist with road maintenance costs to  
18 Green River Reservoir. Susan supported a review of the road maintenance costs and the State Reps  
19 agreed to consider it. Ron noted that a 2013 Legislative Report on state funding support to towns is  
20 on file showing that Hyde Park was receiving more state funding than the \$2,000 annual  
21 maintenance costs related to state park traffic. *Roland appeared at this point (6:10 p.m.)*. Susan  
22 asked that the State Reps review the new MRGP requirements and its increased costs to all  
23 municipalities.
- 24 3) **Town Audit FY2017** – The Board reviewed the annual town audit report. Kim Moulton explained that if  
25 anyone did not want to keep the hard copies, then she would take them back. Kim noted that this is  
26 the third year with no significant deficiencies and the report had a couple recommendation for the  
27 upcoming year. Roland will ask Ed Webster to bring in all firefighter personnel files for filing at the  
28 town clerk's office. Motion by Roger to accept the FY2017 Audit, Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in  
29 favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 30 4) **Town Audit RFP** – Dave noted that Glenna Pound has been very helpful in his years working with her  
31 on the annual audit. Kim noted that town policy requires the town treasurer to ask for a waiver of the  
32 bid requirement to retain Glenna for another 3-year term. Kim noted that the annual audits began in  
33 2011 at \$14,000 per year and the next three years are no more than \$10,000 due to town staff  
34 assisting the in the process. Motion by Roger to approve the waiver of the 3-year bid requirement,  
35 and authorize Dave to sign the Engagement Letter for Glenna Pond, CPA for FY2018 at \$10,000,  
36 FY2019 at \$9,750, and FY2020 at \$9,500. Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion  
37 passed.
- 38 5) **Mary Paul Loomis** – River Arts Board Member. Pixie introduced herself and spoke about the value of  
39 River Arts to Hyde Park residents; including 28 Hyde Park individuals that participated in camps,  
40 and many others could have participated in the public events, although records are not kept. A letter  
41 from Dominique Gustin, Executive Director, stated \$555.00 in scholarships were awarded to Hyde  
42 Park residents. Pixie noted that Morrystown contributes \$10,000 and River Arts would like to ask  
43 \$1,000 from Hyde Park. Dave noted that the request would go first to town voters and he had no  
44 issue in waiving the policy requirement for first time requests to be supported by a petition. The  
45 Board agreed that no petition would be required and the Selectboard would put forth the request on  
46 their own motion for this coming Town Meeting.
- 47 6) **Matt Reed** – Matt presented the state's required notice for a proposed wastewater system on the Chauvin  
48 parcel that overshadows the town's Center Cemetery on McKinstry Hill Road. Overshadow means  
49 that the systems required minimum isolation zone extends onto a neighboring parcel. Matt noted  
50 that there is an easement on the west side of the cemetery for public parking. The Board thanked  
51 Matt for the information and agreed that the over-shadowing is not a concern for the Selectboard.

1 7) **Gwynn Zakov, VLCT** – Gwynn provided an overview of VLCT services and support services to Towns;  
2 noting that 246 towns are members of VLCT and she is part of the advocacy team with Karen Horn.  
3 VLCT attends the legislative session every day and provided the 2018 Municipal Policy Priorities  
4 handout with her contact information. Gwynn focuses on highway legislation. The VLCT Municipal  
5 Assistance Center (MAC) provides templates for policies, human resource assistance and legal  
6 reviews. Gwynn reminded the Board that every Friday during the legislative session there is an  
7 update sent to all towns.

8 8) **Joint Economic Development Board** – Charlie Aronovici was present and advised that the Harvey loan  
9 principal could have been used for economic development. Susan explained that the use of Sterling  
10 View Mobile Home Park loan proceeds was intended for economic development but is now being  
11 used for highway capital equipment. Susan suggested using \$4,000 of the annual \$8,000 for  
12 initiatives that would support growth in the Grandlist. Susan explained that she feels that the school  
13 renovation should result in a new beginning and improved reputation for the school, noting a school  
14 with a good reputation can improve property values. Susan noted that economic development  
15 opportunities increased with the recent designation of Hyde Park being eligible for federal New  
16 Market Tax Credits. Susan noted that in January, John Mandeville from the Lamoille Economic  
17 Development Corporation can meet with the Selectboard to review the process of private/public  
18 partnerships. Dave asked about a plan to help move investments forward and Susan noted that  
19 some funds can help answer those questions and to develop plans. Susan stated that zoning can  
20 be changed, if found too restrictive, and putting some money aside now can help even small  
21 businesses get started. Charlie noted that Hardwick’s good success was started from state grants  
22 turned into low and no interest loans and currently Hyde Park has no resources to work with people  
23 that may be interested in support. Charlie stated that using Ken Harvey’s loan is a realistic and  
24 reasonable option to pursue. Modifications to the current use of the annual \$8,000 will be discussed  
25 during the remaining FY2019 budget development process.

26 9) **Highway Department**

27 a) **Better Roads Grant** – Rob Moore, LCPC, presented the LCPC final report, dated December 2017,  
28 on high erosion road segments. The report includes a project synopsis, maps and spreadsheet on  
29 each road segment that is hydrologically-connected, following Agency of Natural Resource and  
30 Agency of Transportation guidelines. The report summary shows that Hyde Park has 185 road  
31 segments, totaling 11.5 miles, to be worked on over the next 20 years with another 154 segments  
32 (each segment 100 meters in length) being compliant with best practices outlined in the forth-coming  
33 MRGP. 32 road segments are subject to other state permits and not required to comply with the  
34 MRGP. Another MRGP requirement will be a 5-year capital plan which is outlined in the report  
35 (workplan) and includes a rough budget. Rob noted that the town is about two years ahead of the  
36 forth-coming permit requirements for a workplan with the completion of this report. Dave stated that  
37 he disagrees with the costs of these plans and new highway mandates that won’t make a difference  
38 due to New York and Canada not having controls on phosphorus and municipal plants sending  
39 phosphorus. Rob explained that it is complicated, and it will take time and money to work through the  
40 new mandates. Susan said the planning work being done now makes it more structured and makes  
41 a better argument for more state aid to help comply over the next 20 years. Rob noted that LCPC  
42 funding sources are directed to public agencies, not private landowners, but he is continuing to look  
43 at ways of reaching out to the public on the new MRGP permit requirements, like wider roadside  
44 ditching. Rob noted that there are a few road maintenance best practices to focus on, such as  
45 removing berms, and the Town will set the priorities for larger projects. Roland asked about the black  
46 piles being delivered to farm fields and then spread on local fields to which Scott Griswold stated it  
47 was ash from Burlington Electric Department and Ron stated that he also heard it was ash from the  
48 B.E.D. McNeil Generating Plant. John Bornemann explained that an informational handout on the  
49 new MRGP would be good for residents and farmers to explain the impacts of the MRGP and give  
50 folks a chance to raise concerns with their legislators. Gwynn stated that agricultural impacts on Lake  
51 Champlain are on the table, but town and state highways were the low-hanging fruit to work on first.  
52 Gwynn encouraged sending a town letter to the house and senate committees to explain the local  
53 impacts – including any town concerns on a potential per parcel fee for continued state stormwater  
54 work. Rob explained that there are grant funds to help, like the Grants-in-Aid program. Gwynn noted  
55 that some towns are facing huge costs. The Board thanked Rob for his work on the erosion study.

- 1 b) **Class 3 and 4 Discontinuances** – The Board members agreed to individually view the following  
2 roads and discuss again in January: TH27 (**Munson Road** – Entire Class 4); TH38 (**Webster Road**  
3 – north end Class 4); TH44 (**Bornemann Road** – end only Class 4); TH69 (**Orchard Terrace** – end  
4 only Class 3); and TH73 (**Unnamed** at Garfield Crossroad – entire Class 4). John Bornemann  
5 explained that the costs of improving a temporary woods road (now Bornemann Road) to his parcel  
6 and Sigh's Drive was shared between the town and residents. John said that everyone understood  
7 that the town road ends at the Bornemann shop and was not proposed to extend to his house.
- 8 c) **Summit Engineering Agreement** ‘Sink Hole’ project MM/EH Grant West Main Street. Motion by  
9 Roger to authorize Ron Rodjenski to sign the Summit Engineering agreement in the amount of  
10 \$53,194. Seconded by Lucy. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 Against, motion passed.

11 **10) FY2019 Municipal Budget Worksession**

- 12 a) **NEMS** – Newport Ambulance – Scott Griswold reviewed the 19.4% increase (proposed with no wage  
13 increases) compared to the 32.5% increase (needed with wage increases) and the capital plan  
14 funding has not been kept up with and now needs to be increased. Scott noted that one stretcher  
15 costs \$24,000. Medicare increase is 1.1%, not a decrease but the rates do not meet our inflation,  
16 with payments at 67 cents on the dollar from Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement is 50 cents on  
17 the dollar, with the difference going to the member towns. The cost to maintain adequate staffing is  
18 impacting ambulance services. Dave asked for stats and Scott said they were working on it for the  
19 annual report. Scott noted that there was a subscription service that covered the amount not paid by  
20 insurance. The FY2019 request is about \$35 per capita with the statewide average being over \$50  
21 per capita, noting costs are going up each year. Roger stated that a fundraising effort could help  
22 residents become aware of the needs of NEMS and to help keep it going. Roger proposed that a  
23 resident of each town could be on a committee focused on fundraising. Lucy asked for an information  
24 sheet detailing the reasons for the budget increase and Scott said he is working on that to help  
25 taxpayers understand the needs and costs. Scott noted that in the long run, the medical services and  
26 emergency services in towns are likely going to need to be all regional services, not town by town.  
27 Scott stated that Belvidere and Waterville are looking at approving the higher budget and Roger noted  
28 that Eden was looking at the lower budget. The Board will discuss again in January.
- 29 b) **Highway Department & Capital Plan** – Ron reviewed the highway operational budget which is  
30 looking close to level-funded, but increases for highway employee wages and the on-going town  
31 garage repair needs are not yet included in the budget. The fund balance is significant this year due  
32 to recent delinquent tax revenues and the Board will look at wages and Fund Balance in January.
- 33 c) **Recreation Committee** – Expect to present in January.
- 34 d) **Remaining Budget Items** – Wages and Capital Reserve Appropriations. Ron reviewed the capital  
35 reserves as needing some continued work on life-cycle and increasing annual appropriations to the  
36 fire vehicle reserve. Susan stated that she has looked at the highway department wages and feels  
37 an increase is due. Dave asked that the town should look at comparable towns like Wolcott,  
38 Waterville, Belvidere and Eden. Susan suggested that a \$2 per hour market adjustment to highway  
39 would be appropriate. Dave wanted to look at other highway department's road mileage and wages.  
40 Dave suggested looking at contracted help to relieve the crew of tasks like sand piles. Lucy stated  
41 that call-in time is not yet in the town policy with a minimum call-in being 3 hours being available in  
42 other towns. John B. agreed that 3-hours was a fair minimum call-in time. John B. felt that the crew  
43 worked very well together on the recent Bornemann Rd upgrade with machinery always working and  
44 good product. Ron will prepare a first budget draft with a 2% cost of living increase and send to the  
45 Board for review in January.

46 10) **Monthly Reports** - The Board reviewed the LCSD monthly report and Town Cash Account Report.

47 11) **Review minutes**; Motion by to approve the 11/13/2017, as written. Seconded by Roland. Voting 4 in  
48 favor, 0 against, 1 abstain (Dave was absent), motion passed. Motion by Susan to approve the  
49 12/7/2017 joint board minutes as prepared by the Village, seconded by Roland, So voted.

50 12) **Review Town Orders** – Motion by Roger to accept and approve the orders submitted by the Town  
51 Treasurer, seconded by Lucy. Voting: 4 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

1    **13) Other Business & Notices**

2           a) Appoint Paul Trudell to Village Roads Working Group – Motion by Lucy to appoint Paul  
3           Trudell to the Village Roads Working Group. Seconded by Susan. Voting: 5 in favor, 0  
4           against, motion passed.

5           b) Second & Final Municipal Plan Hearing December 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 p.m.

6           c) Quick Updates: Ron provided a quick update on the Village Pocket Park which is needing a  
7           proposed construction plan, possibly near the Veteran Memorial on the Courthouse easterly  
8           boundary line; the LVRT Trailhead which is moving toward Summer 2018 construction but  
9           still pending the environmental plan to cap the area; the recent Village Stormwater Master  
10          Plan meeting with Watershed Consulting with work on-going through this winter & the Sink  
11          Hole project which is pending a formal grant agreement with VTrans and then work on right-  
12          of-ways.

13          d) Newsletter Update: Susan provided a draft of a Town one-page newsletter on current events  
14          which would go to all residents. The Board will send any comments to Susan or Ron.

15    **14) Adjourn** – Lucy confirmed with the members that there was nothing left to discuss tonight. Motion by  
16    Roger to adjourn. Seconded by Lucy. So adjourned at 9:43 p.m.