

1 **Selectboard**  
2 **September 21, 2020**  
3 **Virtual Meeting**

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. And some are posted on YouTube;*  
6 *GMATV info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park, 05655; [info@greenmountainaccess.tv](mailto:info@greenmountainaccess.tv) or 802-851-1592*

7 Members Present: Susan Bartlett, Chair; Roland Boivin; Dave Gagnier; Roger Audet; Brian Shackett  
8 Members Absent: None  
9 Others Present: Brad Carriere, Mark French, John Savage, Ed Webster, Sheriff Roger Marcoux, Brent  
10 Lanphear, Ricky Morin, Ryan Nolan, Mark Lehouillier, Chris Jones, Tim Labombard, Town  
11 Administrator Ron Rodjenski  
12 Virtual Attendees: Patti Hayford; unidentified phone participants

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13 Susan opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

- 14 1) **Welcome** and accept agenda.
- 15 2) **Record Digitization Grant** - Kim Moulton applied for and was successful in securing \$30,000 for land record  
16 digitization. The town's current land records vendor will complete the work. Motion by Roger to authorize Kim  
17 Moulton to accept the grant and sign necessary related paperwork and to accept the KoFile contract to  
18 complete the work and authorize Kim Moulton to sign that contract. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor,  
19 0 against, motion passed. 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 20 3) **Highway** – Mark French reviewed the proposed turnaround on Norm Andrew's parcel, on the left side of  
21 Orchard Terrace along the last home's property line. Mark said he would work on completing the work this  
22 Fall. Brian explained that the Prospect St turnaround was also going to be completed this Fall by J Hutchins  
23 with a final design working with the neighbors. The final design will likely result in a utility pole relocation near  
24 the sharp corner and water line work may be in the next several years. Brian noted that a thin coat of  
25 pavement can be done now and later the final layer, after the water work. Susan advocated for doing  
26 something now to get through this winter with a minor repair. Roland said a minor repair was good with  
27 neighbors and having a skim coat from the 90-degree corner to the end. Mark French asked about the contract  
28 with J Hutchins. Susan said it needed to be discussed. Roland noted that drainage is an issue to resolve, noting  
29 that shimming what exists and paving the turnaround is a temporary fix. The Board will review a new plan  
30 with neighbors over winter with a shim and overlay until the pole is relocated and water line work is complete.  
31 The tree replacement would be discussed after water line is replaced and Roland noted the water line  
32 schedule is needed. Susan asked Roland to talk with J. Hutchins. Mark felt that Hutchins is only paving, and  
33 Norm's is mostly dirt work which highway needs to do.
- 34 4) **Traffic and Speed Control** – Sheriff Roger Marquis was present with one deputy. Susan noted that FPF  
35 comments on speeding resulted in a need to have a board discussion. Susan noted that the installation of  
36 speed signs was planned by the VT DOC work crew, but they were stopped from working by COVID-19. \$18,000  
37 is the estimated cost to install all the signs per the 2018 Traffic Ordinance. Ron is working on a plan for  
38 installation. Sheriff Marcoux explained that it is difficult to solve this issue with current resources. Deputy Dan  
39 Locke was introduced by Sheriff Marcoux. Sheriff Marcoux explained that we have had many requests for  
40 directed patrols and residents seeking a police presence on roads which can be done when time is available  
41 on the deputy's shift. LCS D is working on addressing speed issues as they occur, but Sheriff Marcoux noted a  
42 dedicated officer for traffic only seems to be the best option that residents in all three patrol towns are  
43 seeking. Sheriff Marcoux noted that commuter times are hard to cover with one deputy on shift and trying to  
44 cover all other requests for service, making it hard to sit on any one road for any amount of time on speed  
45 patrol. Susan noted the speed radar signs are working. Sheriff Marcoux stated that he provided the two signs  
46 for each of the three towns and suggested more could be installed. Roland asked about the noise from loud  
47 exhausts & dark windows on cars and Dave noted that a certain percent of drivers will always speed, even  
48 with new signs. Susan stated that it's hard to know exactly how fast cars are going when walking on roadside.  
49 Sheriff Marcoux will review the complaint process followed by his dispatch team when taking speeding

1 complaints, such as can drivers' names be reported versus needing to provide plate numbers to LCSD. Susan  
2 asked about the movable speed bumps which are not installed over the winter and asked if that was  
3 something to look at. Mark French thought that slow roads might be ok for speed bumps. Dave thought that  
4 speeding was maybe being made more of an issue than it is and Sheriff Marcoux stated as Sheriff he can't  
5 ignore the speeding complaints he is receiving and it takes more boots on the ground to get at this issue. Ron  
6 noted that the traffic statistics are available from past speed studies on some roads, and the Town should  
7 consider how much more speed enforcement to apply with a new dedicated position. Roger offered that a  
8 person hired would need to be dedicated to speed enforcement which would relieve other officers of that  
9 duty. Dave reported on ATV use on Silver Ridge Road with ATV speed and noise being a recent complaint.  
10 Hyde Park allows ATV use on gravel roads which are now being used to access Morristown services on Route  
11 15. Dave met with the ATV club recently and they were nice and understanding of the complaints and he  
12 noted that the Sheriff has limited hours to enforce ATVs, noting ATV enforcement is done Vt Game Wardens.  
13 Dave noted that some counties have ATV police enforcement supported by VASA, noting that most ATV trails  
14 will close by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Dave said VASA was willing to pay for some regular weekend enforcement in  
15 Lamoille County. Susan noted that Vermont has not been advertising to encourage increased ATV use as much  
16 as New Hampshire. Susan expected that after COVID some of the 2020 increase will return to New Hampshire.

17 5) **Fire Services** – Susan reviewed the prior discussion on fire service costs and sustainability. Chief Ed Webster  
18 stated that the departments have met four or five times and nothing firm has been decided, noting combined  
19 hose purchasing, joint response policy and dispatch protocol are areas to be worked on. Chief John Savage  
20 noted that there are only so many ways to save on joint purchasing, and the budget is already at skeleton  
21 level. Chief Savage said he was looking at apparatus needs and ways to reduce costs. Susan asked about the  
22 annual budget and how capital planning for future replacements is impacted over the next several budgets.  
23 Chief Savage noted that they are looking at pushing replacements from 20 to 25 years. Ron advised looking at  
24 capital and not focusing on the annual operating budget. Chief Savage agreed it was important to look at the  
25 service areas of each department as equipment needs differ between Town Fire and NHP/Eden, noting that  
26 he received a lot of calls following a comment that merging is an option. Dave noted that the possibility of  
27 towns working more closely due to cost increases is being discussed and merging was on the list of options to  
28 discuss, including a county-wide option which may be in the future. Susan noted that attracting volunteers is  
29 also an issue, along with a good capital plan and maintaining good communications with surrounding towns.  
30 Dave noted that he knows people that have left firefighter service due to state-mandated training  
31 requirements. Chief Savage agreed, noting the regulations change regularly as well. Brent stated that looking  
32 at emergency services is not the best place to look for reducing property taxes. Dave stated that doing more  
33 with less is a good business practice. Chief Ed Webster noted that in the past, he only received funds for crash  
34 cleanups from commercially-insured drivers, not individual insurance. Ron noted that both departments  
35 should look at funding capital reserves using annual depreciation as a base amount to reserve annually which  
36 will help get a true cost of fire services. Brent Lanphear presented a signed petition to show support for the  
37 two fire departments. Brent noted that the summary of the petition is that taxpayers are not complaining  
38 about the amount of taxes being paid now for fire services. Roger Audet asked why his tax dollars go to cover  
39 Belvidere and Chief Webster stated he does not bill Belvidere. Brent noted that Belvidere pays for Johnson  
40 Fire Department and Johnson provides some coverage to the two fire service areas and NHP/Eden goes with  
41 Johnson on structure fires. Brent stated that he is writing up an agreement for coverage provided to towns  
42 that are not in the existing county mutual aid agreement.

43 6) **Sustainable Police Services Study Group** - Defer to October.

44 7) **Unclassified Road:** Ron provided a list of unclassified roads, private roads that are publicly maintained by the  
45 town: Sylvan Dr., Heath Road, Beam Rd, Leriche Rd – The Board asked for an informational packet on Sylvan  
46 Road for review and then they would consider meeting with landowners.

47 8) **FY2022 Budget** – The Board would like to see level-funded for presentations and will meet on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
48 Mondays for Oct and Nov. at 6:00 p.m. November 2 is proposed to be the annual fire meeting at the NHP/Eden  
49 fire station.

- 1 9) **Michael Bartlett** – Motion by Roger to authorize the conveyance of the land at 5659 VT Route 100 to Michael Bartlett  
2 by Quitclaim Deed and the mobile home at 5659 VT Route 100 to Michael Bartlett and Stephanie Adams by Mobile Home  
3 Bill of Sale in exchange for his payment of \$5,067.61 in back taxes, fees, and other Town expenses incurred with  
4 respect to the property and to authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign the Quitclaim Deed, Mobile Home Bill  
5 of Sale, and any other related closing documents. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion  
6 passed.
- 7 10) **Town Planning Commission** – Ron reported that a letter was received from Zac Cota that due to work  
8 commitments he needed to resign. Motion by Dave to accept the resignation of Zac Cota from the Town  
9 Planning Commission. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 – 0 in favor, motion passed.
- 10 11) **Town Energy Committee** – Ron reported the Meg Taylor is interested in a position on the town energy  
11 committee to join Elisa Clancy, Denise Green and Christine Hallquist. Motion by Roger to appoint Meg Taylor  
12 to the Town Energy Committee. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 13 12) **MPG21** – Ron reported that the Town PC is recommending joining with the Town of Cambridge on a planning  
14 grant to consider the impacts of Act 171 and study impacts of increasing visitors to the Green River Reservoir  
15 State Park, possibly developing a GRR Access Plan. Ron noted that LCPC will provide grant management and  
16 there is no local town grant. Motion by Brian to approve the MPG21 consortium grant application with the  
17 Town of Cambridge and authorize Susan to sign the resolution and required paperwork. Seconded by Roland.  
18 Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 19 13) **Town Orders** – Motion by Roger to approve the town orders as presented. Seconded by Dave. Voting: 5 in  
20 favor, 0 against, motion passed
- 21 14) **Law Enforcement Study Group** – Motion by Roger to Appoint Chris Jones and Peter Gallo as Hyde Park  
22 representatives. Seconded by Roland Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed
- 23 15) **Hazard Mitigation Plan Action Items** – The Board reviewed the draft action items and the draft 2020-2025  
24 Plan is available on the town website for review and comment.
- 25 a) Complete planning for an upgrade to the existing municipal stormwater management system located within  
26 the State-designated Village Center's Main Street area with information to be provided in the Lake Champlain  
27 Basin Program's Stormwater "Net Zero" Showcase Project (2021)
- 28
- 29 b) Install new stormwater management system to attenuate flood storage and erosion with the VT Agency of  
30 Transportation's Johnson Street Extension's "Sink Hole" Project (2021)
- 31
- 32 c) Study the feasibility of implementing a Community Rating System and, as part of that Agency of Commerce  
33 and Community Development's grant, conduct NFIP workshops and advise community on local hazards,  
34 bylaw improvements, and flood protection measures (2021)
- 35
- 36 d) Use existing conditions site plan to prepare for replacement of the undersized, and not on proper alignment,  
37 Beaver Lake Culvert (#B29 – near 2365 Garfield Road); see Watershed Consulting Existing Conditions Site  
38 Plan) (2023)
- 39
- 40 e) Complete final hydraulics study and consider new "run of river" State permit requirement for Green River  
41 Reservoir Dam (Morrisville Water & Light ANR permit) and existing erosion issues at for Garfield Road culvert  
42 (#B37 – at Green River Reservoir Dam Road); a possible new covered bridge entrance to Green River  
43 Reservoir State Park (2025).
- 44
- 45 f) Install generator, with solar generation option, and backup battery supply for town offices and highway  
46 garage.
- 47
- 48 g) Produce summary report on COVID-19 in Hyde Park and correct any deficiencies in town's response,  
49 including on-site PPE supplies, community non-congregant housing inventory and preparations (including

1 options for homeless population, and expanding connections to regional support groups for delivery of food,  
2 medicine and medical appointment transportation.

- 3  
4 h) Support current feasibility study for expansion of broadband services to all homes in Hyde Park and  
5 implementation as soon as possible working with regional and state partners (2024)

6  
7 Motion by Roger to authorize Bob Malbon to complete the review of the draft 2020-2025 and submit to  
8 VEM for review when the final draft is available. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion  
9 passed.

10 16) **Minutes:** Motion by Roger to accept the minutes of 08/17/2020, 08/27/2020 and 09/14/2020, as written.  
11 Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

12 17) **Labor Union:** Dave asked who the Town was contacting and Susan said the town attorney Kerin Stackpole.

13 18) **Delinquent Tax Attorney:** The Board will work on the transfer of Bartlett with Angela Ross and discuss DTC  
14 attorney in the future.

15 19) **Highway Job Duties:** The Board will review the matrix of job duties prepared by Ron at the October special  
16 meeting.

17 20) **Adjourn** – Motion by Roland to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Seconded by Brian. So, voted.