

1 **Selectboard**  
2 May 3, 2021  
3 Virtual Meeting Minutes

4 *All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these*  
5 *minutes. Meetings may be videotaped and posted on YouTube; GMATV info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park*  
6 *[info@greenmountainaccess.tv](mailto:info@greenmountainaccess.tv) or 851-1592*

7 Members Virtual: Susan Bartlett, Chair; Dave Gagnier; Chasity Fagnant, Roland Boivin; Brian Shackett  
8 Members Absent: None  
9 Virtual Attendees: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Town Finance Director Alyson Cusson; one  
10 unidentified caller; Ryan Nolan; Town Clerk Kim Moulton; GMATV did record this  
11 meeting.

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

- 13 1. **Welcome**, no changes to agenda and no public comment.
- 14 2. **Fire Department Bylaws** – The Board agreed to defer until May 17<sup>th</sup> per the fire department's  
15 request.
- 16 3. **Paving 2021 RFP** – Reviewed responses to a request for proposals advertised on the State Online  
17 Bid System and emailed directly to 11 paving contractors serving Vermont. The six responses to the  
18 RFP were opened on April 26<sup>th</sup> with Pike Industries, Inc. being low bid with a per ton cost of \$66.17  
19 and an estimated project cost of \$803,635.25. Motion by Roland to award the contract to Pike,  
20 Seconded by David. Discussion: Brian stated that the bids were competitive, and we should move  
21 forward. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 22 4. **Union Bank Paving Loan** – Alyson Cusson stated that two bids were received 1.66% from  
23 Community National Bank and 1.33% from Union Bank. The paperwork from Union Bank is prepared  
24 for a \$900,000 loan with a maturity date of May 1, 2022. Alyson stated that the note, resolution and  
25 other loan documents require the Selectboard approval, and she will then complete the application  
26 with additional loan documents, such as meeting minutes. Susan noted that the terms include no  
27 penalty for early payoff and financing this large project could help us get to a regular paving  
28 maintenance cycle for town roads versus facing major repairs. Motion by Brian to approve all required  
29 loan documents and to authorize the Chair Susan Bartlett to sign the documents on behalf of the  
30 Selectboard. Seconded by Chasity. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 31 5. **Approved Vendor List** - Alyson reported that the list is posted on the town website's finance page  
32 for review, and she continues to update the information for insurance and other documents needed to  
33 pay the vendors. The town policy is to have this document approved annually by the Selectboard.  
34 Motion by Brian to approve the 2021 Approved Vendor List. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 4 in favor,  
35 0 against, 1 abstention (Dave as he did not have time to review the list). Motion passed.
- 36 6. **Contract for Services** – Pilot six-month with RLG Consultant Services. Susan explained that with  
37 less inspection work coming this summer now due to an easement acquisition delay for the Sink Hole  
38 project, it is still a good time to explore this relationship. Chasity asked if this was something the crew  
39 really wanted, and Susan explained that the construction inspection benefit was supported, and other  
40 tasks will need to be explored. Dave asked that a \$5,000 cap be set, and Brian asked for a report  
41 every two weeks. Motion by Chasity to approve the pilot agreement with RLG Consulting Services,  
42 LLC with a \$5,000 cap and a written report every two weeks. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 4 in favor,  
43 1 against (Roland), motion passed.
- 44 7. **Contract for Services, Dan Gottsegen** – LVRT Art Installation Design Contract. The Board discussed  
45 the \$5,000 design grant to be completed this year and a future art installation project with an estimated  
46 construction cost of \$40,000. Dave asked if town tax dollars would be used for installation, and Susan  
47 said the plan was fundraising. Motion by Chasity to approve the design contract with artist Dan  
48 Gottsegen for \$5,000. Seconded by Brian. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
- 49 8. **Contract for Town Assessor Services** – Ron reviewed the options of creating a county assessor  
50 position with other towns and the interim plan for NEMRC to be the town assessor with a one-year  
51 contract beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> which includes an hourly rate of \$95.00/hr. Motion by Chasity to approve  
52 the NEMRC contract to provide town assessor services. Seconded by Susan. Chasity and Susan in

1 favor. 0 against. Dave, Roland, and Brian abstaining. Motion failed. Dave wanted to know the cost and  
2 Ron explained that was hard to estimate in this current transition period suggesting a cap and  
3 continued reporting to the Board as the plan develops. Susan noted that Julie Rohleder, who has done  
4 most of the work required by the State, is leaving shortly and the Town needs to meet its obligations.  
5 Brian suggested there could be other options and Chasity said the Town has advertised for three  
6 months and no one has come forward. Ron explained that the interim plan before the July 1<sup>st</sup> contract  
7 starts is to continue to work with NEMRC, Julie and Matt. Susan stated that failing to meet the statutory  
8 deadlines could delay tax bills being issued. Ron suggested capping the NEMRC contract \$5,000 and  
9 regularly updating the board during the transition process. Roland asked if a new ad could be taken  
10 out for a \$30.00 per hour town assessor employee. Dave stated he was not against NEMRC but did  
11 not support an unknown expense. Ron stated that the Town of Johnson may be interested in partnering  
12 with an employee town assessor position. Roland stated that he has talked to people that might be  
13 interested but the growing list of state mandates on how to do the work is discouraging. Motion by  
14 Chasity to approve the NEMRC contract for town assessor services effective 7/1/2021 with three  
15 conditions; to advertise now for a town assessor employee with an hourly wage up to \$30/hour, set a  
16 \$5,000 cap for NEMRC expenses with regular updates to the Selectboard, and continue to work on  
17 county town assessor as a long-term plan. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion  
18 passed. Ron reviewed the role of the one elected town lister, Matt Reed, who has offered to help the  
19 town assessor as his time allows. Motion by Brian to appoint Matt Reed as the assistant to the town  
20 assessor. Seconded by Roland. Voting: 5 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.

21 9. **Contract for Appraisal Services** – Ron reported that quotes for appraisal services for stormwater  
22 easement valuations for the Sink Hole Project will be on the 05/17 agenda.

23 10. **Personnel Policy Amendments** – Ron stated that a list of policy areas to be discussed can be  
24 reviewed on May 17 and then a strike version developed for the full board's review. Roland suggested  
25 Chasity be the liaison for review of policy and to develop a strike version and Chasity agreed. Dave  
26 stated that the review will need to include the Union employee benefits. The Board was asked to bring  
27 policy amendment questions and suggestions to the May 17 meeting.

28 11. **ARPA Funding** – The estimated Hyde Park funding from the American Rescue Plan Act is \$293,000  
29 & the recent Harvey Loan Payoff was \$50,000. Susan asked members to bring project ideas to the  
30 next meeting on May 17, such as HVAC improvements for employee work areas and technology  
31 upgrades, noting grant guidelines and restrictions will be published soon.

32 12. **Local 300 CBA Negotiations** – The highway department Collective Bargaining Agreement is expiring  
33 6/30/2021 and the Union submitted their request to bargain so a planned group meeting is set for May  
34 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. to determine the issues to be discussed. Chasity will abstain from participation  
35 because her brother, Ryan Nolan, is on the highway department. Ron will post the highway annual  
36 work plan on the highway department web page for discussion on May 17.

37 13. **Town Office Opening without Appointments** – Brian asked what Kim needs to open without  
38 appointments after the emergency order ends July 4<sup>th</sup>. Kim stated each town office is opening  
39 differently. Kim noted she would wear a mask since she cannot confirm vaccinated or not and she  
40 cannot see immediately going back to having 5 or 6 people in the small research area at one time.  
41 Roland suggested that a sign can be posted, if not vaccinated then no access. Kim asked for funding  
42 to have online land records back to 40 years, now online back 37 years, with an estimated cost of less  
43 than \$15,000. Dave asked about lost revenue and Kim stated she continues to receive funds from  
44 downloading from the website. Kim noted that Krista Jones has been hired and she is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

45 14. **Green Up Day and ATVs** – Dave asked that the Center Road used culverts be picked up and the dip  
46 patched just north of Cleveland Corners Rd. Susan noted that Green Up Day had a huge turnout with  
47 lots of bags distributed and great help from the ATV Club. Dave asked if anyone would object if he  
48 appeared at the upcoming Morristown public meeting and let them know the ATV experience in Hyde  
49 Park has been good, no one objected. Susan noted that the ATV Club has been helpful to managing  
50 the ATV impacts on roads and neighborhoods, including helping ensure with the recent opening of  
51 certain paved roads went well. Dave noted that on a high use weekend there might be two dozen  
52 riders with families and most follow the rules.

53 15. **Adjourn** – Motion by Brian to adjourn, seconded by Dave. So, voted at 7:52 p.m.