

## UNAPPROVED

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

OCTOBER 26, 2005

7:30PM

This meeting was called to order at 7:30pm at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Chair Cindy Jerome, Vice Chair Paul Normandeau, Clerk Kevin Ryan, Shorty Forrett, and Tom Bodett

Also Present: Prospect Hill Trustees Mary Lou Schmidt and Elizabeth Catlin, Dummerston Trails Committee Member Bill Schmidt, Listers Doug Hamilton and Jean Newell, Dummerston School Board Members Dan Brown, Amy Dews, Charlotte Annis and Enid Wainwright, WSESU Business Manager Jim Kane, Dummerston Principal Jo-Carol Ratti, Dummerston Conservation Commission Members Mary Ellen Copeland and Patti Smith, Kendall Gifford, Jim Lucy, Lester Dunklee, Town Clerk Pam McFadden, Road Foreman Wayne Emery, Brattleboro Reformer reporter Bob Audette, and Administrative Assistant Laurie Frechette

Shorty moved to approve the minutes of October 12, 2005 and Warrants 8P(as amended), 9 and 9P. Paul seconded and the motion passed.

Paul moved and Mary Lou Schmidt seconded to approve the location of a trail along the bottom of Prospect Hill; the motion passed.

The Board recognized Listers, Doug Hamilton and Jean Newell, who requested that the Board officially appoint Richard Putnam as a Lister, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Beverly Knapp. Paul moved to appoint Richard Putnam as Lister to fulfill the term to expire in March 2006. Tom seconded and the motion carried.

The Board recognized Dummerston School Board members Dan Brown, Amy Dews, Charlotte Annis, and Enid Wainwright, WSESU Business Manager, Jim Kane and Principal Jo-Carol Ratti. There was much discussion on several possible cost-saving measures. Tom and Amy will work together on writing an article for the next Views of Dummerston to explain the tax rate, state funding, etc. It was agreed that more education needs to be provided regarding the property tax prebate program.

The Board recognized Mary Ellen Copeland and Patti Smith from the Conservation Commission. Patti presented information on the bio-diversity project on which the Conservation Commission and Planning Commission will be working closely together. They requested permission from the Town to apply for one or two grants (\$1000 or less and \$1000 or more) to fund the planning process. It was moved by Paul and seconded by Tom to support the grant applications. The motion carried. Paul thanked Patti and the Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center for all of their work in the Town.

The Board recognized Kendall Gifford, Jim Lucy and Lester Dunklee from the Community Center project. The project to make the Center handicapped accessible has gone over-budget due to problems with the initial design and drainage issues. In the request for a grant extension, Kendall has requested additional funds; no response has yet been received. Paul expressed his frustration with the continued escalating cost of this project and Windham Regional's inability to provide a feasible explanation. However the Board was in agreement that Jim Lucy needs to be paid for the work already done. Paul moved to authorize Pam to pay Jim's bill for \$4058.00. Shorty seconded and the motion carried. Paul questioned Lester as to whether the Community Center will reimburse the Town for fifty percent of the overage or consider treating it as a loan, to be repaid at a later date.

Road Foreman Wayne Emery reported that three quotes have been received for repairs to Bear Hill Road and East-West Road. A.S. Clark submitted a bid of \$20,000; Renaud Brothers submitted a bid of \$29,000 and Zaluzny submitted a bid of \$16,080. Wayne recommended that Zaluzny's bid be accepted. Paul so moved, Kevin seconded and the motion carried. Wayne also advised that no FEMA funds are available for these projects.

Wayne received notification from Matt Mann at Windham Regional that the wooden guardrails will be installed at the Covered Bridge Park and Ride on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. They are to be installed along Route 30 and along the riverbank. Pam was asked to check on the status of the Park and Ride grant.

Wayne reported that very little road damage was caused by the recent storms. The generator and gas tank have been ordered for the Town Office.

Tom reported on initial findings from the borings at the Carpenter Gravel Pit. More overall material (i.e. more sand, less gravel) was found than originally anticipated. Paul moved to sign the amendment dated September 19, 2005 to the Stevens & Associates contract. Shorty seconded and the motion passed.

Cindy advised that it is time to send out letters for budget requests. The budget meetings will start in early December.

Tom moved and Kevin seconded to accept the wording for the Covered Bridge Plaque as:

“WEST DUMMERSTON COVERED BRIDGE  
 Longest Covered Bridge Within the State of Vermont  
 280 Feet – Two Unequal Spans of 147’ & 133’ – Town Lattice  
 Construction with laid up granite piers and abutments  
 Constructed in 1872 by 22-year-old CALEB B. LAMSON  
 Restored in 1998 by the Citizens of Dummerston  
 Jan Lewandoski, Timber Frame Expert & Consultant  
 Fay, Spofford, & Thorndike Engineering  
 Vermont Agency of Transportation  
 Renaud Brothers Construction  
 Reopened June 20, 1998”

Cindy moved and Kevin seconded to amend the wording from “Reopened” to “Re-dedicated”. The motion passed as amended.

Paul excused himself from the meeting at 10:05pm due to a possible conflict of interest regarding the Cyril Z. Meadow Institute. The Act 250 application notification was received from the State of Vermont. Shorty moved and Kevin seconded to ask Atty. Bob Fisher to request a hearing before the Act 250 board and to represent the Town at that hearing. Paul rejoined the meeting at 10:26pm to clarify a few points and excused himself again at 10:42pm. Tom moved to amend the motion to state that the Board will meet again before the hearing to discuss the matter further. Kevin seconded and the amendment passed on a 3 to 1 vote (Shorty voted against the amendment.). The original motion passed as amended on a 3 to 1 vote (Cindy voted no). Cindy will contact Atty. Fisher to advise him of the Board’s request. Paul rejoined the meeting at 10:47pm.

At 10:48pm the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue on a motion from Tom and a second from Kevin. The motion passed. No decisions were made.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 11:27pm and there being no further discussion to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:28pm, with no further decisions made.

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Approved

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Cindy Jerome, Chair

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Kevin Ryan, Clerk