

**SELECTBOARD MINUTES  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**August 1, 2007**

Tom Bodett called the public hearing on the proposed taking over of Hopkins Road and Sugar House Road to order at 6:00PM at the Dummerston Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont. The public hearing was continued with site visits to Hopkins Road and Sugar House Road.

Selectboard Members Present: Chair Tom Bodett, Vice-Chair Cindy Jerome, Clerk Andrew MacFarland, Paul Normandeau and Lewis White

Also Present: Hopkins Road residents Sally Pullman Mooar, Brian Richardson, Bill Johnson, Bill Banta and Doug Kroc; Sugar House Road residents Judy Placey and Richard Carusona.

The residents present voiced no objections to the taking over of these roads. Ms. Placey expressed her hope and desire that the Town will take over Sugar House Road.

The Board will take action on the taking over of these roads at the next meeting.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:30PM.

At 7:31PM, Tom Bodett called the Selectboard meeting to order.

Selectboard Members Present: Chair Tom Bodett, Vice-Chair Cindy Jerome, Clerk Andrew MacFarland, Paul Normandeau and Lewis White

Also Present: Ed Anthes, Marie Caduto, Alexis Doshas, Lee Chamberlin and Laurie Frechette

On a motion by Cindy and second from Lewis, the Board approved the minutes from the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

On a motion from Paul and second by Lewis, the Board approved payment of Warrants 3 and 3P.

The Board recognized Alexis Doshas from the Great River Arts Institute in Bellows Falls, who requested permission to sponsor a stonewall workshop by Dan Snow behind the Historical Society building on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. On a motion by Andrew and second from Paul, the Board approved this request provided the Institute also receives permission from the abutting landowners, the Meggiolaros.

The Board recognized Marie Caduto from the Agency for Natural Resources, who requested the Board's approval to submit a grant application for a \$15,000 feasibility study for the Rock River access project. This grant will require a \$3000 match from the towns of Dummerston and Newfane. Ms. Caduto is requesting \$1000 from each town; the State will provide the remaining \$1000. This feasibility study will include looking at the parking lot, trail, sanitary facilities, underpass and easements.

On a motion by Cindy and second from Andrew, the Board approved the \$1000 pledge with one abstention.

Lee Chamberlin presented the Road Foreman's report. The Board opened the three bids received from Jason Evans Construction, Renaud Bros. and Zaluzny Excavating for the School House Road/Slab Hollow project. The bids were as follows: Jason Evans Construction \$38,400, Renaud Bros. \$35,800, and Zaluzny Excavating \$33,900. Paul moved to award the contract to Zaluzny Excavating with the conditional understanding the bid includes the Town's in-kind contribution. Lewis seconded and the motion passed.

Lee advised the Board that the generator at the Town Office is up and working at last. A technician from Controlled Power in White River Junction adjusted the settings, did a successful load test for both the Town Office and the Fire Station, and the generator now turns on automatically.

Lee requested permission from the Board to have a radio set installed in the downstairs of the Town Office so that the office personnel may get in contact with the road crew if necessary, and vice versa. The cost of the radio set and installation will be paid out of the Emergency Management reserve fund, with the approval of Larry Lynch. Paul expressed his concern that the noise may interfere with the public's work in the office. After some discussion, Lewis moved and Andrew seconded to approve the request. The motion passed.

Lee advised the Board that Chris Lowe has agreed to do the roadside mowing again this year.

Cindy questioned Lee about the schedule for the center-line painting of town roads. She reminded him that East West Road and Middle Road are priorities.

The Board discussed the purchase of a laptop computer for Lee. On a motion from Andrew and second by Lewis, the Board approved the purchase of a laptop computer for \$370 through Kevin Ryan; Laurie was authorized to write the check.

The Board recognized Ed Anthes who presented a list of items that he would like to see included in the RERP budget for 2009. After some discussion, the Board decided to table this issue until the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting when Larry Lynch will be present. Ed was also invited to attend the next meeting.

The Board decided not to designate a Board member as a voting delegate for the annual VLCT meeting.

The Board reviewed two Petition & Orders from Verizon for pole replacements along Ryan Road and East West Road. On a motion by Paul and second from Andrew, the Board signed the petitions with the provision that Laurie will also show them to Lee for his approval.

There was no update on the Personnel Policies.

Tom updated the Board on his recent conversation with Reg Rockefeller from the Planning Commission on the VELCO/Southern Loop and the Commission's several meetings with neighborhood residents. The Selectboard is very concerned about the VELCO/CVPS proposal as first presented. They look for a new proposal that complies with the Town Plan and are actively working with VELCO/CVPS in concert with the Planning Commission toward that end. The Selectboard anticipates the Planning Commission's comments on a new proposal and will attach its comments to them by the September 25<sup>th</sup> deadline.

A brief discussion took place regarding the processing of the payroll for the Lydia Taft Pratt librarian. Laurie will contact the library trustees to invite them to the August 15<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.

Andrew moved and Paul seconded to officially form an Energy Committee for the Town of Dummerston. The motion was unanimously passed with great enthusiasm. Tom will contact the several town residents who have expressed an interest in this committee to inform them of the Board's decision.

On a motion by Andrew and second from Lewis, the Board moved to enter Executive Session at 10:10PM to discuss a pending litigation matter and to evaluate a public official.

Paul Normandeau left the meeting at 10:45PM. The pending litigation issue was discussed after his departure. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:51PM.

Cindy moved and Andrew seconded to engage Atty. Bob Fisher in a property valuation appeal. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55PM.

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August 15, 2007  
Approved

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Tom Bodett, Chairman

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Andrew MacFarland, Clerk

Minutes: Laurie Frechette, Administrative Assistant  
Andrew MacFarland, Clerk