

Town of Huntington  
Selectboard Meeting  
December 5, 2011  
Town Office, Downstairs

MINUTES

**Selectboard Members Present:** Jim Christiansen, Chair; Ed Booth,  
Roman Livak, Dori Barton  
**Members Absent** Dan Rissacher  
**Staff Present:** Hank Lambert, Interim Town Administrator  
**Others Present:** Heidi Racht, Town Clerk; Dan Stoddard, Town  
Treasurer; Megs Kier; Yogi Alger, Road Foreman;  
Ruth Blodgett, Times Ink!

**Call to Order** Jim Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Public Comment** Megs Keir noted that water collects on the approaches and on the deck of the truss bridge at Bridge Street.

Kier also noted that the culvert under Pond Road near Purinton's Tree Farm is too short causing erosion at the outlet end to eat into the shoulder.

**Minutes** Livak moved and Booth seconded to accept the minutes of November 21 as amended. Approved unanimously.

The Board agreed to let the record show that, in the discussion with the Town Hall Committee, Tom Barden is a private professional construction estimator and is not with *Vermont Housing* as written.

**Warrants** The Selectboard signed four warrants.

**Yogi Alger, Road Foreman**

1. Yogi Alger commented that the ponding of water at the Truss Bridge on Bridge Street could be corrected by overlaying the approaches to build up the road a bit. The abutments do not seem to be affected. He will provide an estimate for work to be done for next year's budget.
2. Tim Parent is scheduled to improve Bridge #10 near Beane Road in May of 2012. The deadline for the VTrans grant is June 29, 2012.
3. Alger decided not to attempt the ditching and rock lining work on Terrien and Moody Roads (sections damaged by spring floods). Truck #2 is broken down (turbo) and he needs two trucks to do the work.

4. The road crew is are currently cold patching on north end of Main Road, cleaning culverts and doing routine work. They are prepared for snow -chains, blades, etc.
5. The roadside mower purchased from Hinesburg is being repaired and touched up.
6. Alger will work with Hank Lambert to develop a spring maintenance plan. It will be a formidable task to catch up on normal work given the amount of storm related damage incurred in 2011 and needed repair.
7. Booth reminded Alger of the debris under the East Street Bridge which Alger said would be removed this week.
8. Livak asked if Alger had figures showing the cost differential for repairing the existing truck #2 versus purchasing a new one. Alger does not have such figures but he urged the Board to time truck replacements with the expiration of the warranty which was the Board's plan in the recent past. Lambert will provide information on a software program that tracks repair costs over the life of heavy equipment. Alger will obtain at least three quotes for new trucks, both single axle and tandem, and report to the Board this week.
9. The Board authorized Alger to sign the quote from Catamount Drilling, LLC for 3,500 cy of rip rap from the quarry on Main Road.
10. Lambert will e-mail the draft report of the Main Road pavement evaluation study to the Selectboard.
11. Lambert will e-mail the VT Better Backroads gravel road evaluation to the Selectboard.
12. Alger reported that the VTrans grant for the East Street Class II Paving grant includes \$1,275 for 15 regulatory and warning signs. The grant pays for the signs, posts and the cost of erecting them. Signs to be ordered this week.

#### **Heidi Racht, Town Clerk**

1. Heidi Racht presented the idea of a Town Fair at which each community board or organization has space and where citizens can come in and learn about community events. It's possible to get volunteers to fill open Town seats at such an event. She suggested the evening of Tuesday, January 10 at the library. Refreshments would be served. If it is well advertised, it could be a joyful community event. Racht volunteered to head up the effort and the Board approved without a formal vote.
2. Racht also volunteered to sit in on discussions of nominating citizens for the Olga Hallock award. Decision is due in January.
3. Racht then presented the idea of a Committee/ Commission appreciation dinner which Town government used to host. The idea is to recognize various people for their service. All volunteers would be invited. Livak moved and Booth seconded to support Racht and a committee she would form to pursue a committee / commission appreciation dinner in 2012. Approved unanimously.

## Hank Lambert, Interim Town Administrator

1. Lambert will follow up with the four candidates for the Payroll / Accounts Payable position to inform them of the possible temporary nature of the job, and to see if they would still be interested in being interviewed.
2. Discussion continued on the job description for the Town Administrator position. Christiansen will work with Hank to refine it and will present a final draft at the December 19 Selectboard meeting.
3. Discussion regarding the draft procedure for Selectboard minutes. The Board will review them and discuss further on December 19.
4. After considerable discussion regarding the overtime policy for the road crew, the Board postponed discussion to the December 19 meeting.
5. Christiansen and Barton reported on their lengthy telephone conversation with Pam Van Duerson of the VLCT Health Trust regarding health insurance plans. They recommended that the Town sign up for the BCBS Blue Care. Coverage is very similar to the current CIGNA plan. Motion by Livak, second by Booth, to accept the BlueCare CDHP plan \$2,500 / \$5,000 deductible for employees. Unanimously approved.

### Next Meeting

1. It was agreed that the Selectboard would meet the week of December 12 to discuss and hopefully finalize the 2012 – 2013 budget.

Livak moved and Booth seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Unanimously approved.

### Dates

Unapproved minutes sent to Board: December 8, 2011

Minutes Approved: Dec 19, 2011

Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk for Record: Dec 20, 2011

Received for Record  
*[Signature]*  
Town Clerk

Selectboard Minutes: December 5, 2011