

Town of Huntington — Special Selectboard Meeting

Monday, September 24, 2012—7:00 pm

Town Office Building – Lower Level

APPROVED MINUTES

RECEIVED

DATE

[Handwritten Signature]
October 16, 2012

Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selectboard Conversation with State Legislators & Candidates: Huntington’s Capital Plan, Fiscal Challenges & Legislative Representation • Public Comment • Warrants • Other Business
Selectboard members present	Jim Christiansen (Chair), Dori Barton (Vice-Chair), Doug Graver
Selectboard members absent	Everett Lewis, Roman Livak
Staff present	Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator)
Legislators & Candidates present	Senator Claire Ayer, Senate Candidate Chris Bray, Representative Rebecca Ellis, Representative Tom Stevens
Others present	Edmund Booth, Lucinda Hill, Megs Keir
Call to order	Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Selectboard Conversation with State Legislators & Candidates	<p>Topics that the Selectboard wanted to discuss included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huntington’s Voice in Montpelier: On being a Chittenden County town that is represented in the legislature by Washington County Representatives & Addison County Senators • Capital Projects Plan: Challenges and opportunities for addressing our aging infrastructure (buildings, roads, bridges and equipment) • Growing Cost of Highway Maintenance: Challenges of maintaining a busy ‘connector’ Main Road through our village • Exploring Regional Opportunities: Fire, rescue, law enforcement and other services • Other Selectboard Concerns (such as local property tax burdens) <p>Key items highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislators work as a team; copy each other on correspondence; can help us get connected with “the right people”. • The continuing growth of the property taxes places an unsustainable burden on our residents. • Ellis noted that Ed Wildman had done an excellent job of getting funding for studies—which are essential when seeking funding for projects. Based on the studies, we have a better foundation for seeking funding because we have a basis for knowing and communicating where we are at, what our needs are, and what our priorities are. • It would be valuable to have our Bridge Inventory study from June 2002 updated through the CCMPO/CCRPC as well as any road and culvert studies. • Cost of maintaining the Main Road should not rest on Huntington residents alone, as it is actually a connector road. It would be more appropriate for Main Road to be taken over by the State. • Ayer recommended we try to partner with VLCT on developing a strategy for

	<p>looking at a different way of funding the cost of roads, bridges and culverts in towns that are along the mountain spines. Based on geography, towns along these corridors face exceptional challenges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased tourism traffic and the increase in bicycle traffic along our narrow, winding roads is a safety issue. • Need to explore regional opportunities for law enforcement and address the issue of fire/rescue departments that depend on volunteers who are not in town during the day. • Ayer noted that volunteer firefighters, by law, can now be covered by Workers Compensation.
Warrants	Due to a NEMRC issue, checks were not able to be processed in time for the meeting. The Selectboard approved issuing the check for New Leaf Design in the amount of \$5,200.17 as soon as we get the check run straightened out.
Other Business MOTION - railings	Graver moved and Barton seconded that Jim Christiansen be granted the authority to select the contractor for and sign the contract with a contractor for the Town Office railing project, not to exceed an estimated amount of \$6,100. Passed unanimously. It was noted that the timeframe for getting this project completed is critical.
Adjournment	Barton moved and Graver seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm. Passed unanimously.
	<p>09/24/12 – Meeting date 10/12/12 – Preliminary draft minutes to Selectboard / Clerk, Treasurer & Auditors 10/15/12 – Final minutes approved by Selectboard 10/16/12 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk</p>