

Town of Huntington — Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, November 26, 2012—7:00 pm

*Received for Record  
December 10, 2012  
Dell W. Town  
Clerk*

*(Note: this meeting was held as a 'reschedule' of the Selectboard's regularly scheduled meeting of 11/19, which had been canceled.) Clerk*

Town Office Building – Lower Level  
APPROVED MINUTES

<b>Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes/Warrants</li> <li>• Appointments</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> <li>• Unfinished Business: Repair &amp; Replacement Alternatives of Bridget #30</li> <li>• Highway Department Report—Yogi Alger</li> <li>• Town Hall Committee Report—Barbara Felitti</li> <li>• Water/Wastewater Working Group Report—Barbara Felitti</li> <li>• Town Budget – Planning Commission (Dana Cummings) &amp; Working Session</li> <li>• Town Administrator’s Report – Barbara Elliott</li> </ul>
<b>Selectboard members present</b>	Jim Christiansen (Chair), Dori Barton (Vice-Chair), Doug Graver, Everett Lewis, Roman Livak
<b>Staff/Officials present</b>	Yogi Alger (Road Foreman), Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator), Heidi Racht (Town Clerk – briefly for HPC appointment), Dan Stoddard (Town Treasurer)
<b>Others present</b>	Ruth Blodgett (Times Inkl), Terry Boyle (Town Hall Committee), Dana Cummings (Huntington Planning Commission Chair), Barbara Felitti (Water Wastewater Working Group / Town Hall Committee), Bill Menning (resident, Camels Hump Road), Aaron Worthley (Town Hall Committee)
<b>Call to order</b>	Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
<b>Minutes - MOTION</b>	Livak moved and Graver seconded to approve the minutes of 11/05/2012 as presented. Passed unanimously.
<b>Warrants</b>	4 warrants signed as presented.
<b>HPC Appointment – MOTION</b>  <i>FOLLOW-UP: Elliott to prepare Appointment paperwork for Selectboard signature on 12/03.</i>	Huntington Planning Commission (HPC) Clerk, Heidi Racht reported that the HPC voted to recommend the Selectboard appoint Heather Pembrook to fill the current HPC vacancy. Graver moved and Livak seconded to appoint Heather Pembrook to fill the Huntington Planning Commission vacancy until Town Meeting 2013. Passed unanimously.
<b>Public Comment</b>  <b>MOTION – Phillips Way road naming</b>	<p><b>Road Naming Request:</b> Heidi Racht submitted Lawrence and Tammy Phillips’ request to name their private road ‘Phillips Way’. Naming their former driveway as a private road was a condition of their subdivision approval for the addition of two residences. Graver moved and Livak seconded to approve the new road name ‘Phillips Way’ necessitated as a result of the Phillips’ subdivision. Passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>911 Address:</b> Racht shared information that included her summary of issues related to road naming and driveway numbering on Cummings and Evergreen Drives as well as correspondence between her and Mary &amp; Eliot Lothrop. Racht provided this as information only and did not request action or follow-up from the Selectboard.</p>
<b>Repair &amp; Replacement Alternatives for Camels Hump Road Bridget #30 - MOTION</b>	Motion before the board – tabled from the 11/05 Selectboard meeting: Livak moved and Barton seconded to proceed with Alternative #4 (complete bridge replacement) as outlined in the Bridge #30 Scoping Report and to recommend VTRANS proceed with developing the Conceptual Plans for full bridge replacement.

<p><i>FOLLOW-UP: Elliott to forward approval to VTRANS</i></p>	<p>Discussion points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The estimate of \$803,000 seems rather high; there is potential to reduce that by working with the land owners on the cost of the right-of-way</li> <li>• Current abutments are in the course of the waterway and should be moved</li> <li>• Current bridge is undersized</li> <li>• Funding alternatives might include a bond or use of the bridge reserve fund</li> <li>• Need to be able to articulate why the bridge requires replacement</li> <li>• Bill Menning stressed the Board should determine what factors need to be considered (such as width requirements for maintenance &amp; plowing; traffic speed and calming considerations; weight bearing issues)</li> </ul> <p>The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion to request that VTRANS proceed with conceptual plans for Alternative #4 (see motion above).</p>
<p><b>QOD – Quote of the Day passed along by Bill Menning</b></p>	<p><b>Perfection is the enemy of ‘good enough’.</b> <i>Paul Buchheit—creator and lead developer of Gmail.</i></p>
<p><b>Highway Department Report – Yogi Alger</b></p>	<p>General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>General:</b> The crew has finished guardrail work in Hanksville; has been wrapping up gravel work in time for it to freeze up; finished work on Keir &amp; Salvias Roads and the top of Trapp Road; will be addressing some gravel issues on Happy Hollow Road; will then tackle additional brush work.</li> <li>• <b>Town Office Parking Lot:</b> Alger and Elliott met with Jeff Palin; altering the parking lot to drain to the catch basin between the Town Office and Fire Station will cost approximately \$1,200. Board decided not to take action at this time.</li> <li>• <b>Communication from Happy Hollow Resident:</b> Alger and Elliott drafted response to concerns raised about the conditions on Happy Hollow Road and how we allocate highway resources. Letter will be sent tomorrow to Digimmarino.</li> <li>• <b>Times Ink Article:</b> Yogi and Pete Gosslin (Richmond Road Foreman) had their letter to the editor on winter safety published in the November Times Ink.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Town Hall – Barbara Felitti</b></p>	<p>The Town Hall Committee (THC) submitted a letter and financial data spreadsheet to the Selectboard outlining issues related to the Town Hall roof – and a proposal for solar options that could offset the cost of roof repairs. Discussion points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee would only want to present an article at Town Meeting for the roof repair and solar options if it is endorsed by a majority of the Selectboard</li> <li>• Installation of solar panels on historic building roofs is acceptable to the Historic Preservation folks provided those roofs are not facing the ‘street’</li> <li>• While the south side-facing side of the Town Hall roof needs to be addressed now, there is no evidence of rust at this time on the north-facing side(although it will need to be addressed sometime in the next 10 years)</li> <li>• Concern was expressed that installing solar panels sets us down a path of rehabilitation for the entire building</li> <li>• The THC has \$500,000 as a ball-park estimate for the cost of total building rehabilitation (including windows, insulation, floors, restroom facilities; handicapped access, etc.) The cost of addressing a restroom and handicapped access is about \$30,000 to \$40,000. The next priorities would be to address heating, insulation and wiring.</li> <li>• We should look at what other municipal buildings would be good locations for solar panels—as we have a lot of south facing roofs</li> <li>• Graver expressed reservations about committing to the conceptual plans at this time, based on fundamental concerns about how the Town moves forward on municipal ownership of buildings (which rely on support through property taxes) versus other alternatives—which could include options such as turning specific</li> </ul>

	<p>buildings over (with usage/preservation restrictions or clauses) to a 501(c)3 that would then assume fundraising responsibility for preservation and maintenance.</p> <p>No formal action was requested or taken.</p>
<p><b>Water WasteWater Working Group – Barbara Felitti</b></p>	<p>Felitti reported that the group’s outreach efforts did not result in any new members. There is also a gap in leadership. At this point, while members remain interested in the project, no one has the time to assume responsibility for the next phase of research/legwork. The group discussed with members of the Planning Commission (HPC) the possibility of the next phase of work falling under the HPC’s purview.</p>
<p><b>Huntington Planning Commission (HPC) – Dana Cummings</b></p>	<p><b>HPC Support:</b> Cummings reported that HPC is facing a number of significant projects, including the next phase of research for Water/Wastewater; Form Based Code; moving to a DRB structure of local planning, and the Town Plan – along with other side projects of interest such as the ECOS and Municipal Planning Grants. To accomplish these objectives, the HPC proposed consideration of hiring a part-time staff person for 10 hours/week—at a stipend of approximately \$15/hour—to assist the HPC. The Selectboard said they would take the request under advisement as they proceed with budget planning.</p> <p><b>Town Plan:</b> Cummings reported that the HPC is not certain they will be able to complete the work required to revamp the Town Plan within the original timeframe of 1 year. Cummings stated that according to statute, the current plan is good through June 2017. Members of the Selectboard stated they had passed the ‘extension’ for the current Town Plan in good faith based on assurances from the HPC that rewrite would be completed within one year. Concern was expressed that, since the Town Plan is supposed to drive our zoning and subdivision regulations, moving forward on any ordinance changes without a new plan in place is not acceptable.</p> <p><b>Design Review Board (DRB):</b> The HPC supports moving from a Planning Commission/ Zoning Board of Adjustment (PC/ZBA) form of local planning to a PC / DRB structure. Elliott to contact ZBA Chair Joe Perella.</p>
<p><i>FOLLOW-UP: Elliott to contact Joe Perella, ZBA Chair.</i></p>	
<p><b>Working Session – Town Budget</b></p>	<p>The Selectboard reviewed the current draft and noted areas that require additional research and input. Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to establish timeframe for Truck replacement (need to weigh the cost of new versus cost of continued maintenance)</li> <li>• Need more info on COLA, insurance premiums</li> <li>• Set up meetings for 12/03 with Town Clerk, Town Treasurer &amp; Fire Chief</li> <li>• Requests from community organizations not previously funded under the Health Education Welfare (HEW) are not going to be considered (eg: COTS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Town Administrator’s Report – Barbara Elliott</b></p>	<p><i>Note: Board receives a weekly written update from Elliott (including research findings; administrative issues; liaison; etc.)</i></p>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Livak moved and Graver seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 pm. Passed unanimously.</p>
	<p>11/26/12 – Meeting date  11/30/12 – Preliminary draft minutes to Selectboard / Clerk, Treasurer &amp; Auditors  12/03/12 – Final minutes approved by Selectboard  12/07/12– Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk</p>