

Town of Huntington — Selectboard Meeting

Monday, July 01, 2013—7:00 pm  
 Town Office Building - downstairs  
 APPROVED MINUTES

RECEIVED   
 DATE July 23, 2013

<p><b>Agenda</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highway Department</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> <li>• Minutes / Warrants</li> <li>• Administration &amp; Planning: Revised FY 13-14 tax rate; Appointments; Timeframe for acting on citizen petitions; Correspondence; Committee/sub-committees; calendar review &amp; planning</li> <li>• Other Business: new business</li> </ul>
<p><b>Selectboard members present:</b></p>	<p>Jim Christiansen (Chair), Dori Barton (Vice-Chair), Doug Graver, Everett Lewis, Jr., Roman Livak</p>
<p><b>Staff/Officials present</b></p>	<p>Yogi Alger (Road Foreman), Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator), Heidi Racht (Town Clerk)</p>
<p><b>Others present</b></p>	<p>Ruth Blodgett (Times Ink), Elizabeth Charland, Barbara Felitti</p>
<p><b>Call to order</b></p>	<p>Christiansen called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.</p>
<p><b>Highway Department</b></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott will contact Jacquith regarding check dams.</i></p>	<p><b>General Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather related clean-up—The Road Crew continues to address storm related issues with blocked culverts, ditching, downed trees, etc. Biggest problems were with driveways on Happy Hollow and Economou Roads. In addition, Alger and Barron helped truck gravel for Richmond last Friday to assist them with their extensive damage.</li> <li>• The Selectboard expressed thanks to Alger and the crew for removing the tree in the Town Office courtyard.</li> <li>• Selectboard thanked Alger for the crew’s readiness with all the weather alerts that we’ve had.</li> <li>• Barton noted that Shayne Jacquith, who lives on Bert White Road, does training for VTrans on check dams and is interested in working with the town on training.</li> <li>• Barton also noted that we need to take weather events into consideration as our need for storm recovery materials is likely to increase.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dust Control for Bridge Street</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alger is keeping an eye on the road – however with the extensive rain we’ve had there has not been a dust problem lately.</li> <li>• Alger is considering peeling up the asphalt that was put down on Bridge Street between the bridge and box culvert and replacing it with ½” plant mix. At some point, he would like to pave the road (from bridge to the box culvert) and put the removable speed bumps down in the summer to help control traffic speed.</li> <li>• The crew will continue with grading and chloride applications when the rain stops.</li> </ul> <p><b>Main Road Paving Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prep work for the paving project is nearly complete and the work is on target to begin next week.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>2013 VTrans Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Keating wrote a first draft application and Elliott will pick up work on this as soon as she returns in order to meet the July 26 application deadline.</li> </ul> <p><b>Driveway Permit – Piper Place</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andy Degree requested permission to move his driveway from 75 Ridge Drive to Piper Place. The property borders on both roads. Degree is considering plans to replace his mobile home, and if that is approved, he would want to move the driveway to this new location – and would remove the existing driveway access.</li> <li>• Alger would like an additional culvert put in, which Degree agreed to.</li> <li>• Selectboard signed the driveway permit application.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to contact Enmans and VSP.</i></p>	<p><b><u>Speeding on Sherman Hollow Road</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elizabeth Charland attended to report that there are significant problems with speeding at and around 1256 Sherman Hollow Road. Many of the speeders are guests at Sleepy Hollow Lodge, although there is also a problem with people who live on the road speeding, too.</li> <li>• Selectboard requested Elliott reach out to the Enmans regarding the complaints to see if they would be willing to speak with their vendors and guests about driving within the speed limit.</li> <li>• Elliott will also speak with the Vermont State Police about patrolling the area.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Buildings and Grounds Committee</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barbara Felitti attended to raise concerns regarding Don Dresser’s appointment to the Buildings and Grounds committee based on his public stand with respect to the Town Hall building.</li> <li>• Christiansen stated that the committee is gathering data and not making decisions.</li> </ul> <p>Felitti reviewed the mission statement that was presented in the Buildings and Grounds document – noting that it states that the committee will be making recommendations to the Selectboard. (Note: This document is saved as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graver noted that the committee will not be writing policy that will be adopted or amended – but instead that it is a purely advisory committee.</li> <li>• Felitti asked if the Selectboard had a conversation with Dresser. Christiansen stated that we cannot remove all people in town who have a bias. There had been extensive outreach to solicit membership and the 3 people on the committee are the only 3 people who have stepped forward.</li> <li>• Felitti also asked what the qualifications are of the people who are on the committee. Nancy Stoddard has extensive data and process experience, Ryan Elliott has extensive building experience and Don Dresser stepped forward to offer assistance to the committee.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Tree Planting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Racht reported that a maple tree has been planted behind the Town Office.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Minutes - MOTION</b></p>	<p>Graver moved and Lewis seconded to approve the draft minutes of 06/17/2013. Passed unanimously.</p>
<p><b>Warrants</b></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott will follow up with Keller-Butler</i></p>	<p>4 warrants were signed as presented.</p> <p>Livak observed that the note on the payment of the tax bill from Chittenden County indicates the warrant payment is for the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2 payments; however the full amount of the annual charge is included in the payment. Elliott will follow up with AP.</p>
<p><b>Administration &amp; Planning</b></p>	<p><b><u>Town Tax Rate - Revised</u></b></p> <p>The Selectboard signed the REVISED FY 13-14 Town Tax Rate document, since the totals on the version signed at the last Selectboard meeting had a spreadsheet</p>

**MOTION - APPOINTMENTS**

formula error. The correct details are:

\$ 1,481,811 13-14 budget approved at Town Meeting  
(\$270,054) less estimated non-tax income  
(\$46,351) less surplus from FY 11-12 as voted at Town Meeting  
\$10,305 plus Article 5 – 2013 Plow Truck as approved at Town Meeting  
\$10,400 plus Article 6 – Town Clerk’s salary increase as voted at Town Meeting  
**\$ 1,186,111 Total Required from Taxes**  
**\$219,044,050 Grand List lodged on May 30, 2013**  
**FY2013-2014 Tax Rate: 0.5415**

**Appointments**

Lewis moved and Graver seconded to appoint Donna Lewis to the Recreation Committee for a two-year term ending March 2015 and Edmund Booth to the CCRPC Planning Advisory Committee for a two-year term ending March 2015. Passed unanimously.

**Timeframe for Acting on Citizen Petitions**

Elliott reported that VLCT recommended the Selectboard consider the definition of “promptly” to be “carried out or performed without delay”, as it relates to the requirement for citizen petitions to be acted upon in a timely manner. The Selectboard’s portion of the petition process for the petition to amend the Zoning Regulations is that at the next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting following receipt of the Huntington Planning Commission (HPC) proposed amendment/written report (which will be issued following the HPC’s public hearing process), the Selectboard should schedule their public hearing – and that it should be held not less than 30 nor more than 120 days after the HPC’s proposed amendment or written report is submitted to the Selectboard.

**Correspondence**

- Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) sent a thank you letter for the Town’s \$250 donation.
- Copies of Liquor License applications were submitted as an FYI to the Selectboard of: the License for Manufacturer to Sell Malt Beverages – Stone Corral Brewery (Taft Road); an application for Special Event from Huntington River Vineyard for an event to be held at Windekind Farm; and a request to Cater Malt & Vinous Beverages & Spirituous Liquors for an event at Sleepy Hollow on 7/13/13.
- Notification received of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) Public Hearing on the Transportation Improvement Program to be held on July 17 at 6pm.
- A copy of the Vermont League of Cities & Towns annual municipal calendar (sponsored by the Merchants Bank) was received and is posted downstairs at the Town Office.
- Notice of Education Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2014 was received 07/01. The non-residential tax rate to be assessed is \$1.4104 and the Homestead tax rate to be assessed is \$1.3188. (Note: the Homestead rate was \$1.24 in FY 2013).
- The Vermont Town & City Management Association (VTCMA) is hosting a seminar on the Vermont Health Connect to assist towns in the transition to the new health insurance exchange. The event is 7/18 from 9am to noon at the Middlesex Town Hall.
- Vermont Land Trust (VLT) sent notification that they closed on the purchase of the “Grant of Development Rights, Conservation Restrictions, Option to Purchase

<p><i>Follow-up: Elliott will investigate the legal framework and constraints for establishing committees.</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to schedule VT Reps &amp; Senators for an open dialogue with the Selectboard. Christiansen will develop a strawhorse agenda and review list from last year.</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott will schedule Hosking for a meeting after the Capital Plan is prepared.</i></p>	<p>and Right of Enforcement” for 136-acres of land on Carse Road for an amount of \$275,000, which is co-held by the VT Land Trust, VT Agency of Agriculture, Food &amp; Markets and the Vermont Housing &amp; Conservation Board. The Huntington Conservation Fund provided a \$35,000 grant to assist with this purchase.</p> <p><b><u>Committee Updates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Huntington Planning Commission (HPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HPC reviewed a Town Plan Adoption timeline put together by HPC Clerk Heidi Racht.</li> <li>○ Chair Dana Cummings is proceeding with the written report, and scheduling of the HPC public hearing, for the petition for changes to the accessory dwelling driveway cut restrictions in the Zoning Regulations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Buildings Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first meeting was held 6/24; minutes are posted on the Town website under Boards &amp; Committees/Buildings and Grounds. Nancy Stoddard was elected as committee chair. The next meeting is scheduled for 7/24 (9am) downstairs at the Town Office.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Article 6 Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first meeting was held 6/25; minutes are posted on the Town website under Boards &amp; Committees/Article 6 Committee. Lucinda Hill was elected as committee chair. The next meeting is scheduled for 7/9 (10am) downstairs at the Town Office.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Potential Economic Development Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mark Smith is pursuing more details from the committee in Richmond.</li> <li>○ Graver noted that it would be good to know what the legal framework is for the Richmond committee.</li> <li>○ Barton requested that Elliott contact VLCT regarding what the constraints are for this type of committee – including difference between standing committees and ad-hoc committees.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Calendar Review/Planning</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upcoming Agendas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Open Discussion with our VT Legislators – The Selectboard received an invitation from Representative Tom Stevens for a dialogue with him, Representative Rebecca Ellis, and Senators Clair Ayer and Chris Bray. Elliott will contact them to schedule the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Potential topics include local funding for fire, rescue, roads, law enforcement, PILOT.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Livak has recommended the Selectboard invite VTrans District 5 Manager Dick Hosking to a Selectboard meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Topics could include long range plans for Main Road paving; the Bike/Pedestrian grant; capital planning.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Business</b></p>	<p><b><u>Upcoming Meetings</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September Selectboard meeting calendar will be amended to meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays (9/9 and 9/23).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Next Meeting (7/22) Agenda Items</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Commission Appointment</li> <li>• Driveway permits</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Race for Sundaes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barton noted that the race was a huge success! The Town sponsored the traffic enforcement done by the VT State Police.</li> </ul>

<b>Adjournment</b>	Livak moved and Lewis seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm. Passed unanimously.
	07/01/13 – Meeting date 07/01/13 – Preliminary draft minutes to Selectboard / Clerk, Treasurer & Auditors 07/22/13 – Final minutes approved by Selectboard 07/23/13 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk