

Town of Huntington — Selectboard Meeting
 Monday, September 08, 2014—6:30 pm
 Huntington Fire Station & Town Office (downstairs)

RECEIVED 
 DATE September 23,
 2014

APPROVED MINUTES

Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Appreciation Gathering for members of the Fire Department • Highway Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Salt Contract Price Increase (22.9% year-over-year) • Public Comment • Administration & Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Warrants & Minutes ○ Fire Department Stipends ○ Proposed Resolution regarding Education Tax Reform ○ Other/New Business (correspondence & communications; schedule review; other) • Commissions-Boards-Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town Hall Committee – VT Housing & Conservation Board Grant ○ Finance Committee – Capital Program & Budget Policy ○ Planning Commission – Review & Adoption of the Town Plan
Members present:	Jim Christiansen (Chair), Dori Barton (Vice-Chair), Doug Graver, Roman Livak, Nancy Stoddard
Staff/Officials present	Barbara Elliott (Town Administrator), Heidi Racht (Town Clerk)
Others present	Ruth Blodgett, Barbara Felitti, Linda Fickbohm, Andrew Hendrickson, Everett Marshall , Mark Smith
Call to order	Christiansen called the regular Selectboard meeting to order at 7:44 pm, following the appreciation barbecue for members of the Fire Department.
Highway Department MOTION: SALT CONTRACT <i>Follow-up: Alger to contact State regarding salt reduction requirements; provide a map of specific reduction areas & post Front Porch Forum notices.</i>	<p>Salt Contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliott reported that the State de-icing salt contract for the coming winter increased from \$58.73/ton to \$72.18/ton. The \$13.45 year-over-year change represents a 22.9% increase. • MOTION: Livak moved and Barton seconded that the Huntington Selectboard authorize the Road Foreman to sign a contract amount of \$72.18 per ton for bulk de-icing salt from Cargill, Inc. and that the Road Foreman explore implementing a winter salt reduction plan for the 2014-2015 snow removal season. Passed unanimously with all members present and voting. • Selectboard requested Alger research State requirements related to salt reduction programs; provide a map of which areas will be included in the Town salt reduction plan; and post multiple Front Porch Forum notices warning residents and explaining why the reduction has been put in place. <p>Bridge 8 (on Main Road just south of Moody Road)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Moody Road residents have spoken with Elliott about safety concerns if a temporary bridge is not used during bridge construction and a detour is implemented using Carse and Moody Roads (including: traffic speed; increased traffic volume; the narrowness of the roads and one-way bridges; and pedestrian, animal, and farm equipment safety). • The public meeting on the bridge conceptual plans is scheduled for Monday, 9/15 at 6:30pm.

<p>Public Comment</p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to inform Cummin that the Selectboard does not want additional overhead power lines crossing the river</i></p>	<p>Appreciation for Doug Graver's Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As gratitude to Doug Graver, who has plans to move out of state, for his years of service, Heidi Racht thanked Graver with a celebratory pie. <p>Power Lines at Spence Bridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elliott received a request from Knox Cummin regarding installation of overhead power lines at Spence Bridge. Cummin is working with Green Mountain Power (GMP) to get his house on the grid. Although there are 12 volt phone lines that run under the bridge, GMP has expressed concern over the safety of running 7,000 volt electric lines under the bridge. Based on this, GMP feels it would be safer to have the lines cross overhead. The Selectboard stated there are power lines under other bridges and questioned GMP's logic. The Board's position is that they do not want additional overhead power lines installed over the river. Elliott will report back to Cummin.
<p>Administration & Planning</p> <p>MOTION: AMENDED MINUTES</p> <p>MOTION: FIRE CHIEF AND 1ST RESPONSE CHIEF STIPENDS</p> <p>MOTION: RESOLUTION FOR SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION FUNDING REFORM</p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to prepare resolution for signature and</i></p>	<p>Warrants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 warrants were signed as presented. <p>Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION: Livak moved and N. Stoddard seconded to approve the August 18, 2014 minutes as amended. Passed with 4 Selectboard members voting in favor (Barton, Graver, Livak, N. Stoddard) and one abstention (Christiansen, who had not been able to attend that meeting). <p>Fire Department Stipends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elliott reported that during the budget planning process, the Selectboard earmarked \$1,500 for the Fire Chief's stipend and \$1,000 for the 1st Response Chief's stipend. Originally these amounts were included in the Fire Department salary budget line item. An error was made when separate salary and stipend budget line items were created and those errors carried through to the budget presented at Town Meeting. It is anticipated that correcting this will not cause an overall budget overage based on anticipated under spending in the department's cleaning/administration salary line items. MOTION: Livak moved and N. Stoddard seconded that the Huntington Selectboard set the FY 2014-2015 Fire Chief annual stipend amount at \$1,500 and the FY 2014-2015 First Response Chief annual stipend amount at \$1,000, as was discussed during the Selectboard's budget planning process. Passed unanimously with all members present and voting. <p>Education Tax Reform Resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N. Stoddard presented a draft resolution calling for sustainable education funding reform that would cap the education property tax rates at the FY 2015 levels for the next 2 years. This would allow the Vermont Legislature to make necessary funding reforms that will sustain our education system into the future. It was noted that the intent of this resolution is not to cap overall education spending. MOTION: Livak moved and Barton seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve and sign the Resolution for Sustainable Education Funding Reform in Vermont, and to forward copies of the signed resolution to Huntington's State Senators and Representatives. Passed unanimously with all members present and voting. Elliott will prepare the resolution on Town letterhead for Selectboard signature and then mail copies to our State Senators and Representatives.

<p><i>mail to Senators & Reps</i> <i>Follow-up: Elliott to schedule time on BPMS Board agenda</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livak recommended speaking with the Brewster-Pierce Memorial School Board about this resolution. Elliott to request time on the School Board agenda.
<p>Commissions-Boards-Committees</p> <p><i>Follow-up: SB to review easement again.</i> <i>Follow-up: Elliott to consolidate questions and concerns and send to our Attorney</i></p> <p>MOTION: CAPITAL PROGRAM & BUDGET POLICY APPROVAL</p>	<p>Town Hall Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) grant easement:</u> As directed by the Selectboard, Elliott requested Town Attorney Jim Carroll to review the proposed easement from VHCB. Carroll reviewed the easement and spoke with VHCB Attorney Elizabeth Keegan. There is no flexibility in the draft easement conditions (as currently worded) regarding the length of restriction (in perpetuity), use of the building, building features (inside and outside), and property structures. Keegan acknowledged that the degree of restriction is substantial – especially compared to the amount of funds the Town would receive from the grant. Carroll has cautioned that this easement ‘locks the property up’ so that all decisions on building use and structure require approval from the Grantor. The Town would have no basis for contesting decisions made by the Grantor based on the easement. Carroll further noted that there is an additional estimated \$1,500 in expenses to the Town for easement title opinion and title insurance. Other changes regarding commercial insurance would be required as the contract would not allow for coverage under the VLCT PACIF insurance program for municipalities. • <u>Additional information requested:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Specific examples of what kinds of things the Town would be responsible for maintaining. What level of maintenance and upkeep is expected? ○ What are the minimum standards for maintenance and repair? ○ Examples of specific restrictions that have been placed on uses of other properties under easement ○ What kind of flexibility do we have in future years on the types of materials, etc. that are used on the building? • Selectboard will review the draft easement again to note further questions and requests for clarification. Elliott will consolidate all additional easement questions and concerns into one document to present to Attorney Carroll for further clarification with VHCB’s attorney. <p>Finance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Capital Program & Budget Policy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>MOTION:</u> Livak moved and Barton seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve and sign the Capital Program and Budget Policy; that this policy be distributed to all Town commission, boards, and committees; and that the policy be presented for re-adoption annually at the Selectboard’s March organizational meeting following Town Meeting. Passed unanimously with all members present and voting. ○ The Selectboard thanked Nancy Stoddard for her valuable effort and leadership in the development of the Capital Program & Budget Policy and in the overall capital planning process for the Selectboard. <p><u>Huntington Planning Commission (HPC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Town Plan</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The HPC reviewed the Selectboard’s requested changes and incorporated those into a revised Town Plan document. Specific changes made were noted by the HPC in a ‘track change’ Word document as well as in comments appended to the Selectboard’s Excel spreadsheet that tracked all requested changes from the public and Selectboard members.

<p>MOTION: ADOPTION OF A NEW TOWN PLAN</p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to update Town Plan edits & formatting.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o MOTION: Livak moved and N. Stoddard seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve the Town Plan as presented by the Huntington Planning Commission dated 09/02/2014 with corrections as made by the Selectboard on 09/08/2014. Passed unanimously with all members present and voting. o Selectboard requested Elliott to make the specified editing corrections and to simplify the formatting so that it is more user-friendly. <p>Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Livak reported that the HCC is working toward putting funding in place in order to purchase 141 acres on Mayo Road (with borders on Mayo Road and the Huntington River).
<p>Adjournment – MOTION</p>	<p>MOTION: Livak moved and N. Stoddard seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:33pm. Passed unanimously.</p>
	<p>09/08/14 – Meeting date 09/12/14 – Draft/unapproved minutes sent to Town Clerk for website posting 09/22/14 – Final/approved minutes approved 09/23/14 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk for recording & website posting</p>