

Legislative Roundtable

The Selectboard discussed a number of issues with the Senators and Representatives including:

- Cell Coverage: Senator Bray reported that work on the installation of microcells along the Main Road should begin in the next few weeks – with work scheduled to be completed by the end of October.
- PILOT Program (Payment in Lieu of Taxes for towns with State owned land or buildings – such as Camels Hump State Park): Wood reported that several scenarios are being evaluated for establishing PILOT reimbursement for the next 4 years. It appears that under each of the current alternatives proposed, PILOT payments for Huntington could increase somewhere in the range of \$3,400 to \$8,500 per year.
- Energy & Carbon Caps: Senator Bray addressed energy issues including Act 99—an act relating to self-generation and net metering is being considered in the legislature. The legislative Solar Siting Task Force met over the summer and recommendations from the report will be sent to the House for consideration. S230 – An act relating to improving the siting of energy projects has also been sent to the House for consideration. Currently the Public Service Board (PSB) must give due consideration to town and regional plans when considering the siting of renewable energy – however some would like this strengthened to require the PSB give ‘substantial deference’ to municipal and regional plans. Municipalities are encouraged to develop a Town Energy Plan – or incorporate energy plans in their Town Plan. It appears the legislature may not handle the issue of carbon tax this year.
- Legislative Committee Updates:
 - Ayer (Chair—Health & Welfare), reported that Health & Welfare is looking to control costs and improve health care access, including looking at ACOs (Accountable Care Organizations); primary care for all residents; and a Dr. Dinosaur 2 program. They have looked at marijuana from a public health perspective and will forward comments to the Judiciary Committee.
 - Bray (Chair—Natural Resources & Energy; member—Government Operations) provided the above update on cell coverage for Huntington, energy and carbon caps. His committee is also looking at VEC permit reform.
 - Stephens (Vice Chair—General, Housing & Military Affairs) reported that 10 committees will be ‘touching’ the marijuana legalization bill; passage this year is not likely. His committee is looking at affordable housing as an economic development issue – noting that PTTR (property transfer tax) funds have been siphoned away from housing in order to fill budget gaps. Legislation to “Ban the Box” is being proposed, which would ban employers from asking applicants on employment applications whether they have ever been convicted of a felony.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Wood (member—Corrections & Institutions) reported her Committee is looking at the impact of closing the St. Johnsbury work camp and the Governor’s proposal to eliminate the Community High School of Vermont. Fewer people are coming into the prison system without high school diplomas or GEDs however this does not mean overall literacy has improved. Corrections is also looking at the number of prisoners being held out-of-state. While this has recently decreased, 50 people from Springfield are now headed to Michigan. The committee is also looking at the impact the aging of our prison population and mental health issues have on the prison system.
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p><u>Notice of School Board Merger Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Ogilvie reported that the BPMS School Board will be holding a meeting on the proposed merger vote on Tuesday, February 16 and again on Monday, February 29 at BPMS at 6:30pm.
<p>Highway</p> <p><i>Follow-up: Elliott to follow up on the Handy Road driveway application</i></p> <p>MOTION: APPROVAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR NOTICES OF MUNICIPAL ACTION</p>	<p><u>Moody Road Realignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter has been sent to property owners adjacent to Moody Bridge to inform them of proposed plans to realign the road just north of Moody Bridge in preparation for the Main Road detour (now scheduled for the summer of 2017) as part of the Bridge 8 replacement. <p><u>Driveway Permit Application – Handy Road:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application is pending sign-off by the Fire Chief. It was noted that requirements for driveway width are specified on the permit application and construction will be inspected by the Road Foreman. Water source criteria is established as part of the subdivision requirements. Elliott will follow up with the Fire Chief. <p><u>Driveway Permit Application Process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – Notice of Municipal Action:</u> Hendrickson moved and Keith seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve the form for the Notice of Municipal Action for Driveway Approvals as presented. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting. • <u>MOTION – Modification of Driveway Application Fee Structure:</u> Hendrickson moved and Keith seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve amendments to the Driveway Permit Application to modify the Application Fee to \$40.00 and the Recording Fee to \$20, with the total due remaining at \$60, and that the requirements for filing a Notice of Municipal Action be added after the Road Foreman approves the driveway as constructed and after the Road Foreman signs off on the municipality taking over maintenance responsibility for culverts at the driveway cut. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting. <p><u>Driveway Ordinance - Tabled</u></p>
<p>Energy & Conservation</p>	<p><u>Renewable Energy Resolution – Tabled indefinitely:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Energy Committee did not have enough information from the City

<p>MOTION – TOWN FOREST ACCESS APPROVAL</p>	<p>of Rutland and other Rutland County municipalities to consider this resolution, and recommended the Selectboard table this item indefinitely. The Selectboard concurred.</p>
<p>Finance & Administration</p>	<p><u>Public Information Meeting on the Town Forest Easement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information meeting is scheduled for Monday February 22, 2016 at 7:30 pm at the Town Office. Conservation Commission members will be available to present an overview and answer any questions. <p><u>Request for Temporary Access through the Town Forest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – TOWN FOREST ACCESS APPROVAL:</u> Keith moved and Hendrickson seconded that, as recommended by the Huntington Conservation Commission, the Selectboard approve the use of an existing skid road in the current Town Forest to access his adjacent property for the purpose of logging with the provision that the Vermont Acceptable Management Practices and all applicable laws regarding erosion control be followed and that the Selectboard requests the Huntington Conservation Commission inspect the site at the conclusion of the work and report back to the Selectboard on their findings. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting.
<p>MOTION – MINUTES</p>	<p><u>Q2 Year-to-Date Budget Review</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliott and Town Treasurer Kathleen Clark conducted the quarterly review and followed up on items including: trucking permit revenue, stipend payments, HEW allocations, and fuel expenses. <p><u>Municipal Bonding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of the public meeting to be held at 7pm on February 22 will be in the Burlington Free Press legal section on February 10, 17 and 24. <p><u>Approval of Minutes (01/18/2016)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – MINUTES:</u> Hendrickson moved and Keith seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve the minutes of January 18, 2016 as presented. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting.
<p>APPROVAL – WARRANTS</p>	<p><u>Approval of Warrants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 warrants were signed as presented.
<p>MOTION – MPR ROOM</p>	<p><u>Fire Station Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) Storage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – MPR ROOM:</u> Keith moved and Hendrickson seconded that the Huntington Selectboard approve the Fire Department plans to build a backcountry gear storage area in the Fire Station Multi-Purpose Room. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting.
<p>MOTION – PHONE CONTRACTS</p>	<p><u>Phone System Contracts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – PHONE CONTRACTS:</u> Keith moved and Hendrickson seconded that the Town Administrator be authorized to sign the 5-year WCVT phone contracts after review and concurrence with the

<p>MOTION – UPWP GRANT APPLICATION</p>	<p>Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee Chair, Andrew Hendrickson. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting.</p> <p><u>Grant Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MOTION – UPWP GRANT APPLICATION:</u> Keith moved and Hendrickson seconded that the Huntington Selectboard formally approve the grant application submitted to CCRPC for Project Management assistance with the HMGP house elevation project and that the letter from the Selectboard Chair be fully endorsed. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting. <p><u>Town Meeting Preparations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions are made by Selectboard members for each of the Selectboard’s articles at Town Meeting. The lead person for each of these articles was identified. <p><u>Olga Hallock Community Service Award</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were a number of excellent nominations for the 2016 award. The recipient will be announced at Town Meeting.
<p><u>Meeting Schedules</u></p>	<p><i>February</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 02/22 – 7pm Bond public meeting at the Fire Station; 7:30pm Selectboard public meeting on CTA Easement (Town Forest) at beginning of the regular Selectboard meeting to be held at the Town Office (downstairs); 8pm meeting with Town Moderator • 02/29 – possible short meeting for final Town Meeting prep. <p><i>March:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03/01 – TOWN MEETING • TBD 03/7 vs 03/14 • TBD 03/21 vs 03/28
<p>MOTION: ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p><u>MOTION:</u> Keith moved and Hendrickson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 pm. Passed unanimously with 3 members present and voting.</p>
	<p>02/08/16 – Meeting date 02/12/16 – Draft/unapproved minutes distributed and posted on website. 02/22/16 – Final/approved minutes approved 02/24/16 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk for recording & website posting</p>