

## Selectboard Meeting Minutes

December 22, 2014

Approved

Present: Selectboard members Scott Bassage, John Brabant, Rose Pelchuck, Toby Talbot, Denise Wheeler; Donna Fitch, Clerk; Road Commissioner Alfred Larrabee; Zoning Administrator Renee Carpenter; Jody Bayne, Joe Bayne, Charlotte Bassage, John Bassage, Karen Lane.

The meeting was called to order by Denise Wheeler, Chair, at 7:28pm at the Town Office.

Dodge Road Discontinuance: Donna Fitch reviewed the research she and Lister John McCullough undertook on properties owned by Joe and Jody Bayne and Karen Lane. There is inconclusive information regarding who owns which parcel and there are no surveys of the two parcels #110100 and 110200. The land is near or on ancient road Dodge Road. Scott Bassage said there are three options for Dodge Road: 1) take no action; 2) make it into a trail; 3) make it a Class 4 road. Some members of the Selectboard said it was irresponsible to discontinue the road not knowing who owns which parcel. The Board encouraged the Baynes and Karen to work together to resolve the ownership issue.

Public Comment on Nonagenda Items: Cell Tower: Denise Wheeler reported that although a permit has not yet been filed with the Public Service Board (PSB), work (test borings) is underway to investigate the possibility of a cell tower on Bayne Comolli Road. A neighborhood meeting is scheduled for January 6. Though the town has no control over cell towers, the Planning Commission and Selectboard can write letters (pro or con) to the PSB. It was noted that the PSB will not consider health concerns, but will consider aesthetics. Ancient Road Lamb Road: Durwood Lamb requested a letter stating that his property off Luce Road is not landlocked. Donna will send him 19 V.S.A. § 717 (c) A person whose sole means of access to a parcel of land or portion thereof owned by that person is by way of a town highway or unidentified corridor that is subsequently discontinued shall retain a private right-of-way over the former town highway or unidentified corridor for any necessary access to the parcel of land or portion thereof and maintenance of his or her right-of-way. (Added 1999, No. 156 (Adj. Sess.), § 25, eff. May 29, 2000; amended 2005, No. 178 (Adj. Sess.), § 4.)

Road Commissioner Report: Alfred Larrabee pointed out that during a storm all the roads will not be 100% at the same time. Each route takes four hours to complete. The road crew also needs to sleep. He pointed out the storm was a three-day event. Referring to the road crew's positive attitude, Alfred said they are young, healthy and eager. "I swear they sleep with their boots on." Operations Manager Toby Talbot said that someone traveling during a storm is going to get caught between plow times. Four trucks have damaged windshields due to overhanging trees in the roads. Toby reported each road crew employee worked about 25 hours of overtime over the last couple weeks.

Zoning: Zoning Administrator Renee Carpenter insisted on discussing a zoning enforcement issue with the Selectboard, saying she thought she was on the agenda. Denise pointed out that the Selectboard is trying to work on the budget and time is limited. Scott made a motion at 8:43pm to go into executive session with Zoning Administrator Renee Carpenter in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1) for the purpose of discussing a legal matter. John seconded the motion and it passed 5-0. The board came out of executive session at 8:50 with nothing to report.

At 8:51pm Scott made a motion to go into executive session with Zoning Administrator Renee Carpenter in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion

was seconded and approved 5-0. The Board came out of executive session at 9pm with nothing to report.

At 9:01pm Toby Talbot made a motion to go into executive session in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion was seconded and approved 5-0. The Board came out of executive session at 9:27pm with nothing to report.

Capital West Dispatch: Toby received an email from Capital West discussing reasons for the large increase in 2015 dispatching costs. Denise will call Capital West and ask a representative to come to a future selectboard meeting.

Town Plan: Denise sent the Board possible Town Plan hearing dates based on statutory deadlines. She asked them to review those dates.

Sand Hill Road Discontinuance: Based on legal advice, the hearing is being reopened and will take place on January 26, 2015. Donna will send certified letters to the abutters and interested neighbors.

Since it was getting late and it was Christmas week, Denise made a motion at 9:32pm to continue the meeting to Monday, December 29, at 7pm at the town office to discuss the budget and town meeting warning.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Fitch, Clerk