

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2012**

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Attending the meeting; Andrea Morgante, Phil Pouech, Tom Ayer, Joe Colangelo and attached list.

Andrea as acting Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Vermont Gas Presentation

Steve Wark, director of the Addison Natural Gas Project, gave a presentation on the Vermont Gas proposed Addison Natural Gas Project to extend service to new communities and interconnect to a U.S. gas system. VT Gas is planning to provide service to the Ticonderoga Paper Mill who will pay for the development of a pipeline to NY. Steve explained the project will consist of two phases and VT Gas will be filing for a certificate of public good by the end of December.

Bill Lippert asked what contact has been made to the property owners on Baldwin Rd.

Steve said right of way agents contacted land owners. Bill replied that permission was not obtained from all landowners.

Bill asked about the laying of the pipe. Steve said they will dig in the Town right of way area, install the pipe and cover it back up.

Bill asked what the ultimate goal of VT Gas is with this project and Steve said it is to bring service to Middlebury and Vergennes and long term to connect to a U.S. gas system.

Bill asked what the long term responsibility of VT Gas is. Steve responded they are responsible for maintenance of the line which includes regular inspections.

Bill encouraged the Selectboard to ask more questions of VT Gas.

Ray Mainer said he is excited about this possibility with natural gas and noted it will be a big help to the paper mill.

Matt Baldwin has concerns as the line will be very close to his house. He does not feel the Selectboard should give up the right of way for this project.

Bob O'Neil, representing some landowners, asked Steve why he does not know the number of persons contacted about the project. He stated the clients who have retained him said they were not notified of work that would be done on their property and some had problems with the areas workers were walking on.

Phil asked if this will be serving the town of Ticonderoga or just the paper mill. Steve said service will just be to the paper mill. Phil asked why they were looking at working adjacent to the VELCO right of way and not in it. Steve said that was the request of VELCO.

Steve said they will be doing a load analysis and the next construction season VT Gas will check how much ledge is involved in the route and analyze costs.

Tom asked how much work VT Gas does in road right of ways. Steve said it is substantial but only done when other alternatives do not work out.

Andrea noted that when looking at Gepraggs VT Gas was asking for a 50 ft right of way – why asking for less now. Steve said they prefer 50 ft but will work with less if restrictions require. They will work to avoid impacts on trees and other considerations.

Asked about what precautions are taken when the line is near residences Steve said it is an underground pipe and VT Gas does regular maintenance and survey work along the line.

Asked about the temperature of gas flowing through the pipe and if it might tend to thaw the ground and increase mud problems in spring. Steve did not know the temperature but a member of the audience who said he is familiar with natural gas said the temps are not warm and that would not happen.

David Carse in looking at the proposed route noted that on the west side of the road there are some very old large trees and Town drainage work constructed on the west side. He said the east side of the road poses no barriers or problems. Steve responded that the current map is not as specific to show which side of the road they will be working in.

Matt Baldwin noted that all along Baldwin Rd the east side will have less impact and he feels they should follow the east side.

John Roos asked about the corporate structure of VT Gas and VELCO. He recommends VT Gas go back to VELCO to request using their right of way. Steve said VT Gas has paid VELCO and hired engineers and it is an ongoing process with VELCO.

Steve noted in regards to the letter and the 45 days the Public Service Board website has information on the process of citizen input.

Andrea asked if the landowners will be notified of the letter and Steve said they and adjoining landowners will.

Andrea Haulenbeek asked if installation of this pipe line will prevent future road access. Steve said that is a town decision.

Steve asked all to send any specific feedback on the project to him so it can be considered.

Ray Mainer reminded everyone that VT Gas ran a pipe line from Shelburne into the Village and there has been no negative impact as a result.

Bob O'Neil said people should contact the Public Service Board regarding input at this meeting. Steve said VT Gas will try to accommodate but he makes no promises and agrees input to the Public Service Board is important.

Tom asked when the Town can expect the maps.

.Phil asked Steve about the proposal for possible extension of gas up CVU Road and Richmond Rd to the intersection of North Rd. Steve said they are looking at the number of possible users and will be taking test borings of the area next construction season to get a better idea of the amount of ledge.

Interview CBCs

Matt Baldwin is seeking a position on the Planning Commission. He has been a resident of Hinesburg for 30 years and feels he can bring a different perspective to the PC as a farmer and one who has land in conservation. He said he was glad to see the proposed expanded uses allowed in the agriculture areas and agrees with encouraging affordable housing where possible.

George Bedard has lived in Hinesburg for 32 years and served on the PC before. He feels landowners are not represented well on the PC and would like to see people's needs become a priority for the PC.

Grace Ciffo is also seeking to fill the vacant seat and was not at the meeting. On her application Grace noted she has lived in Hinesburg for 35 years and states he would help the PC to keep Hinesburg's land use planning current and brings a well-rounded perspective to the Commission.

Shannon Emmons is applying for the open seat on the Recreation Commission. Shannon has lived in Hinesburg for 18 years. She attended a meeting of the Recreation Commission last month and is excited at the possibility of being able to help and hopes to bring some new ideas to the Commission.

Jeff French is applying for Village Steering. He has lived in Hinesburg for a year and is interested in ensuring the future of Hinesburg's downtown area to be safe, family friendly and maintain the historical character.

Mike Potvin is interested in serving on the Town Forest Committee. He has been involved with the committee as they worked on the Town Forest Management Plan and would like to continue as a member of the Committee.

Ray Mainer is seeking appointment to the Trails Committee. He has lived in Hinesburg for 40 years and is a past Selectboard and Planning Commission member. He believes in and uses the Town trails.

FY2014 Police Budget

Budget reviewed with Chief Koss.

Salaries have increased in large part due to the ending of the COPS grant.

Frank increased the vehicle maintenance as some of the vehicles are older and he anticipates possible need for more repairs.

Frank increased fuel to keep it more accurate to actual expenditures.

Asked about staffing Frank replied he feels the current level of staffing is sufficient and is not proposing any additional staffing.

FY2014 Fire Department Budget

Budget reviewed with Al Barber.

Al was asked to identify in the budget equipment that was purchased with grant money.

The Chief's stipend was increased on the recommendation of the Town Administrator.

Station repair increased for items needing attention at the station.

Village North Sidewalk

Thanks, in large part, to the efforts of Martha Keenan and Lenore Budd, the Town was awarded \$235,000 from the Vermont 2012 Bicycle/Pedestrian program to construct a sidewalk on the east side of 116 from Commerce Street to Riggs Road. NRG has agreed to pay for the 10% local match, as required by the grant.

Martha said that VTrans has advised her that the paving project of Rte 116 will consist of a 3 foot striped shoulder which will accommodate bicyclists. Martha said that was the reason for the change from a multi-use path to a sidewalk.

Martha said she will be the project manager for the project.

Phil moved the Board vote to accept the grant from the 2012 Vermont Bicycle/Pedestrian Program and to have the Town Administrator sign the commitment document to ensure funding upon receipt of a MOU or similar document outlining funding specifics between SB Collins (Jolley) and NRG. Second by Tom and approved.

Town Administrator's Report

Weed Road- Tom moved the Board vote to accept the October 30, 2012 report to Peter Erb, Hinesburg's Zoning Administrator, from Civil Engineering Associates attached, representing Steve Rowell and the Rowell family of Weed Road in Hinesburg, as satisfactory and sufficient per the request of the Hinesburg Selectboard on October 15, 2012, and to accept the improvements done to Weed Road and the intersection of Weed Road and Shelburne Falls road by Steve Rowell and the Rowell family as satisfactory and sufficient for the Town's acceptance of Weed Road as a Class IV Town road once the 'Laying Out of a New Town Road' process is complete. Second by Phil and approved.

Conference Table – Tom moved the Board vote to allocate \$2,350 from the 250th Celebration line-item to construct a walnut conference table for Town Hall's 3rd floor. Second by Phil.

Andrea said she would like to have included a plaque stating the table was made from Walnut wood from a tree in Town. After further discussion on where the table might be used and if it is needed Tom withdrew his motion with the approval of Phil. This will be discussed at the next meeting when all Selectboard members will be present.

Selectboard items;

Tom wanted to thank all the veterans from Hinesburg and elsewhere who with their service allow us the freedom to have meetings as this to govern our Town.

Phil – Vtrans and Rte 116. He would like a list compiled of the items discussed with VTrans and the Town's concerns and get information direct from VTrans regarding these.

Warrants;

Tom moved the Board vote to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Second by Phil and approved.

Andrea moved the Board go into executive session for personnel matters. Second by Phil and approved.

Andrea moved the Board come out of executive session and adjourn, second by Phil and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Spadaccini, secretary