

Attending the meeting; Jon Trefry, Tom Ayer, Phil Pouech, Mike Bissonette, Andrea Morgante, Joe Colangelo and attached list

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing – Firearm Discharge Ordinance

Jon opened the public hearing and explained the driving force behind drafting the ordinance.

Dan Brooks said he has been hunting for 40 years in Hinesburg. He feels just because of one incident by one irresponsible person is not cause to have this ordinance. He referred to the fact that Game Wardens are equipped to deal with such problems and there are regulations in place regarding shooting.

Dan Brooks II mentioned the fact that the Fred Johnson land on the Hollow Rd had signs in the past posted by logging companies stating no shooting in the parking area and suggests the Town do the same. Debbie Dameron supports the ordinance and requests an ordinance be drafted to make it illegal to do any shooting in the Village.

Evan Lacaillade said he feels there are two issues – 1) create more safety for the public, he says 99% of people shooting recreationally know how to do it safely and 2) shooting from cars. He feels this closes the land for recreation if you can't shoot for recreation.

Jon noted the ordinance does not prohibit any hunting.

Kevin McDonald said this would prohibit him from being able to sight in his rifle in the Town Forest.

Henry Benis stated he is a firearms and archery enthusiast. Over the years other areas where one could shoot or sight in your gun are no longer available. He would like to see the Town set aside land for a small shooting and archery range and that would give people a safe place to shoot.

Andrea asked Frank Koss to explain the enforcement problem. Frank stated that signs alone give him no authority. Part of the problem is catching the individual and it is difficult to prove. If the Town prohibits recreational shooting and neighbors hear gun shots and he finds an individual with a gun it gives him reason.

Brent Francis said if the primary reason is for safety there are existing statewide restrictions with a safety zone and they have safety zones posted in the Forest. Regarding Geprag he believes in the early 90's it was voted not to have hunting or shooting there and so there is no need to re-do that.

Owen McDonald referred to Frank's comment that he needs an ordinance for enforcement. He said if Frank goes up there and someone has a gun in the vehicle does that mean they were doing any shooting? He always has a firearm in his vehicle. He said there is a problem with finding a place to sight in a rifle and not enough shooting ranges.

Frank Koss said Safety Zones can only be enforced by Fish and Game and results in a \$50.00 fine. Ordinance or no ordinance a case needs to be proved. One would not be sited just for having a gun in your car.

Jerrilyn Miller said she is new to Town and is shocked to know that shooting is allowed in the Town area. She is not familiar with where the Town Forest is but feels there should be no shooting in Town.

Paul Dunkling said the Town Forest is Town land and should be open for everyone to do what they want. He said he feels loose dogs are a problem but leash laws are not enforced in the Town Forest.

Greg Munsell said he is opposed to what he sees as a stepping stone to where he will lose the right to hunt in these areas.

Ken Brown said it is clear the Town Forest Management Plan call for management of hunting and hiking and he feels the ordinance makes sense to him.

Jon noted the Public Hearing is remaining open and the Board will continue to have discussion at the next meeting.

Cemetery Commission

Brad Wainer reviewed the changes the Commission is proposing. They will be increasing the lot prices, they have designated the name "Bissonette Cemetery" for the Gilman Rd cemetery. Lots in the Bissonette Cemetery will be assigned in an orderly manner according to the cemetery map.

Brad asked if the Commission needs to have Selectboard approval for actions of the Commission.

It is not required according the State Statute but the Board said they appreciate being informed on the Commissions activities.

Andrea moved the Board vote to Support the Recommendations of the Cemetery Commission per their letter to the Selectboard on July 2, 2013 which is attached to these Minutes. Second by Tom and approved with Mike B abstaining.

Phil asked Brad about the investment funds and Brad explained the funds have been passed on from the old cemetery commission, they are endowment funds.

MaGee Hill Road: Engineering and Mitigation Needs

Mike Weisel, engineer hired by the Town to work on a solution for MaGee Hill Rd, reviewed his report and recommendations.

If the work is to be done this fall it will need to be contracted out. The Board agreed to get this work done and to contract it out.

Mike Anthony said he would like to go a step further and install 36' culverts.

Joe advised the Board all 3 steps will be covered by FEMA, the temporary mitigation, the engineering work and the permanent mitigation.

The Board was in agreement with the 36' culverts and doing the work now.

Discuss Charlotte Road Catch Basin and Consider Solution

The culvert in front of the Dameron House on Charlotte Road is not just a pesky issue to resolve but, clearly, poses a significant safety issue for motorists, motorcycles, and bicyclists. Joe feels this situation needs immediate attention before something unfortunate takes place. The preliminary FY2015 capital budget has money dedicated to repaving Charlotte Road. It's up in the air at this point if Charlotte Road really needs paving more than other places in Town, but this catch-basin needs some attention.

Mike A said he will take a look at it to see what is needed to fix at this time. The Board asked this be fixed this fall.

Phil asked George about the new catch basin closer to Rt 116 and George said it seems to be working well.

Andrea said we also need a solution to the area of Kelly's Field Rd intersection with Rt116 and she would like that done this fall also.

Phil moved the Board vote to authorize the Town Administrator and Highway Foreman, to find and pay for temporary mitigation of the unsafe catch-basin condition on Charlotte Road and report back to the Selectboard after the fix has been made. Second by Jon and approved.

Discuss Town Water Supply

Rocky advised the Board that the water source feasibility study recommended further study of the four sites. It was decided that further evaluation of the Geprags Park wells should be done first.

Mike B moved the Board vote to authorize the use of Water Department Reserve Funds, at an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to be used to contract Sprague Geosciene and Vermont Well & Pump for further evaluation of the Geprags Park wells. Second by Andrea and approved.

Discuss Fluoride in Town Water Supply

Rocky said in 1999 the Town started fluoridating the water in conjunction with the upgrade to the system. In addition to the naturally existing fluoride in the water the Town injects fluoride to bring the level up to .7 ppm. Karl Novak said he is concerned and spoke about the MTBE in the water. He asked how long it has been in the water and how often tested for. He said fluoridation in the country started in the 1950's and cited studies indicating the harmful effects of fluoride.

Debbie Dameron said she has been drinking the Town water for 25 years and raised a son drinking the Town water. She feels it is not controversial and noted the fact that fluoride and MTBE's are totally different and should not be discussed together.

Trisha Novak is opposed to fluoride and noted medical investigations found it does not do your teeth a whole lot of good and to ingest it can be damaging to your organs.

Bob Thiefels said there is a need to distinguish between naturally occurring fluoride and the combination of chemicals be adding which he has read are toxic.

Linda Greaves, of the VT Dept of Health, said the sodium fluoride that Hinesburg uses is approved by the EPA and American Water Assoc. Hinesburg has .2 ppm naturally occurring fluoride and adds enough to be at .7 ppm which is the correct amount to prevent tooth decay. She noted the levels of fluoride in the water are tested daily.

Nancy Lee Ross said she would rather err on the side of natural fluoride rather than adding chemicals. If toothpaste warns do not swallow it is probably not a good idea to have in the water.

Roger Kohn said we should look at the accepted weight of expert opinion which generally accepts that fluoridated water is a benefit to those drinking it.

Dave Bouchard said he feels it comes down to choice and worries when it comes to mass dosing.

Dave Blanc practices dentistry and addressed the concern of the effects of fluoride on reducing ones IQ. He said the fluoride levels were up to 15 times higher in the areas those statistics come from. He said fluoride is proven to decrease tooth decay.

James Donegan said his family is in the village on Town water and does not feel it is good to add fluoride.

A resident stated the American Dental Assoc has supported use of fluoride for years.

Jerrilyn Miller is against adding fluoride against her wishes, she want to be able to make the choice for herself. She questioned who pays the scientists doing the research and added dentists used mercury fillings for years which have now turned out to be bad.

Theron Main who is a pediatric dentist advocated for adding the fluoride due to what he sees in his practice.

Darcy T. said she is a registered dental hygienist and gives fluoride substitutes to her children as her well does not produce the stated levels for prevention. She said for children who do not get dental care at home at least they are getting the fluoride in the water they drink at school.

Sharon Lee Trefry, registered nurse, said she has seen dental care from a lot of different angles. As a nurse she has worked with helping to get children to a dentist and added that fluoride is only one piece of dental care but a crucial one.

Jon closed discussion on the item and noted it will be put on the agenda again in the fall for further discussion.

MPG Application and Authorization

This item is a continuation from last week's meeting at which the Selectboard gave initial authorization for the Town Planner to go forward with a Municipal Planning Grant application – due by September 30 – to help follow through on stormwater planning efforts.

Andrea moved the Board vote to apply for a 2014 municipal planning grant for the stormwater project per the attached project summary and pursuant to the signed resolution. Second by Phil and approved.

See Sept 16 meeting packet for attachments.

Town Administrator Report

- a. Public Safety Facility – Contract signed, groundbreaking was just a few hours ago, still waiting for permit from VTRANS allowing the Town to work in the AOT right-of-way. We need to have a pre-construction meeting with AOT; hopefully by Wednesday.
- b. Selectboard Retreat Recap – Review documents in the Selectboard packet.
- c. Hinesburg Village North Sidewalk – Joe and Rocky will be contacting the engineering firm they choose after talking with our state project manager Friday or Monday regarding our selection criteria. The project manager from the State, Rocky, and Joe ranked and scored the eight (8) submitted RFQ's.
- d. Vermont Gas – Next meeting date has been set. No new information from VT Gas in response to Hinesburg's questions.
- e. Fletcher Allen Health Care – Opening and open house tomorrow starting at 5pm.
- f. Zoning Violation Notice – See packet.
- g. Leveansworth Road Culverts – Paul List contacted me regarding potentially installing some cross culverts on Leveansworth Road for flood mitigation.

Joe advised the Board that there will likely be a petition submitted regarding the new Zoning Regulations. The Board will hold a special meeting on Sept 30 to address the petition.

Selectboard Items:

Tom said he feels that Pike and VTrans did a great job on the paving project of Rt116 and like to send acknowledgement of that to them.

Jon said he received a complaint of a tree being damaged as a result of the roadside mowing. Joe will contact Mike Anthony to have the highway department clean up the debris from the damage.

Mike B asked Joe get clarification from the State regarding regulations on shooting. He also asked Joe to find out if the problem at the parking area is continuing.

Warrants:

Jon moved the Board vote to sign the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Second by Andrea and approved.

Jon moved the Board go into executive session for contract discussion regarding health insurance. Second by Mike B and approved.

Jon moved the Board come out of executive session and adjourn. Second by Mike B and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Spadaccini, secretary