



Annotated Agenda

10/19/15

4. Presentation of VHCB Community Stewardship Award to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Guests: (1) Chairs and members of the Planning Commission, Affordable Housing Committee, Conservation Commission, Hinesburg Land Trust, and Town Forest Committee have been invited.

Enclosures: (1) None as of this writing.

The Town of Hinesburg received a Community Stewardship Award from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board on 10/6. The award recognizes the Town's, "balanced efforts to conserve important agricultural and recreational land, while also demonstrating leadership in addressing the need for affordable housing in your community and for welcoming households from diverse economic backgrounds."

Board member Andrea Morgante and I attended the awards ceremony in Burlington. The idea is to take a moment to recognize the efforts of the many volunteers in Hinesburg who have worked on conservation and affordable housing efforts.

Action is neither required nor anticipated.

5. James Goldsmith Request to Address the Board re the "Horseshoe" (Grillo/old library)

Guests: (1) James Goldsmith

Enclosures: (1) Email "chain" related to the, "horseshoe."
(2) Materials from James Goldsmith

The "horseshoe" in question is the semi-circular driveway area in front of the property owned by Michael Grillo and the old library now owned by James and Catherine Goldsmith. According to the property owners, following completion of the sidewalk project the area is no longer able to provide space for both parking (for the tenants of the old library and the business, formerly the Grateful Dog and soon to be the Hinesburg Resource Center's storefront) and to allow thru traffic to pass by. The general sentiment of the property owners is that the section of the horseshoe (the southern egress) in question has narrowed. There is on-street parking in front/adjacent to the two properties as well. In a prior email exchange, the property owners were asked both what they hoped the Town would do and if there had been discussion on alterations of the use and flow.

Action is neither required nor anticipated.

6. Consider Authorizing Use of Land Preservation Funds (Hinesburg Land Trust/Lafreniere Farm)

Guests: (1) Tom Dillon

Enclosures: (1) Materials related to the request (from the 09/21/15 meeting materials)
(2) Email from the Conservation Commission dated 10/14/15, recommending funding
(3) Letter of support from the Town to the Vermont Land Trust.

The Conservation Commission members voted unanimously to support the request for \$15,000 in land preservation funds for the purchase and protection of the Lafreniere Farm.

To quote from the Town Administrator's report from 09/21/15: "A request has been made by the Hinesburg Land Trust for \$15,000 in land preservation funds to assist with the purchase and preservation of the 307-acre Lafreneire Farm. The fund, as of this writing, has more than \$31,000. The Vermont Land Trust is also involved, and the bulk of the farm (208 acres) will be purchased by those farming the land for the past decade or so. The other chunk (99 acres) will be purchased by a neighboring farmer."

Consider a motion authorizing \$15,000 in land preservation funds to be used to assist with the purchase and preservation of the 307-acre Lafreniere Farm.

7. Discuss Proposed Changes to the Water Use Ordinance

Guests: (1) None anticipated

Enclosures: (1) The current water use ordinance
(2) The memo outlining potential changes (from the 10/5 meeting)
(3) A "track changes" version of the ordinance, showing the changes in the memo.

This is the continued discussion of potential changes to the water use ordinance. The focus this time is on the changes to policy and language; the next discussion will focus on the allocation fee.

Action is neither required nor anticipated.

8. Discuss Recruitment, Retention, and Structure for Town Boards, Committees, and Commissions

Guests: (1) None

Enclosures: (1) None as of this writing

The current vacancy rate (the percentage of board, committee, and commission positions vacant) is nearly 25%. This is a continuation of prior discussions.

Action is neither required nor anticipated.

9. Town Administrator's Report

- a. *Water supply and treatment project update* – The permit to construct was, according the director of the water supply division, signed Wednesday afternoon. Construction bid advertisements have been published

(the first appeared in the 10/12 edition of the *Burlington Free Press*; the bid advertisements will run for three consecutive Mondays). A bid opening is scheduled for 11/12. All necessary easements for the westerly water line extension (a crucial component of source protection and capacity maximization efforts) have been signed and recorded. The week wasn't all good news for the project. The Town is no longer exempt from certain State fees (which also increased on 7/1), so an extra \$13,000 or so in unanticipated funds will be headed to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for its "review," along with another \$7,000 or so for a fire safety permit. The journey through DEC's review morass continues, with other State permits in the process of acquisition.

- b. *Lake Iroquois and Sunset Lake dams* – Iroquois Manufacturing, which owns the dams, inquired as to whether or not the Town is interested in taking ownership of them. Staff is exploring what process elements would be required or prudent for making a decision and assuming ownership, if desired.
- c. *Baldwin Road paving* – Residents along Baldwin and Burritt Roads have asked about the prospect of paving Baldwin Road (in the long-term) or otherwise improving its condition (in the short-term). A petition is planned, and may already be circulating amongst the residents. The road is on the grading schedule for the week of 10/19.
- d. *Live email/social media participation at Selectboard meetings* – Efforts are underway to run a short pilot project that enables residents to participate digitally in Selectboard meetings. Right now, 11/2 is the target for the first night of the pilot.
- e. *Line painting* – There will be an update Monday evening.
- f. *VT Route 116/Charlotte Road streetlight malfunction* – The malfunctioning signal at the intersection is fixed. VTrans' District 5 operations personnel arrived promptly and worked diligently to fix the signal. Essentially, traffic on Charlotte Road was "skipped" for two or more cycles before finally receiving a green light.
- g. *Streetlights/LEDs* – As outlined in the packet materials, the Town will be swapping older streetlights for new, more efficient, LED streetlights. The conversion is, essentially, at no cost to the Town.
- h. *FY15 Audit* – The auditors wrapped up their work last week. The hope is that preliminary information will be available soon and can be incorporated into the budgeting process if necessary.
- i. *FY17 Budget* – Department heads are finishing up their work on the first iterations of the FY17 budget. The exercise with capital reserves, and corresponding "re-vamp" of the Town's capital improvement program, slowed the process from the schedule anticipated.
- j. *VTCMA fall conference and workshops* – Renae and I will be in Burlington on Thursday, 10/22 for the semi-annual (twice per calendar year) conference of the Vermont Town and City Managers Association. The workshops, which will be held at UVM's Davis Center, include: establishing internships for graduate students; a presentation on data related to "healthy infrastructure" (sidewalks, parks, crosswalks, etc.); human resource management ("A Workplace for the Next Generation"); radar detection and road conditions; mapping and drones; and succession planning for roads and bridge maintenance.
- k. *Town Fair 2015* – The VLCT Municipal Policy – essentially the legislative platform for the 2016 session – was adopted by municipal representatives. The two insurance trusts the Town participates in (PACIF and VERB – property and casualty and employment benefits such as unemployment and worker's compensation, respectively) are in solid fiscal condition. Rates are slated to increase for the coming year, unfortunately, though an exact amount is not yet known.
- l. *FAQs* – Just a quick reminder to send us ideas for the frequently asked questions to be included in this year's Town Report.
- m. *Meeting with legislators* – In years past the representatives and senators serving Hinesburg residents have been invited to a Board meeting to discuss issues of importance to Hinesburg. The aim is to schedule that conversation for one of the December meetings, and to prepare a list of initial questions and issues to discuss. Examples include the State's permitting process for water supply and wastewater projects (specifically how poorly it functions), making the ordinance adoption timelines and procedures match (zoning and subdivision have one set; general ordinances another), whether or not the State will do more to fund water quality initiatives, and other community questions. Following the meeting, the Town would

compile the questions and issues so that the delegation could head to Montpelier with those issues and questions in hand.