

SELECTBOARD MEETING DRAFT
10/19/15

Attending the meeting; Mike Bissonette, Phil Pouech, Andrea Morgante, Jon Trefry, Trevor Lashua and attached list.

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

There were no public comments.

Mike B made two changes to the agenda. Addition of item 8.1 consideration of donation to FPF and 6.1 discussion of sewer holding fees with Alan Norris.

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

Trevor announced the receipt of this award and thanked the volunteers who work on Boards and Commissions for Hinesburg. This is in recognition of Hinesburg'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."

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

James is looking to correct a situation resulting from the sidewalk construction of 2014. James had several photos he shared showing the previous width, current width, and suggested example of possible solution.

The Selectboard stated the State right of way and State road access and egress rules added to the change in the layout of the horseshoe drive.

Trevor will research when project plans were signed off by landowners as well as what responsibility the Town bears.

Alan Norris suggested checking back to see if the stone wall was built as specified.

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

Jon moved the Board 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. Second by Phil.

Andrea disclosed that she is a member of the Hinesburg Land Trust. This funding will not go to the Land Trust but to the project and there is no conflict of interest on her part.

Tom Dillon had no new information to share on the project.

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.

Motion voted and approve with 4 yes votes.

October 19, 2015

Alan Norris request to waive holding fee on sewer allocation

Alan brought this request to the Board at the last meeting and was asked to come back to this meeting. He states since the Town cannot approve his water allocation due to the moratorium he cannot get the permits from the State to go ahead and begin work on his project. There was no action taken by the Board on the request.

Discuss Proposed Changes to the Water Use Ordinance

The Board reviewed the “track changes” version of the ordinance with Trevor and made some language changes to clarify requirements. Trevor encouraged Board members to carefully review the entire document and bring any questions to him.

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

The current vacancy rate (the percentage of board, committee, and commission positions vacant) is nearly 25%. The Board decided to ask a set of questions of the Boards, Committees and Commissions relating to possible support needed. These questions will be addressed with the committees when they come to the Board with their budget requests.

Contribution to Front Porch Forum

Phil moved the Board consider a motion to donate \$100.00 to Front Porch Forum because of the resource provided to the Town for communication. Second by Andrea and approve with 4 yes votes.

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. Phil suggested getting input from Mike Anthony on this issue.

- 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* – Has not appeared to be done yet.
- 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. *VTCTMA 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.

Consent Agenda

Jon moved the Board vote to consider approving the consent agenda. Second by Phil and approved with 4 yes votes.

Jon moved the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Second by Andrea and approved with 4 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Spadaccini, secretary