

## TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTBOARD MINUTES

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Meeting No.</b>	<b>Start:</b>	<b>End:</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Next Time</b>
02-23-09	2009-06	7:30	10:00	03-02-09	7:30 p.m.
<b>Attendees:</b>	William Ford, Laureen Cox, and Ronald Wimett, Selectboard; and Deb Karpak, Clerk to the Selectboard, Peter Karpak, Associate Clerk to the Selectboard				
<b>Visitors:</b>	Residents for the Bond information portion of the meeting: Joyce DiCianna, Bonnie DeGray, Alison Joseph, Tiffany Sargent, Dick Collitt				
<b>Minutes:</b>					
<b>Approval / Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Directed the Town Treasurer to pay the FEMA reimbursement funds of \$633,105.66 directly to the National Bank of Middlebury to be applied to the first line of credit.</li> <li>○ Approved the Town Treasurer's recommendation to apply for a Tax Anticipation Note (line of credit) for \$100,000. <i>Moved L. Cox, second R. Wimett.</i></li> </ul>				
<b>Orders:</b>	Orders for 02-23-09 were reviewed and signed: Total for Roads: \$4,720 for this period. General Fund: \$639,208.98.				
<b>Reports:</b>					
<b>Delinquent Taxes</b>					
<b>Road Commissioner Report</b>	Culverts/Bridges		Completed for 2008.		
	Gravel/Resurfacing		Completed for 2008.		
	Major Roads Reconstruction Projects		This section became flooded roads reconstruction projects for 2008. Nothing additional to report since meeting of 9-22-08.		

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End Date	Action
-------------	---------	------------	----------	--------

### Roads

09-06-BNDINF	<b>Pending Bond Proposal Informational</b>	02-23-09	02-23-09	BD
<p>J.Dicianna asked for an explanation of FEMA payments. W. Ford explained that the Town was in process of communicating with FEMA to review areas where the Town could justify FEMA increasing its reimbursement amounts. In reference to the repairs, Mr. Ford stated that the Board is under statutory obligation to fix the roads especially for access by emergency vehicles as in the case of Goshen Road where the road was kept open with the contractor doing a temporary bypass where culvert work was taking place. Mr. Ford also explained that in cases where there were private roads, FEMA would reimburse repairs to allow access to emergency vehicles, but not beyond that. In cases where costs were above FEMA reimbursements, private residents and property owners would be liable for reimbursing the Town. Ms. Di-cianna asked about the Town Report figures where the Town would be liable for debt. Mr. Ford explained that the bottom line was based on amount borrowed initially to cover expenses minus FEMA and private resident reimbursements plus interest for the short terms loans and any loan interest between repayment of the loan and the bond actual bond payout. T. Sargent asked if there was really any choice in incurring the cost of a bond. Mr. Ford referred to the <u>Handbook for Vermont Selectboards</u>, and the section on <i>Municipal Borrowing</i>. Therein is reference to statute 24 V.S.A., Chapter 53 "Statutes granting a municipality the</p>				

## TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTBOARD MINUTES

ability to borrow money and incur debt...”(in this case to repay a debt incurred for the obligation to repair the Town infrastructure). Mr. Ford also offered that the Board made two conscious decisions to keep Town exposure to a minimum (1) purposely did not spend part of the 2008 Roads budget and (2) is considering accessing a portion of the Major Project Fund, leaving a balance to cover the Town match portion of any future grants that may be appropriate for the Town to apply to maintain the Town’s competitive edge. Ms. Sargent’s next question concerned timing and amount. Mr. Ford answered that the Town vote is to approve up to a \$400,000. Simultaneous to the application for the bond, the Board will continue to work diligently with FEMA, the State, and any other agencies or principals to either reduce the expenses or increase reimbursements so that the figure will be under the \$400,000 limit as much as possible. He also explained that the \$1,150,000 borrowed to date has a due date with the bank of April 1, 2009. The remainder will be refinanced as a bridge between payment of the portion of the loan from reimbursements and the bond date, application which is due in May for a June/July payout. A question arose as to the impact on taxes. The answer was that there was no figure as of yet, but that there would be information to that effect by Town Meeting. J. Dicianna asked what the likelihood would be that the State would pay something more. R. Wimett and W.Ford explained that the state would only pay for repairs that were approved by FEMA that fit a certain criteria. There is a difference between the value of what was fixed and how the Town valued the repair and the quality and what FEMA approved, in some cases. The Town, in fact, had met the criteria to meet an increased reimbursement from the State share, 12 ½% to 15% due to standards adopted. Ms. Dicianna asked if the Board had a sense of the discrepancy between what the Town thinks is appropriate and reimbursable repairs and the view of FEMA. Mr. Ford said yes and that is indeed why the Board would be meeting directly with FEMA and State representatives to make a case for higher reimbursements. Ms. Dicianna also asked if the wording of the vote could be flexible between a bank loan and a bond. Mr. Ford answered that it appeared in the process that they were separate and that the Town would be approving a bond only, but that the Board would confirm this. *Note: additional information researched is that the Board has the authority to borrow less than the voted amount.*

08-11-STMD	<b>Storm Damage 06-14-08</b>	06-14-08	Ongoing	BD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Board reviewed the report prepared by the Board Clerks for the meeting with FEMA to take place on February 26, 2009 and offered changes. <i>(see attached)</i></li> <li>○ As of this meeting 3 Billings Farm Road households have repaid the Town. The Board Clerk sent follow up letters on February</li> <li>○ 19, 2009 stating that residents and property owners not yet heard from are to get in touch immediately to make arrangements for payment. One resident responded to this letter and a plan was discussed. Residents have until Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> to respond. In the meantime the Board Clerk will communicate with the Town attorney for next steps.</li> </ul>				

## TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTBOARD MINUTES

08-15-STORM8	<b>Storm of 08-06-08</b>	08-11-08	Ongoing	BD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reviewed the report prepared by the Board Clerks for the meeting with FEMA to take place on February 26, 2009 and offered changes. <i>(same as above--see attached)</i></li> <li>○ The Board Clerk will issue a follow up letter to private residents on Deacon Hill Road, Neshobe Road, and Old Town Road to arrange for reimbursements from the residents and property owners to the Town.</li> </ul>			

08-23-TNCTR	<b>Town Center</b>	12-08-08	Ongoing	PK
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ W. Ford received a call from Warren King, Planning Commission Chair where they agreed that Mr. King would initiate discussion with homeowners on the proposed easement for the flood plain. Information will also be available at Town Meeting on the proposed status of the Town Center and other affected areas. <i>(see attached reference memo from Mr. King.)</i></li> <li>○ Addison County Regional Planning Commission (Tim Bouton) issued the letter of intent to the State as part of the application process for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program <i>(see attached)</i>.</li> </ul>			

### Miscellaneous

08-09-FACRN	<b>Facility Rental</b>	05-12-08	Ongoing	DK
	The report of the Board Clerk re: Vermont League of Cities and Towns regarding Model Facility Rental Agreements and Model Facility Use Policy and how it aligns with the Town's rental policy of the Community House will be addressed in the second meeting in March.			

08-09-LIAINS	<b>Liability Insurance</b>	05-12-08	Ongoing	DK
	The Board recently received information from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns regarding Tenant User Liability Insurance. The Board Clerk will look at this information as it aligns with present practice and will report to the Board so that there is input to assure that the best interest of the Town is taken into consideration. This will be addressed in the second meeting in March.			

William Ford

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett