

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
08-08-11	2011-16	7:30	10:00	08-22-11	7:30 p.m.
Attendees:	Laureen Cox, Ronald Wimett and Richard Collitt, Selectboard; Alison Joseph, Clerk to the Board				
Visitors:	None. Note submitted in lieu of attendance by Robert Wagner.				
Minutes:	Approved and signed minutes of 07- 25-11 and 07-27-11.				
Approval / Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve “slow, children” signs for Lincoln Rd. • Request sheriff to increase patrol time on Lincoln Rd. • Request sheriff to submit schedule of review of Daignault property. • Purchase bike rack for ACTR stop at town office after Hist. Dist. Comm. review. • Send letter to owners of unlicensed dogs via certified mail. • Warn special meeting with attorney, Aug. 16, 2011, 1:30 p.m., Langrock, Sperry & Wool, 111 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, to discuss pending contract negotiation with Middlebury College. • Request Bill Pierce & Gene Warner to repair town office closet door. • Contact CVPS regarding dead trees in r.o.w. and town shed street light. 				
Orders:	Reviewed and signed: Roads: \$12,062.04; General Fund: \$7,669.75				
Reports:	Received from: Zoning administrator, delinquent tax collector, treasurer. Filed with minutes.				
Delinquent Taxes:	Received corrected July report with total: \$30,730.84. Reviewed Aug. report. Total: \$27,234.97.				
Road Commissioner Report:	Culverts/Bridges	See Major Projects.			
	General	The gravel/ditching material at the Thompson property on County Crossroad property is graded, per Jim Thompson’s request.			
	Class 2 Road Grant	Class 2 Road Grant (Lincoln Rd.): Phase 2 underway. Chris Casey, USFS silviculturist, inspected the work along USFS property and marked firewood and trees to be cut. Nothing greater than 4” diameter may be removed without a permit. Ron Wimett and Winfield Manning have permits. The last 2 signs for the project were installed on either side of Baker Bridge.			
	Resurfacing	Paving and grading for 2011 are complete.			
	Major Projects	Ron Wimett will contact Parent Construction for the start date of work on Bridge 16, Natural Turnpike.			
	Signs	See: General, Class 2 Road Grant. The County Crossroad sign reported missing by Persis Rowe is replaced. Ron Wimett will order 2 “slow, children” signs for the Lincoln Rd.			
Town buildings	<p>Town office: The board clerk will ask Warren King and William Pierce to attend a Sept. meeting to continue discussion of the recommendations of the “Historic Survey Report” by Jeremiah Parker and energy audit by Jared Moats.</p> <p>Bill Pierce and Gene Warner will be asked to repair the town office supply closet doors and track.</p> <p>Playground: A swing is to be replaced and play area mulch surfacing from the supply at the school applied. The clerk will ask Mr. Pierce for an update on the schedule.</p> <p>Town shed street light: Though the sensor on this light has been replaced several times, the light continues to stay on 24 hours. CVPS will be contacted and asked to repair it.</p>				

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Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End Date	Action
09-27- SNDHL	Sand Hill Bridge Replacement	09-27-10	Ongoing	LC
VTrans engineer Kristin Higgins told Lauren Cox that there will be a public meeting this fall. VTrans contacted the Town of Salisbury about using Upper Plains Rd. as a detour route. Construction is expected in 2014.				
09-16-DATAB	Town Infrastructure Database	07-06-09	Ongoing	PK, AJ, RW
At the end of the construction season, Ron Wimett will supply road data for updating the database. Pete Karpak will explain the database and data entry to Alison Joseph.				
10-26-MIDRIV	River Stabilization and Grant aka River Project 2010	10-26-09	Ongoing	AJ
Unspent funds remain. Alison Joseph will ask the town treasurer and the project manager if the project is closed.				
11-28-VTsigns	VTrans Sign Grant	03-28-11	Ongoing	
See: General, Class 2 Road Grant. Status will be closed when payment is received. Reimbursement is separate from the Class 2 Road Grant.				

OLD BUSINESS:

Bridge Report. Ron Wimett will report what he learns from other road commissioners about the installation, maintenance and longevity of membrane bridge decks.

Town Documents from VTrans. Peter Karpak picked up plans for bridges 3, 12, and 15 from VTrans on June 24, 2011. Additional plans were available in Colchester on Aug. 5, 2011, but were not picked up. They are being given to and will be available through the VT Assoc. of Land Surveyors.

CCR Group (DUNS # renewal): Alison Joseph will renew this federal id system number that is used for grants.

Delinquent dog licenses: Lauren Cox emailed a draft letter to be sent to owners of unlicensed dogs. Dick Collitt offered suggestions which will be incorporated. The letters will be sent via certified mail.

NEW BUSINESS:

Robert Wagner concerns: Mr. Wagner spoke with Dick Collitt and Lauren Cox on Aug. 7th. He left a message with Alison Joseph on the 7th expressing concerns and inquiring how to be put on the Selectboard agenda, and his call was returned on the 8th. He was welcomed to attend this meeting, but due to a prior commitment submitted a note with 2 concerns, and will be on the Aug. 22, 2011 agenda.

First written concern: Paying for cross-country ski passes at Rikert Ski Touring Center and subsidizing Middlebury College through property taxes. Discussion: The Board is beginning to renegotiate its agreement with Middlebury College which began in 1994 and expires in 2013. The Ski Touring Center will be considered.

Second written concern: River Project 2010 Plantings: Mr. Wagner questioned why Amy Sheldon supervised plantings on privately owned property, and if there was an open bid process available to Ripton residents. Discussion: The plantings on privately owned parcels were part of the flood mitigation project intended to protect town infrastructure. The "Flood Mitigation Project Manager" position was publically bid and advertised in the Addison Independent during July 2009. Of the professionals who submitted applications, Amy Sheldon of Landslide, Inc., East Middlebury VT, was selected as project manager, and in that role supervised the plantings.

Verbal concerns included speeding on the Lincoln Rd. and request for a bike rack at the ACTR stop, both about which the Board took action (see Approval/Actions p.1), and property taxes.

Dead trees on Lincoln Rd.: Ross Elliot spoke with board member, Dick Collitt, regarding the potential hazard of dead trees in front of the Webb and Beardsley properties on the Lincoln Rd. The clerk will contact the property owners to ask if they would like the trees removed or not, and CVPS to ask them to look at the trees and give an opinion.

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Correspondence: GO Vermont referred to Energy Committee; Act 250 notice Rikert ski trails, received available for public review; certificate of public good for net-metered solar system received, filed.

Inter-office Communications:

Town Clerk/Treasurer memo of 07/27/11. The Selectboard reviewed the memo that included information about the County Crossroad sign; the Woodhams zoning file and filing recommendations; tax rate and billing date, and cash flow. The minutes of 07-27-11 established a beginning tax due date of Sept. 10, 2011, as recommended in this memo.

Zoning Board: Possible discrepancies between the zoning bylaw and the junk ordinance will be checked by the Zoning Board and amended in the zoning bylaw.

Listers: There were 32 grievances; many were for minor changes or corrections. Grievance concerns from two property owners were forwarded to the Board because the comments related to town issues including the detrimental effect of a neighboring property, and the lack of the town to remedy riverbank erosion problems. For the former, the sheriff is following up on inspection and enforcement and will be contacted. For the latter, there is currently no authority or mechanism by which to take action. The town clerk has not received any BCA appeals to date. An update of the grand list total will be submitted at the next meeting.

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett

Richard Collitt