

Ripton Selectboard Meeting Minutes				
Date	Meeting No.	Start	End	Next Meeting
05-27-2013	2013-11	7:30 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	06-10-2013, 7:30 p.m., town office
Attendees	Laureen Cox, Richard Collitt, Ronald Wimett, selectboard; Alison Joseph, board clerk			
Minutes	Amended and approved: Minutes of 05-13-13.			
Orders	Approved: Roads: \$4,747.50; General Fund: \$9,004.88.			
Approval Actions	Unless otherwise stated, actions are moved by the chair and approved by all. Approved that the Town pay the cost for a survey of Cook Cemetery expansion boundaries. Approved to apply for a FY 2014 Transportation Planning Study (TAC study) grant.			
Roads Report				
Chloride	4,447 gallons of chloride was delivered to the new holding tank.			
Title III USFS Road funds	Use and reporting of these funds for Goshen Rd. (FR 32) and Natural Turnpike (FR59) was discussed.			
Culverts	A contract for a VTrans FY 2014 Town Highway (TH) Grant award for replacement of 4 culverts on the Lincoln Rd. is expected.			
TAC study grant application	An application may be submitted for a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) study grant for a water crossing at two culverts on Peddlers Bridge Rd.			
Bridges	Work for the VTrans FY 2013 TH Structures Grant, the application of membrane and approach paving at 3 bridges (Lincoln Rd. - Bent Bridge (TH1, B3), Dugway (TH3, B15), Natural Turnpike – Billings Bridge (TH11, B16) will begin after the school year ends.			
TAC study grant	The final report on the study of Baker Bridge (TH1, B2) is scheduled for Aug. 12 th .			
New Business				
Correspondence	Memo from clerk; invitations to workshops, Reviewed, filed. VTrans bike/ped study application for town roads – not applying.			
Request for rental fee waiver	On behalf of the Ripton Community Church, Lisa Knickerbocker requested use of the Community House at no charge for a contra-dance. More information is needed prior to a decision.			
Old Business				
Cemeteries	At the previous meeting, tipped and missing stones, plot availability, repair and maintenance were discussed. As follow-up the cemetery sexton, Bonnie Swan, was contacted. She favors reestablishing a cemetery commission and expansion of Cook and Galvin cemeteries. She identified repair needs in addition to tipped stones, such as the fence at Cook Cemetery, and lack of funds. Her description of past fund-raising events, dues, participation of schoolchildren and youth were reported. The possibility of a land donation and survey for expansion of Cook Cemetery was discussed. Due to the relatively low balance of the cemetery fund, it was approved that the town pay for a survey of the cemetery boundary if land is donated.			
Post office	On 05-14-13 a letter from the board was given to Carol Bogren, postmaster at the East Middlebury Post Office. This letter asked that the US Postal Service (USPS) publicize the opportunity to apply for the contract position being vacated, and keep the board informed of the status of the position to prevent a sudden closure such as happened in 2008. Ms. Bogren stated no authority over the position. Copies of the letter were forwarded to those who reportedly do: regional manager, Jerry Reen; and Manager& Consumer Industry Contact, Northern New England District, Kathy Rokowski. Via phone and email, Ms. Rokowski provided information about the Village Post Office Program. Application and contact information was posted on bulletin boards and the town website: “The Ripton Post Office will change staff and/or operations as of August 2013 because Lisa Whitman is terminating her contract. When a contract ends, for any reason, the need for a post office is evaluated. The status of the Ripton post office is under review. It is not decided if it will continue as is, or under the Village Post Office Program or another option. Contracts for operation as is may be requested....The USPS is likely to consider the Village Post Office Program for Ripton. This program places post offices in existing businesses under a contract with the business			

	owner..... If you search for village post office you'll find this link. " http://about.usps.com/news/electronic-press-kits/expandedaccess/vpo-welcome.htm At least one resident has attempted to apply for a contract position. Ms. Rokowski will be contacted weekly for status updates.
Trash/burning	Evidence of some clean-up after the Sheriff's tickets issued 05-08-13 was reported.
Town buildings	The Community House interior paint will be the same as or similar to the existing color. A concern about conflict of interest over decisions about deposit returns related to cleaning was considered. It was concluded that risk is minimal as the board reviews payment, usually hears of complaints, and as in the minutes of 04-22-13 the facilities coordinator may be called upon if the decision is questionable.
Dogs	More dogs are licensed, but several are not.

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett

Richard Collitt