

Town of Ripton Selectboard - Special Meeting Minutes				
Date	Meeting No.	Call to order	Call to adjourn	Next Regular Meeting
04-16-2015	2015-10	9:05 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	04-27-15, 7:30, town office
Members present	Chair Lauren Cox, Ronald Wimett			
Visitors/participants	Beth Eliason, Warren King, Alison Joseph (Ripton); Misha Bailey, Ray Doherty (VT HMGP program); Steve Juszcyk (FEMA)			
Motions/votes	None			
Agenda & Discussion				
1. Agenda/purpose	Informational meeting about FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and potential Ripton projects			
2. Discussion	<p>In 2014 Ripton submitted a HMGP application to elevate the town office and Community House above the 100-year flood elevation. The application did not specify the base flood elevations (bfe) of the buildings because they were not known. Often the elevations are on FEMA maps. Ripton's maps, based on 1974 data, do not have that level of detail and there are no current funds for FEMA to update them.</p> <p>After the town was contacted about the application review, Beth Eliason, PE and certified floodplain manager, calculated a bfe from the 2008 Milone & MacBroom mitigation project plans and a 2003 Otter Creek Engineering survey of the parking area. Based on the elevations from those plans, the bfe is about a foot higher than the 100-year floodplain (having 1% chance of flood in any year). There was discussion of using other elevation points, such as the river elevation slightly upstream, where the river is higher than the town office elevation, as a reference point. It was recognized that the river hydrology and village flood situation is complicated and warrants further engineering study. For the current grant program however, the application does not meet the FEMA requirement for funding.</p> <p>Projects that may meet this or other HMGP grant programs were discussed. These included drainage projects, elevating utilities (the Community House furnace/water heater/sump pump are below the 100-year flood elevation), a generator to keep sump pumps and utilities operating, Potash Bridge and Old Town Road, emergency access to/from Ripton, and alternatives to Route 125. There was agreement to submit a grant application for a generator for the town office and Community House.</p>			

Lauren Cox

Ronald Wimett