

**TOWN OF RIPTON  
SELECTMENS MINUTES**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Meeting No.</b>	<b>Start:</b>	<b>End:</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>Next Time</b>
12-22-03	2003-24	7:35	9:30	01-12-04	7:30pm

<b>Attendees:</b>	William Ford, Ronald Wimett and Lauren Cox, Selectmen and Tim Hanson, Town Clerk.
<b>Visitors:</b>	
<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes for 11-28-03 were signed; minutes of 12-08-03 were reviewed; to be signed at the next meeting.
<b>Approval Actions:</b>	
<b>Orders:</b>	Orders for 12/22/03 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$12,462.50 and for General Fund \$7,854.05.

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Action</b>
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**Zoning—Old Business**

03-06-Zone-a	<b>Poritz Subdivision</b>	03-24-03	Pending	
<p>The Board reviewed and edited letters to Mr. Poritz and Masterson Contracting regarding the damage done to the class 4 portion of the Pearl Lee Road. A copy of each of these letters is filed with these minutes. The Board will bill Mr. Poritz for the damage done when the repairs have been made in the spring, consistent with other times when people have damaged Town roads.</p> <p>The Town will also make Masterson Contracting aware that the Town is displeased because they have no overweight permits on file with the Town.</p>				

03-24-Trails-a	<b>Pearl Lee Trail</b>	12-22-03		
<p>The Clerk and Warren King have found trails language from various sources for a trails policy and ordinance, which the Clerk will use to draft an ordinance for Selectmen’s review for the next meeting.</p> <p>The Town still needs to coordinate with Lincoln to submit maps of the Pearl Lee trail to the State highway mappers. Once Lincoln is ready the Town will proceed.</p> <p>An application for Recreation Trails Grant funding is pending.</p>				

03-23-Cons-a	<b>Conservation Commission</b>	12-08-03	TH	
<p>Board reviewed one set of the Conservation Commission minutes. The Board requested that the minutes be mailed to the Board on a go-forward basis, and that they include a meeting number so that they can be easily sequenced.</p>				

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The Board also requested that the Conservation Commission be reminded that the Commission cannot encumber any funds without the prior authorization of the Selectmen, nor can it make decisions regarding Town policy without consultation with the Selectmen. The Conservation Commission is specifically designated as a research and as an advisory body. The Board requests this reminder due to comments in the Commission's minutes that seem to indicate an independence from the Selectmen that is not consistent with the Board's conception of the status of the Commission.

### Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	<b>Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant</b>	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
<p>The Board discussed the financial status of the grant. The Board requested a clarification as to whether or not the Town has spent more funds on engineering and design to Otter Creek Engineering than the original contract called for. The Board is aware that the cost to design the pedestrian bridge installation is an added cost not in the original proposal, but the Board would like to make sure that they formally approved this additional cost. The Clerk will follow up on this with Alison Joseph, the Project Manager.</p>				

### Roads—New Business

03-24-Roads-a	<b>National Forest Roads</b>	12-22-03	Ongoing	TH
<p>The National Forest is trying to minimize unauthorized use of their roads by gating them. There is a gate on the Natural Turnpike about two miles north and west of the gravel pit. Some of the landowners who own property beyond the gate are concerned that they will not be able to get to their property once the gate is locked.</p> <p>The Clerk will contact the National Forest about what their plans are regarding this matter.</p>				

### Roads—Old Business

03-10-Roads-a	<b>State Grants</b>	05-26-03	Ongoing	
<p>Mr. Ford still needs to call David Marshall PE to see if he will be willing to continue as the Town's engineer.</p> <p>Due to heavy snowfalls taking up most of his time, Mr. Wimett said that he has not been able to remove the stone left by the blasting. He still intends to remove this stone this winter.</p> <p>The Clerk is working on submitting the bills for this project to the State.</p>				

02-06-Roads-a	<b>Truck Traffic on Route 125</b>	03-25-02	Ongoing	TH
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Nothing new from the Sheriff on this issue for this meeting.

### Town Buildings—Old Business

08-11-OldOf-a	<b>Old Office Rental</b>	08-11-03	Ongoing	Board
<p>The Town has received a memo from Carol McKnight inquiring about renting or buying the old office. The Board will discuss the possibility of warning the sale of the building so that the space can be put to good use. The Clerk will contact Carol with a preliminary response.</p> <p>The Clerk will contact appraisers as they come in to the office to try to get a value on the property.</p>				
12-08-Chse-a	<b>Community House</b>	12-08-03	Ongoing	
<p>The Board reviewed several bills from MacIntyre for servicing the furnace. The Board is reluctant to pay the cost of having someone return to re-start a furnace one day after someone from the same company serviced it. There is a third bill, for when the furnace stalled for the third time, which is a little more difficult to question, since MacIntyre's claims that someone fiddled with the settings, and it is possible that in fact someone was in the furnace crawl-space that day, as it was rented to Town residents who are aware of the furnace location. The Clerk will contact MacIntyre's about this matter.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the building should be used as little as possible in the winter and are considering a policy that precludes renting the building in the winter (except for the on-going use of the building by the Coffee House).</p>				

William Ford

Lauren Cox

Ronald Wimett