

**TOWN OF RIPTON
SELECTMENS MINUTES**

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
06-09-03	2003-11	7:40	9:05	06-23-03	7:30pm

Attendees:	William Ford, Laureen Cox and Ronald Wimett, Selectmen, and Timothy Han-son, Clerk.
Visitors:	Tim Bouton, Regional Planning, to discuss the adoption of a Town Hazard Mitigation Plan.
Minutes:	Minutes for 05-12-03 were signed; minutes of 05-26-03 were reviewed and signed.
Approval Actions:	Signed the access permit for Timothy O’Leary. Appointed Ed Sullivan as the delegate to a new State Police Community Advisory Board. Acknowledged receipt of Emergency Health order from Health Officer Cathy Braun regarding William L. Manning’s property.
Orders:	Orders for 06/09/03 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$8,016.76 and for General Fund \$5,809.03.

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End	Action
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Hazard Mitigation—New Business

03-11-Haz-b	Regional Planning Hazard Mitigation Plan	06-09-03		
<p>Tim Bouton attended the meeting to review the hazard mitigation plan that Regional Planning has created for the entire county and specifically for the Town. He said that FEMA had decided to put money into hazard mitigation to avoid payouts for damage later. In order for the Town to receive certain kinds of FEMA funding a hazard mitigation assessment and plan must be in place. Regional Planning, working with consultants, has put together a plan that the Clerk has reviewed and corrected. Mr. Bouton delivered an updated plan for the Selectmen’s review. The Board will review this plan and act on it at a future meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Bouton also indicated that the Regional Planning Transportation Committee might be a venue for working to ameliorate long-truck traffic problems on Route 125. He suggested that someone from the Town attend a meeting to see if there is any way to use the Committee to study the problem.</p>				

Insurance Certificates—New Business

03-11-Ins-a	Insurance Certificates	06-09-03		
<p>The Clerk said that the Town’s workers compensation company has required that the Town prove that all people who ever stepped on Town land to do Town work have proof of insurance, or they will be treated as though they were direct Town employees and be charged out accordingly. In fact, we have received a bill for more than</p>				

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\$13,000 for last year's insurance (compared to the \$1,200 that we usually pay) since not all of the certificates were in place. This bill has been appealed by our agent, and we are in the process of getting proofs of insurance from everyone.

Because this process has been so difficult and time consuming, the Clerk recommended that the Town switch its workers compensation insurance to VLCT, and the Board has approved this action in principle. The Clerk will set up a meeting with VLCT to go over what the switch would entail, and report back to the Board regarding what types of insurance people need to have—specifically, can people hauling gravel or doing other roadwork get by on their vehicle insurance, or must they have general liability insurance as well?

The Clerk will implement a tracking system to make sure that all vendors provide the Town with insurance certificates before they do any work—the type of certificates to be determined after consultation with VLCT.

Zoning—Old Business

03-06-Zone-a	Poritz Subdivision	03-24-03	Pending	
<p>The Town has heard nothing new from Mr. Poritz on his subdivision application.</p> <p>The Clerk has heard nothing since the last meeting on the trail portion of the Pearl Lee Road.</p>				

03-02-Zone-b	David and Melissa Manning Property	01-28-03	Pending	
<p>The Clerk said that Mr. Manning had told him that the trailer was due to be removed over the weekend. However, the trailer was still there as of this morning. No further dismantling has been done. The Board requested that the Clerk write a letter to Langrock and Sperry requesting that Peter Langrock contact Mr. Manning to see if he can get this process moving.</p>				

Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
<p>VTRANS, Otter Creek Engineering and project manager Alison Joseph are trying to get permits and agreements to get the pedestrian bridge placed this year. There are many permits that are required—river work, rights of way, road cut, and so on—so the process may take a while but there is some optimism that the project could be done this year.</p>				

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Roads—Old Business

03-10-Roads-a	State Grants	05-26-03	Ongoing	
<p>The Selectmen will try to meet before the next meeting to discuss how to use the funds for the Class 2 grant. The funds could be used to replace some culverts; repair or add new stone riprap; cut trees that make proper ditching difficult; use netting/hay/grass seed to stabilize the new ditches; and/or blast rocks that are in the way. The Board also discussed ditching the road (either on the paved portion or on some portion of the unpaved section) to the full road specification. The Board briefly discussed the possibility of paving a portion of the unpaved area.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Fred Nicholson, who is in charge of river work permits for the State, has some problems with the relief culvert plans. He does not like the idea of two culverts in one location. The alternative, however, would be prohibitively expensive. The Clerk has been calling him at least every other day to try and set up a meeting with him and the Town’s engineer so that the issue can be resolved—the project cannot go out to bid unless he approves the permit.</p>				

03-08-Roads-a	Summer Work	04-28-03	Ongoing	
<p>Annual VTRANS meeting with Richard Hosking was held June 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He sees nothing that can be done about the long-truck traffic on Route 125. He cannot widen the road (which the Selectmen have never requested); he said “signs will not work”; he said that there is no nation-wide database that can be “corrected” to have Route 125 eliminated as a good east-west route. • He said that new ditching standards will be implemented soon. They will require that stone be used in shallower slopes, and that good practice will also require that any ditching will be seeded and mulched “at the end of the day,” and not at the end of the project. The Board agreed that this was a good idea in any case. <p>New signs for Burnt Hill and Steam Mill Road have been delivered.</p> <p>The bridge in Lincoln at the end of the Natural Turnpike is now open, but there is still a State sign that says it is closed. Mr. Wimett will remove this sign and store it until the State can retrieve it.</p> <p>Culvert work has yet to start.</p> <p>The stop sign on the Baker Bridge has yet to be repaired.</p> <p>Sand berms under the approach guardrails have not been removed.</p>				

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02-06-Roads-a	Truck Traffic on Route 125	03-25-02	Ongoing	TH
Nothing new on this for this meeting.				

Community House Roof—Old Business

02-15-Chse-a	Community House Roof	08-12-02		TH
The Clerk has contacted Wilson Contracting several times, and they have promised to get back to the Town about installing a second rail system. So far they have not contacted the Town with a plan.				

Road Sign on the North Branch (Warner/Sauerwald)—Old Business

03-06-Sign-a	Warner Sign	03-24-03	On-going	TH
The new sign that was delivered for Mr. Warner’s driveway was not correct—wrong color. A new one will be delivered soon.				

William Ford

Lauren Cox

Ronald Wimett