

**TOWN OF RIPTON
SELECTMENS MINUTES**

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
08-25-03	2003-16	7:40	9:15	09-08-03	7:30pm

Attendees:	William Ford, Laureen Cox and Ronald Wimett, Selectmen, and Timothy Hanson, Clerk.
Visitors:	Jeremy Grip, to discuss widening the Natural Turnpike near his house—see below.
Minutes:	Minutes for 08-11-03 were reviewed, corrected and signed.
Approval Actions:	The delinquent tax sale of McCarthy’s property was on August 13 th with one bidder who bid the price of the taxes and legal fees.
Orders:	Orders for 08/25/03 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$2,335.00, and for General Fund \$2,313.44.

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End	Action
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Insurance Certificates—Old Business

03-11-Ins-a	Worker’s Compensation Insurance	06-09-03		TH
The Clerk reported that he will cancel the current policy when the Town has confirmation that VLCT has taken over. Target date September 1 st .				

Zoning—Old Business

03-06-Zone-a	Poritz Subdivision	03-24-03	Pending	
Continues to be nothing new from Mr. Poritz on his sale of land or request for subdivision.				
The Clerk said that he has not heard from Mr. King on this issue. He will contact Mr. King for a report.				
The Clerk has tried to contact Langrock and Sperry but both the primary Town lawyers are on vacation. He will try again this week. The Board expressed concern that Mr. Campbell might be upset when he learns that the Town has a right-of-way through his land. The Town needs to know how to proceed before Mr. Wimett meets with him later this fall to discuss putting in a road.				

03-02-Zone-b	David and Melissa Manning Property	01-28-03	Pending	
The Clerk said that Mr. Manning has nearly finished tearing down his trailer, and he has someone coming to haul away what remains. The Clerk will take a look before the next meeting.				

Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
The State of Vermont has a supply of used granite curbing that might be appropriate for the project. VTRANS has encouraged us to take a look at the supply and see if anything can be used. The Board				

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approved having Alison spend up to a day inventorying this source of curbing, but did not want this exercise to distract Otter Creek from other work relating to getting the bridge installed.

VTRANS also has a salvage catch basin that might be appropriate for this project as well. The Board said that if the width, height, and outlet size is correct, the Town should buy it.

Otter Creek Engineering is still working on drawings that show property lines and ownership information for the State's easement process. The Board said that the Town should call Gary Fern to say that the Town is losing confidence in their ability to get the work done in time for a 2003 installation. Mr. Ford said that he would call if that would be helpful.

Roads—New Business

03-16-Roads-a	Widening the Natural Turnpike Shoulder	08-25-03	Ongoing	RW,TH
<p>Jeremy Grip proposed widening the shoulder of the Natural Turnpike to allow him to plant a privacy hedge to screen his house. He said that he has spoken with Ed Hanson, Zoning Administrator, who said there were no permits required. His hope was that Mr. Wimett could use waste fill from Town ditching work to do this project—at least in part.</p> <p>The Board said that they would look at the site for the next meeting, and requested that Mr. Grip place some stakes in his lawn that represent where he proposes to plant his screen. The Board has concerns over drainage, since water tends to pool at the base of the hill directly across this proposed project.</p>				

03-16-Roads-b	National Forest Gravel on Steam Mill & Natural Turnpike	08-25-03	Ongoing	RW,TH
<p>Mr. Wimett said that he has been informed that the National Forest has awarded a contract to Champlain Construction to haul a huge amount of gravel to rebuild the above-named roads. There will be at least ten tandems hauling ten or more loads a day each. Obviously they will be going over Town roads, posing a risk of damage to them. Current conditions need to have pre-project documentation.</p>				

Roads—Old Business

03-15-Roads-a	Phone Line in the Lincoln Road	08-11-03	Ongoing	RW,TH
<p>Mr. Wimett said that he found the break in the telephone line in the Lincoln Road and Mr. Johnston has spliced it, and is digging by hand a trench to bury the line between the two junctions. Mr. Wimett has buried the cable that is in the road at least 2' below the lowest part of the road and the ditch to minimize the chance that the line</p>				

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will be cut again. The Town is expecting a bill from Mr. Johnston for the repair work he did. Mr. Wimett will take reasonable precautions to try to conserve the rest of the phone line as he replaces culverts on the Lincoln Road. Mr. Wimett said that he believes that the line was in fact laid around the subsequent culverts, so preserving the lines should be easier.

08-11-Roads-b	College/Wagon Wheel Road	08-11-03	Ongoing	TH
	<p>The Board reviewed a letter from the Town (signed by Mr. Ford) to Steven Weber requesting further information about the College's plan to work on the end of the Wagon Wheel Road. This letter just went out, so there has been no response from Mr. Weber yet.</p>			
03-10-Roads-a	State Grants	05-26-03	Ongoing	
	<p>Mr. Wimett has re-cut the steepest part of the slope to reduce the angle—but it is still steep.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett said that Chris Smith will mulch and seed (and use matting on the steepest areas) as Mr. Wimett ditches. He will rent a blower if necessary. The Board encouraged Mr. Wimett to have Chris use lime and fertilizer to increase the likelihood of getting the grass to take—its okay to spend some money on this part of the project.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett said that he is in touch with Dupoise about paving, and has been told that the portion of the Lincoln Road designated will be done.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett is in touch with two professional blasters about removing the large boulders in the Town's right-of-way.</p>			
03-08-Roads-a	Miscellaneous Summer Work	04-28-03	Ongoing	
	<p>NEW—the Board discussed putting chloride on the roads—they are very dusty and need at least ½ a load.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett still needs to fix the stop sign on the Baker Bridge.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett still needs to remove the sand berms under the approach guardrails.</p>			
02-06-Roads-a	Truck Traffic on Route 125	03-25-02	Ongoing	TH
	<p>The Clerk has written the Sheriff about enforcing the 'crossing the center line' rules on the Town's portion of Route 125, but the letter went out in the middle of last week and there has been no response from the Sheriff yet.</p>			

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Old Office—Old Business

08-11-OldOf-a	Old Office Rental	08-11-03	Ongoing	Board
<p>The Clerk will ask Carol McKnight to make a formal proposal to the Town about renting the old office. The Board continues to be interested in the possibility of selling the building to her (with Town approval).</p> <p>Mr. Wimett will ask Chris Smith to clean up the brush around the building.</p>				

Community House—Old Business

03-12-Chse-a	Community House Rental	06-23-03	Ongoing	TH
<p>The Clerk is still working on the new draft of the Community House contract.</p>				

William Ford

Ronald Wimett

Lauren Cox