

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
01-12-04	2004-01	7:35	9:55	01-26-04	7:30pm

Attendees:	William Ford, Ronald Wimett and Lauren Cox, Selectmen and Tim Hanson, Town Clerk.
Visitors:	Jeremy Grip, to talk about Watershed issues, and Kevin Jackson.
Minutes:	Minutes for 01-1204 were reviewed and signed.
Approval Actions:	Appointed George Phinney as a new member of the Planning Commission. Noted that Dog Warden Jeremie Matrishon has dealt with a dog that was wild and that ended up biting Chris Smith. Tissue from the dog has been sent to the State lab for testing. Signed the Warning for the 2004 Town Meeting.
Orders:	Orders for 01/26/04 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$3,812.50, and for General Fund: \$3,582.97.

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End	Action
04-12-SW-a	Solid Waste District Bond Vote	01-12-04		
	The Clerk noted that he will make mention of the Solid Waste bond vote in the Town Report.			

04-01-Tnrep-a	Town Report	01-12-04	Th/Board	
	<p>The Clerk noted that the Town books will be audited on January 15th 2004 by Angelano and Co., as has been done the last three or four years. The Clerk is prepared for the audit and anticipates no problems.</p> <p>The Town office has started the process of putting together the Town Report. The Report needs to be mailed by February 21, 2004—we are on track to meet this deadline.</p> <p>The Board reviewed a draft of the expenses portion of the budget, and made several corrections. The Clerk will incorporate these changes in a new draft for the next meeting, and will include a draft income statement.</p> <p>The Board started a review of the Warning for 2004. This needs to be signed at the next meeting on January 24th 2004.</p> <p>The fiscal status of the Town at the end of the year is sound. The amount of surplus in 2004 compared to 2003 is very similar.</p>			

Zoning—Old Business

03-06-Zone-a	Poritz Subdivision	03-24-03	Pending	
	No response to the letter to Mr. Poritz.			

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The Clerk reported a call from Masterson Contracting regarding the damage done to the class 4 portion of the Pearl Lee Road, and their lack of an overweight permit. Their message was that they were working for A. Johnson. They said that they were not aware that they needed an overweight permit, but would apply for one.

The Clerk said that he had received a call from the Morses about a large logging operation that is going on on Poritz's, Campbell's, and A. Johnson's land. They are concerned that large logging trucks are using the road, and that a car unfamiliar with the road might meet a logging truck coming down, and there will be an accident. They thought that a scout car might be employed to warn on-coming cars.

Mr. Wimett said that he had met a logging truck on the way up the Pearl Lee, and he had to back down the road to allow him to pass. Kevin Jackson suggested that the loggers use a traffic cone with a sign on it placed in the middle of the road as the trucker goes up to retrieve a load, and then taken up as the trucker leaves. This seemed like a good idea to the Board.

03-24-Trails-a	Pearl Lee Trail	12-22-03		
<p>The Board reviewed a draft trails ordinance. There needs to be several additional definitions and there are some other corrections that need to be made. Mr. Ford said that his sense was that the draft was too restrictive as to the trail's use. The Board discussed whether or not the Ripton Ordinance ought to mirror the ordinance that Lincoln is working on.</p> <p>The sense of the meeting was that the ordinance required more discussion.</p> <p>Nothing new on the plan to have the Towns of Lincoln and Ripton submit maps of the Pearl Lee trail to the State highway mappers.</p> <p>The Board discussed the pending Recreation Trails Grant. The Board approved an application for \$5,000.00 (with a Town share of \$1,000.00) to do work on the trail. Laureen Cox suggested that there might be a way to incorporate the trails maintenance with the school groups in the area. Mr. Wimett said that the Sheriff's work party might be used as well. Some construction equipment might need to be used for some sections of the trail.</p>				

03-23-Cons-a	Conservation Commission	12-08-03	TH	
<p>The Board reviewed and approved a memo to Warren King of the Conservation Commission which discusses the role of the Commission. A copy of this memo is filed with these minutes.</p>				

Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

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00-18-Park-a	Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
<p>The Board reviewed a new financial report on the status of the grant. It is clear from the report that the Town has not spent more funds on planning and design than the contract called for. There may need to be some adjustments to the contract. This is because the phase 3 construction supervision portion of the contract as written has OCE supervising the installation of the full-length pathway, which is unlikely to be built this season. Mr. Ford will review the contract.</p>				

Roads—New Business

03-24-Roads-a	National Forest Roads	12-22-03	Ongoing	TH
<p>The Clerk has contacted the National Forest about their plans for gating the Natural Turnpike, but has not gotten a response yet.</p>				

Roads—Old Business

03-10-Roads-a	State Grants	05-26-03	Ongoing	
<p>Mr. Ford has left messages with David Marshall PE to see if he will be willing to continue as the Town's engineer, but no response as of yet. He will keep trying.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett said that he has removed about 1/3 to 2/5 of the stone left by the blasting. He will continue to remove the rest of the stone this winter.</p> <p>The Clerk is working on submitting the bills for this project to the State.</p>				

Town Buildings—Old Business

08-11-OldOf-a	Old Office Rental	08-11-03	Ongoing	Board
<p>The Board reviewed a memo to Carol McKnight discussing the possibility of her renting or buying the old office. The Board continues to discuss the possibility of warning the sale of the building</p> <p>The Clerk has hired Bill Benton to appraise the Old Office.</p>				

12-08-Chse-a	Community House	12-08-03	Ongoing	
<p>The Clerk reported that the Community House furnace seems to be running ok as of now. Once the wedding planned for this coming weekend is over, the building will not be rented until it warms up.</p>				

William Ford

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett