

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
05-24-04	2004-10	7:35	10:00	06-14-04	7:30pm

Attendees:	William Ford and Ronald Wimett, Selectmen, and Tim Hanson, Town Clerk
Visitors:	None
Minutes:	Minutes for 05-10-04 were reviewed; to be signed at the next meeting.
Approval Actions:	<p>Signed request for an extension of time for the Listers to file the 411 form. The Listers are in the middle of an in-house reappraisal, and the Clerk reported that they are doing well. Part of the problem is that the State itself does not have the proper forms required to meet the new requirements of Act 68 passed in the 2004 legislative session.</p> <p>Acknowledged that the Delinquent Tax Collector is authorized to initiate tax sales and noted that he is starting the tax sale process on two properties: one owned by David and Melissa Manning and another owned by James Thompson. Unless there is a clear message about a land sale from Eric Manning, this parcel may be put up for tax sale as well.</p>
Orders:	<p>Orders for 05/24/04 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$175.00 and for General Fund: \$6,786.53.</p> <p>The Selectmen reviewed the status of the Town funds to date.</p>

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End	Action
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Fire Station—Old Business

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End	Action
04-07-Fire-a	Fire Station	04-12-04		TH & Board
	<p>The Clerk and the Board reviewed Phelps Engineering's proposal to provide bid services and construction overview to the Fire Department for phase one of the project. The amount seemed a little high, but the Board acquiesced to the proposal. Phelps will go ahead with putting phase one to bid. Maiden Lane Contractors will be included amongst the invited bidders.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he has spoken with Tom Barden about the forthcoming estimate for the project. Mr. Barden had not received all the information he needed from this office or from Tim Price. The Clerk has faxed and mailed a package to him with the information that he needs so he can finish up his estimate for the Board's next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Ford recommended that the Clerk keep track of what he has sent Mr. Barden so there is a running record, and that the Town send a list of all the meeting dates for the next few months so that he knows when the Board meets. The Board would like new information they need to consider at a regular Board meeting to be available in their Board minutes package.</p>			

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Zoning—Old Business

03-24-Trails-a	Pearl Lee Trail	12-22-03		
<p>The Clerk reported that he has heard nothing new from Mr. King, who has been trying to get a response from Lincoln on the Pearl Lee Trail.</p> <p>The Board reviewed a reworked draft of the ordinance. Mr. Ford was concerned about some of the language limiting the use of the trail—horses, bikes, snow machines and four wheelers are excluded. The Clerk pointed out that State law seems to exclude motorized equipment from trails, and horses and bikes tend to chop them up. No decision was made at this meeting, and the ordinance will be reviewed at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk has contacted VTRANS mapping division, who said they would be pleased to correct their Town Road Maps as soon as they get the data from Kevin Behm at Regional Planning. The Clerk will arrange this.</p>				

Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
<p>The Project Manager's report (included with the minutes) states that the final bid documents are still at VTRANS, all pending the signature of one Federal Highway Administrator, who is being pushed as much as he can be pushed.</p> <p>The Board agreed to pay \$1,000.00 continuing deposit on the foot-bridge.</p> <p>The Board declined to apply for 2005 Enhancement Program funds at this time.</p>				

Roads—New Business

04-10-Roads-a	Ditching	05-24-04	RW	
<p>The Board discussed ditching for 2004. Mr. Ford proposed that the Town continue to ditch 'to spec.' along the Lincoln Road, continuing from where we left off last year. The other spot is to continue beyond the Norton Bridge—again, where the project stopped in 2003. The Board agreed that about \$10,000.00 of the ditching budget will go to this work, and the rest be used on 'routine' ditching.</p>				

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Roads—Old Business

04-09-Roads-a	Miscellaneous Summer Work	05-12-04	TH/RW	
<p>Mr. Wimett said that he would try to get these culverts off the side of the road. The Clerk will check to see if they can be taken to the transfer station for a reasonable cost.</p> <p>The Board discussed where to place ditching spoil. Mr. Wimett said that there are not many places on the sides of the roads to place the material, since it can very easily slide over out of the town's right-of-way and end up on private property. There is no Town land dump for the material. Occasionally individuals request a load or two, and if this location is close enough to the work-site, this request is honored—but they have to take what comes from the ditch. Some of the material goes to his lot on Maiden Lane, but that site is filling and there is little room for more. The Town will have to start looking for a permanent site for this material.</p> <p>The Board also discussed chipping the right-of-way brush, rather than hauling and burning it. Mr. Wimett said that some of the same problems developed with the ditching spoil occur with the chipping—if you chip the brush, it has to go somewhere, and not everyone wants to have it on their land. Mr. Wimett said that he doesn't like to burn it—it is smelly and takes a lot of time. Kevin Jackson is looking into having A. Johnson Lumber come with their huge chipper, and having them chip and then haul material away (possibly as fuel for the wood-chip plant in Burlington).</p>				
04-08-Roads-b	Road Striping	04-24-04	TH	
<p>The Clerk has notified VTRANS that the Lincoln Road is ready for striping.</p> <p>The Clerk has called L & D striping several times, but has yet to be able to talk with a scheduler. He will try again.</p>				
04-07-Roads-a	Bury Wire Request from Recupero	04-12-04	Resolved	
<p>Photos and drawings received.</p>				
04-07-Roads-b	Mapping of Road Conditions	04-12-04	Ongoing	TH/RW
<p>The Clerk has spoken with Mr. Wimett about driving the roads with him to locate all the buried lines (power and phone) that he is aware of. This data will be transmitted to Kevin Behm at Regional Planning so he can map these locations on his GIS system.</p> <p>The Board requested that the gravel spread this year be mapped as well.</p>				

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04-05-Roads-b	Gravel Roads Condition/Posting	03-08-04	Ongoing	TH/RW
The Clerk is still working on a Road Posting memo for the Selectmen based on the information he received from VLCT and from a review of the statutes.				

03-10-Roads-a	State Grants	05-26-03	Ongoing	
Nothing from David Marshall on the Natural Turnpike culvert. The Board asked the Clerk to contact him again in writing to find out if he is going to respond.				

Town Buildings—Old Business

04-05-Bldg-a	Sale of Old Office	03-08-04	Ongoing	RW
The requests for bids have been mailed and will be published in the paper as well. The deadline for response will be June 14, the next Board meeting date.				

William Ford

Ronald Wimett