

**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>
09-13-04	2004-18	7:50	9:30	09-27-04	7:30p.m.
<b>Attendees:</b>	William Ford and Lauren Cox, Selectmen, and Tim Hanson, Clerk, and Sally Hoyler.				
<b>Visitors:</b>	Bruce Malhotra				
<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes for 08-23-04 were reviewed; to be signed at the next meeting. Board reviewed financial spreadsheets to date, and made corrections and formatting comments.				
<b>Approval Actions:</b>					
<b>Orders:</b>	Orders for 09/13/04 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$9,401.24 and for General Fund: \$16,122.85, and for the Fire Station Project: \$70,272.15.				

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
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**High-Speed Internet—Old Business**

04-12-HSInt-a	<b>High Speed Internet</b>	06-28-04		
<p>The Board reviewed a memo from Alison Joseph which explains that Paonia Ezrine N'Shaiha has applied for a grant from the State to help establish high-speed internet. The equipment would be leased to the service provider, and maintenance would be the provider's responsibility.</p> <p>The Board reemphasized that they had not agreed to spend Town funds nor encumber Town resources for this project. The Board is not against the project. It is simply that there is no money in the budget for this project for this year. The Board needs to be made aware in advance if Town resources are to be called on.</p>				

**Reappraisal—Old Business**

04-12-List-a	<b>Reappraisal</b>	06-28-04	9/13/04	
<p>The Inspection Committee's report to the BCA was presented this evening, and a finding was made by the BCA as a whole.</p> <p>Mr. Ford requested that the Clerk make sure that the Listing data be backed up off site as well as on site.</p> <p>This issue is closed.</p>				

**Town Plan—Old Business**

04-12-Plan-a	<b>Town Plan</b>	06-28-04		TH & Bd
<p>The hearing on the Town Plan will be the second meeting in September. It has been warned in the papers and posted.</p>				

**Fire Station—Old Business**

04-07-Fire-a	<b>Fire Station</b>	04-12-04		TH & Bd
<p>Tom Barden got a quote for a wood frame building that is less than</p>				

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the final price quoted by Cameron Construction for a steel building. He is looking into the price for the concrete work that would be required for the wood building.

The Clerk has requested an extension from the State in case the building cannot be built in time to have the old fire station torn down by July 1<sup>st</sup> 2005. There has been no formal response yet, but the chances are good that a formal extension will be allowed.

Champlain Construction has completed the site work except for a few small items. These include more gravel on the driveway; some caulk around the water pipe where it comes through the concrete in the School's boiler room, and some topsoil beside the sidewalk leading out from the boiler room. Mr. Ford recommended that there be a lock placed on the valve that turns the water on to the new fire station so that it cannot be turned on in error. This would fill the pipes with water and might be a freeze hazard this winter. He also said that we should make sure that VLCT insurance knows that the construction has been done.

Orders to pay for work to date were signed by the Board.

### Zoning—Old Business

03-24-Trails-a	<b>Pearl Lee Trail</b>	12-22-03		
The Board asked that the Clerk check with Mr. King to see if there was anything new from Lincoln on this matter. The Clerk will also send a copy of the proposed ordinance to the Board for review at the next meeting.				

### Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	<b>Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant</b>	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
The project has started!				
The Board is still looking for a confirmation as to who is going to place the bridge and at what price.				
The Board requested that the fill from the Fire Station project which has been placed along the edge of the Natural Turnpike be graded back from the edge of the road soon. It is a traffic hazard and the Town cannot do any maintenance until it is pushed back. The Clerk will write Mr. Grip expressing these concerns. Mr. Grip has a copy of the road specifications so that the final contour of the fill will conform to the specifications.				

### Roads—Old Business

04-11-Roads-b	<b>Road Signs</b>	06-14-04	RW	
Burnt Hill Road signs still need to be installed.				

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There are still some road signs obscured by brush that need to be taken care of.

04-10-Roads-a	<b>Ditching</b>	05-24-04	RW	
Lincoln Road ditching still needs to be done.				

04-07-Roads-b	<b>Mapping of Road Conditions</b>	04-12-04	Ongoing	TH/RW
Nothing new on this issue for this meeting.				

03-10-Roads-a	<b>State Grant (Natural Turnpike Culvert)</b>	05-26-03	Ongoing	
<p>The bid opening date is September 15. Phelps has reported that there has been some interest in the project, so there ought to be some bids.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that repaving over the culvert installation is in fact part of the bid.</p> <p>Mr. Wimett will try to get the culvert just to the west of the big culvert replaced so that the new paving can go over it.</p>				

### Town Buildings—Old Business

04-05-Bldg-a	<b>Sale of Old Office</b>	03-08-04	Ongoing	RW
<p>Bruce Malhotra attended the meeting to talk about the disposition of the old Town Office. He said that he might be willing to rent the building—he would use it to store tea. The Board expressed some interest in this possible option for the building, and requested that Bruce work up a proposal for their review.</p> <p>Mr. Ford said that Anjanette Sidaway called him at home to ask him what the Board planned to do with the building. He told her that he could not say officially as a single board member, but that the Board would probably sit on the matter for a while. The Board had been looking for a bid in the neighborhood of \$25,000, which was the price put on the building by an appraiser, but no one had come close to that number so far. Anjanette told him she would come to the next meeting or send a letter, but she was not at the meeting, and the Clerk reported that he had not received anything from her to date.</p>				

04-18-List-a	<b>Review of To-Do List</b>	09-13-04		
<p>The Board reviewed the reminder list appended to the end of the minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poritz subdivision: Nothing has been heard from Poritz on the matter of the trail or his proposed subdivision. The Board will move forward with the Trails Ordinance at some meeting in the near future, and a copy can be sent to Mr. Poritz and Mr. Campbell, but otherwise this</li> </ul>				

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matter is resolved. This item was removed from the list.

- Truck traffic on Route 125: there seems to be less traffic on 125, which might be (who knows) due to the Town's efforts. In any case, there is little more that the Town can do. This item was removed from the list.
- Check seeded areas on the Lincoln Road: all the seeded areas have taken well. This item was removed from the list.
- Zoning fees: The Board will look at the fee schedule at a meeting in the near future. One of the concerns to review is the fairness of requiring residents of the Historic District to pay fees for permits and hearings for maintenance of their buildings.
- The Board requested a copy of the proposed junk car ordinance for review.
- The Clerk will consult with Ross Elliott about emergency preparedness, specifically to see if Silver Towers and Middlebury College Breadloaf Campus have plans in place.
- The Town needs to fix the flashing on the entryway this year. When it freezes it is very hard to get in the door.

William Ford

Lauren Cox

Ronald Wimett