

**TOWN OF RIPTON
SELECTMENS MINUTES**

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
10-25-04	2004-21	7:35	9:50	11-08-04	7:30p.m.
Attendees:	William Ford, Ronald Wimett and Lauren Cox, Selectmen, Tim Hanson, Clerk, and Sally Hoyler, Assistant Town Clerk.				
Visitors:	Tom Barden, Jeremy Grip, Warren King, and Bruce Malhotra.				
Minutes:	Minutes for 10-11-04 meeting were reviewed; to be signed at the next meeting. Minutes for 09-27-04 meeting to be signed at the next meeting				
Approval Actions:	Approved that Ken Norden bury a power line across the road near the Bear Cat Lodge, so long as the wire is buried in a conduit at least 6' below the crown of the road. The wire needs to have warning tape buried two feet above it, and photos need to be taken to document the process. Further, Mr. Norden needs to understand that if at some point the wire is cut during road maintenance, it will be the owner's responsibility to fix the problem.				
Orders:	Orders for 10/25/04 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$67,384.12, and for General Fund: \$7,832.96, and for the Fire Station Project: \$9,261.00.				

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End Date	Action
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FEMA Funding for Private Mitigation Funds—Old Business

4-19-FEMA-a	FEMA Funding	09-27-04		TH
<p>Sally Hoyler reported that she had spoken with Ray Doherty from FEMA. He said that there are no funds available at this time for flood mitigation for private property, though an appeal is in process. He suggested contacting the Natural Resource Conservation Service, which the Clerk has done and is awaiting a response. In the meantime, Carol McKnight has retained Phelps Engineering to advise and assist with her riverbank erosion problem.</p> <p>Warren King said that a study of the Middlebury River has been done, but we are waiting for the final write-up. This study will be a basis for determining what sort of work is appropriate on the river, and he felt that any extensive riprap work near Carol McKnight's ought to take the results of the study into account. The Board agreed to bear this in mind. No work can be done in the river until next year, in any case, as the State will not issue a permit for river work after October 1st.</p>				

Recycling Changes—New Business

04-21-RCLE-a	Recycling Changes	10-25-04		
<p>The Board reviewed a memo from Middlebury College saying that they are not willing to continue to haul our recyclables without a large increase in their charges to us. They reviewed several options for hiring a private hauler to do the Town's recycling. The most promising option seems to be JR's, who will bring a covered roll-off to the Town and take many more types of recycling. The materials would not have to be sorted.</p> <p>The Clerk will check out some towns in the area that use JR's and</p>				

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

report to the Board at the next meeting.
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Town Plan—Old Business

04-12-Plan-a	Town Plan Hearing	06-28-04	10-11-04	
The up-to-date map of the zoning districts is completed. This topic is now closed.				

High-Speed Internet—Old Business

04-12-HSInt-a	High Speed Internet	06-28-04	10-11-04	
The grant application has been sent. A revised letter of support was reviewed and signed at this meeting to follow-up the grant. This topic is closed for now.				

Fire Department Tanker Grant—New Business

4-20-FD-a	Fire Department Tanker Grant	10-11-04	10-11-04	
The Board discussed several options by which the Fire Department could raise the \$25,000 to meet the match portion of the grant. No action can be taken by the Board at this time, so this topic is closed for now, pending new information.				

Fire Station—Old Business

04-07-Fire-a	Fire Station	04-12-04		TH & Bd
<p>Tom Barden reported that he has found a foundation company who will pour the concrete for the frost walls in early November. They have quoted a price of \$8,240, which is about half of the \$16,000 he was carrying in the budget for this item. The spoils from the work need to be taken off site and need to the responsibility of the contractor—the Town wants no role in that process. The concrete will be 3,500 pound test. Mr. Barden will hire a concrete testing firm to assure the quality of the product.</p> <p>The Board approved extending Mr. Barden’s contract to cover the extra hours he has spent finding a new builder.</p> <p>After this discussion, Mr. Barden left the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Ford requested that the Clerk contact VLCT to make sure that they are aware that we have this additional property—some damage could be done to the site that needs to be covered.</p> <p>The Board also requested that the Clerk try to get papers from Morton Buildings that give the Town title to the materials that we have purchased but are storing off site. This is to protect the Town in case Morton goes out of business. The Board also requested that we have proof of insurance from them.</p> <p>The Clerk is still working on making sure that the neighbors are aware of the change in design of the building.</p>				

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

Zoning—Old Business

03-24-Trails-a	Pearl Lee Trail	12-22-03		
<p>There has been no response from the warning of the trails ordinance, other than an inquiry from Mr. Campbell. The ordinance will go into effect unless there is a petition.</p>				

Parking Lot Grant—Old Business

00-18-Park-a	Parking Lot Grant; Route 125 Enhancement Grant	09-11-00	Ongoing	AJ
<p>The final walk-through took place today. Some minor fixes are necessary and are covered in the contract: the depth of the plantings needs to be adjusted, and the appropriate amount of topsoil needs to be added to one bed.</p> <p>Reflectors were installed as requested. The extra granite curbing has been moved.</p> <p>The Board discussed options for finishing the parking lot with some additional grading and the application of blue or brown stone. This work will be budgeted for next spring.</p> <p>Jeremy Grip reported that an excavator will be doing some work on his property soon and will work on the reshaping of the fill along the road. He also talked with the Board about the placement of a second driveway entrance. Mr. Ford said that he had not looked at the site so he cannot approve the project yet. He promised to look before the next meeting.</p> <p>The Board requested that Mr. Grip not store the extra stone that comes from his fill in such a way as to interfere with the drainage project that the Town is contemplating.</p> <p>The Clerk is still looking into getting someone to keep the pathway and the bridge clear from snow this winter.</p> <p>In reviewing the memo from Alison Joseph regarding the insurance claim from Carol McKnight, the Board wanted to make two things clear: VLCT needs to be aware of this issue, and that the Town needs to stay out of the matter entirely, and let the issue be resolved between the two parties (Kingsbury and McKnight).</p>				

Roads—Old Business

04-19-Roads-a	Paving	09-27-04	10-25-04	
<p>Paving is completed.</p>				
04-11-Roads-b	Road Signs	06-14-04		RW
<p>Brush still needs to be cut in front of road signs.</p>				

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

04-10-Roads-a	Ditching	05-24-04	RW	
Ditching is almost finished for this season; some seeding and mulching is yet to be done.				

04-07-Roads-b	Mapping of Road Conditions	04-12-04	Ongoing	TH/RW
Mr. Wimett and the Clerk still need to drive the roads to update the maps that show what work has been done.				

03-10-Roads-a	State Grant (Natural Turnpike Culvert)	05-26-03	Ongoing	
The culvert project is completed. This topic is closed.				

Town Buildings—Old Business

04-19-Bldg-a	Town Office Maintenance	09-27-04		
Alex Carver will begin the repair work within 2-3 weeks on the Town Office and Community House as agreed. Tim Hanson will patch the bad section of the Community House ramp before election day, November 2.				

04-05-Bldg-a	Sale of Old Office	03-08-04	Ongoing	RW
Bruce Malhotra attended the meeting briefly to ask about the deed. The town's attorney is still preparing it. Synergy has been contacted to service the furnace and provide gas service to the building.				

Junk Ordinance—Old Business

04-19-Junk-a	Junk Car Ordinance	09-27-04		
No formal response has yet been received from the Town's attorney on this issue. The ordinance was e-mailed to them, and Ellen Fallon has been working on it.				

04-19-Em-a	Emergency Preparedness	09-27-04		
The Clerk has spoken with Ross Elliott (the Town's emergency coordinator) about Silver Towers, and the Clerk and he are working on getting them to prepare an emergency and disaster preparedness plan.				

Zoning Enforcement—Old Business

04-19-Zone-a	Gover Zoning Violation	09-27-04		
No response yet from the Town's attorney. The Clerk will give Ellen Fallon's office a nudge before the next meeting.				

William Ford

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett