

TOWN OF RIPTON SELECTMENS MINUTES

Date:	Meeting No.	Start:	End:	Next Meeting	Next Time
03-14-05	2005-05	7:35	9:50	03-28-05	7:30p.m.
Attendees:	William Ford and Laureen Cox, Selectmen, and Sally Hoyler, Town Clerk				
Visitors:	Ed Hanson, Zoning & Sewage Administrator				
Minutes:	Minutes for 01-27-05, and 02-14-05, and 02-28-05 were signed.				
Approval Actions:	<p>Ms. Cox, newly elected, took her oath of office.</p> <p>Voted that the Addison Independent be the "paper of record" for the Town.</p> <p>Appointed Sally Hoyler to be Clerk of Selectmen for the ensuing year.</p> <p>Voted to continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7:30pm.</p> <p>Minutes for the annual Town meeting were signed.</p> <p>Signed liquor licenses for 2005 for the Ripton Country Store and for the Chipman Inn.</p> <p>Signed "blanket approval" for Middlebury College to serve liquor at the Breadloaf campus, pending prior notification of events.</p> <p>Signed appointments of Steven Zwicky as Representative and Jay Harrington as Alternate to the Addison County Solid Waste Management District.</p> <p>Signed new sewage ordinance draft (see discussion below).</p> <p>Signed grant application for Class 2 Roads Grant from Vtrans and TA60 Plan.</p> <p>Signed Humane Society contract for 2005.</p> <p>Signed approval for appointment of Ceredwyn Alexander as Town Service Officer for the Town.</p> <p>Approved a request from residents of a new private road off Maiden Lane that their road be named Wimett Lane. A sign will be ordered and 911 house numbers redefined.</p>				
Orders:	Orders for 03/14/05 were reviewed and signed. Total for Roads: \$8451.15, and for General Fund: \$5561.01.				
Reports:	Delinquent Tax Collector Report: As of 03/11/05, total 2003 delinquent taxes due, including interest and fees, are \$9,908.95. Total 2004 delinquent taxes due, including interest and fees, are \$17,160.84.				

Item Number	Subject	Start Date	End Date	Action
05-05-SewOrd	New Sewage Ordinance	03-14-05		SH&Bd
	Ed Hanson attended the meeting to explain the reasons for introducing a new sewage ordinance (received by the Board on 1/10/05).			

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Currently, all sewage permits must be signed off by the state, and it is a slow process and the backlog is growing. The language in the new ordinance is such that it allows for local governments (the Town) to approve septic systems on their own. Mr. Hanson explained that other towns are moving to adopt a similar ordinance and strongly encouraged Ripton to do the same. The Board agreed and signed the draft. The Clerk will submit the signed draft to the state for approval.

05-05-Access	Road Access Permit Process	03-14-05	03-14-05	EH & Bd
<p>The procedure for processing road access permits was discussed and redefined by the Board with Ed Hanson. The steps to the process were decided to be: 1) Selectboard receives and reviews application, and 2) performs a site visit or relies upon the Road Commissioner's explanation of the location and work required, and 3) modifies submittal to meet Town's road standards, if necessary, and 4) approves application, then 5) the Zoning & Sewage Administrator (Ed Hanson) inspects the site when work is completed. Mr. Hanson will design a new road access permit application that includes a place for this final "sign-off".</p>				

Fire Station—Old Business

04-07-Fire-a	Fire Station	04-12-04	Ongoing	TH & Bd
<p>The Clerk reported that Morton Buildings has placed our project in their schedule to begin approximately April 11. The Town will receive three weeks notice when the exact start date is determined. It was also reported that Tim Price is working with Tom Barden on prices for electricity, plumbing, and carpentry.</p>				

Roads—Old Business

04-23 Roads-a	Driveway on Pearl Lee Road	12-13-04	Ongoing	SH
<p>A letter was drafted and reviewed by the Town's attorney, and then sent to A. Johnson Co. informing them that the road access permit was approved by the Town on the condition that corrective work be done by June 1, 2005 to avoid penalties. (Copy attached with these minutes). The Clerk reported that in a conversation with Tom Yeager, the primary representative from A. Johnson Co., Mr. Yeager proposed an on-site meeting to take place around May 1 with the Board to discuss the issue. The Board responded that such a meeting was not feasible; that it would be more suitable for a representative from A. Johnson Co. to attend a Ripton Selectboard meeting prior to May 1 to discuss the issue. A letter will be drafted, approved by the Chair of the Board, and sent to A. Johnson stating this, and that the Board's decision stands that the permit is approved pending re-work by June 1, or thereafter penalties will be applied.</p>				

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04-23-Roads-b	Road Repair	12-13-04	Ongoing	RW
There are some deep potholes by Baker Bridge and on Pearl Lee Road. Mr. Wimett will take care of this when conditions allow.				

04-11-Roads-b	Road Signs	06-14-04	Ongoing	RW
Brush needs to be cut in front of road signs, to be done in the spring.				

05-01-Roads-a	Mapping of Road Conditions	04-12-04	Ongoing	TH/RW
Tim Hanson will complete the roadwork mapping by the end of June 2005 in collaboration with the Clerk. Mr. Ford requested that the beginning steps of an ongoing system of roadwork documentation, as mentioned in the reminder list, be outlined for next meeting.				

Phone Booth—Old Business

04-24-Ph-a	Phone Booth	12-27-04	02-14-05	SH
At Town Meeting on February 28, article 4 passed, authorizing the Town to install a new public telephone. The Board discussed some possible locations of the phone. The Clerk will contact Verizon to finalize the details of installation.				

Junk Ordinance—Old Business

04-19-Junk-a	Junk Car Ordinance	09-27-04	Ongoing	TH
The final draft of the junk car ordinance has been completed. Copies were provided to the Board for review.				

04-19-Em-a	Emergency Preparedness	09-27-04	Ongoing	SH
Mr. Garofano, a representative of the owner of Silver Towers Camp, has provided the Clerk with a copy of the emergency plan for the camp. The Clerk has provided Ross Elliott, the Town's Emergency Management Coordinator, with a copy for his review.				

Zoning Enforcement—Old Business

04-19-Zone-a	Gover Zoning Violation	09-27-04	Ongoing	SH
Ren Barlow of Langrock, Sperry, & Wool reported in a conversation with the Clerk on 3/11/05 that he had not yet served the complaint because of some confusion about who precisely owned the property. After clarifying the names on the deed of the property, Mr. Barlow agreed to move forward with the filing process.				

Open Positions

05-03-Open-a	Open Positions	02-14-05	Ongoing	SH&Bd
At the last abbreviated selectboard meeting, papers were signed to approve the appointment of Timothy Hanson as Health Officer for the Town. A candidate for Town Service Officer, Ceredwyn Alexander, was discussed at this meeting and approved by the Board.				

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Candidates for the remaining open positions of Dog Warden and Alternate to Representative to the Regional Planning Commission were discussed, though no decisions were made.

Community House—New Business

05-05-EAID	EAID Grant	03-14-05	Ongoing	SH
<p>The Board discussed the proposed work supported by this grant to increase handicap accessibility of the Community House as laid out in photos and notes submitted by Alex Carver, the contractor retained to do the work. Options for railing and lighting fixture styles were discussed, keeping in mind that overall design and materials must pass review by the Historic District Commission. More details are needed about handicap specifications to determine some details. These will be researched and more complete drawings will be submitted next meeting.</p>				

05-05-CH	Community House Maintenance	03-14-05	03-14-05	SH
<p>In a discussion to clarify the issues around the management of the maintenance of the Community House, it was decided that Alison Joseph may continue as the point-lead person on the building. Ms. Joseph has the authority to schedule and manage routine maintenance and cleaning, and bring recommendations to the Board for larger maintenance projects.</p>				

Community House—New Business

05-05-Town	Town Meeting follow-up	03-14-05	Ongoing	SH
<p>Mr. Ford noted that at Town Meeting, a question was asked how the National Forest Service determines the amount of its funding to Rip-ton, and that the Board responded that it would find the answer. Similarly, Ms.Cox noted that at the 2004 Town Meeting, the Board responded that it would decide on an appropriate disposition for the Orris Manning plaque on the old Town Office building. It was decided at this Selectboard meeting to add these topics to the minutes until resolved.</p>				

William Ford

Laureen Cox

Ronald Wimett