

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2008
WARREN SELECTBOARD
WARREN TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Burt Bauchner, Chair, Andy Cunningham, Erin Russell-Story, Kirstin Reilly.

OTHERS PRESENT: Barry Simpson, Rudy Elliott, Patty Sue Carter, Raemon Weston, Doug Bergstein, Bobby (TV 44), Cindi Hartshorn-Jones.

7:06 PM – Meeting called to order by Mr. Bauchner.

7:08 PM – ROAD CREW CHECK IN – Rae Weston Jr. – The board welcomed Mr. Weston into his new position as road foreman. Mr. Weston updated the board on that paving would begin on Thursday, September 11 and end on Saturday, September 13. The crew has already been preparing the roads and ST. Paving left their equipment so that Mr. Weston could use it to prepare the roads.

The two towns of Warren and Granville will be working together to re-open the lower end of Plunkton Road. Mr. Weston indicated that they would be digging test holes to find the water levels and proceed with a solution that includes drainage and rock lined ditches that would last about 3-5 years. The cement culvert near RT 100 cannot handle the significant water loads that rush off the hillside and down into the ditches along the Plunkton Road. The goal between the two towns is to reopen the road before winter the easiest and cheapest way.

The trucks are ready for winter. The sander has been modified for the new truck and is complete. The crew is still looking at various ways of storing tools outside the cab. One method was purchasing aluminum boxes that open from the sides but they are about \$1,600.00. Another idea was buying steel and spray painting them with a bed liner material to protect them from salt.

Mr. Simpson has contacted the fire marshals office concerning the Ruby Blair House.

Mr. Weston and Mr. Simpson also have a grant application that they are looking at various projects that would fit into this grant application. One idea was applying for a grant to rock line the ditches along Dump Road with 11” stone. They both looked at a culvert on the top of Roxbury that is about 80’ long and there is a very steep embankment to get to it. It is a steel, galvanized culvert and is rotted out from the bottom. The main part that is rotted out is the end that sticks out of the embankment. Mr. Weston crawled down over the bank and looked at the culvert and indicated that it would be good for about 5 years.

Mr. Weston also reported that all the roads need gravel. Many like West Hill, DeFreest Hill, and Roth Road have large rocks that stick out of them. Mr. Bauchner asked if we had enough gravel. Mr. Weston responded in saying that they are still hauling gravel; however, much of it will be needed in mud season. They would like to purchase about 400' of quarry rock to help maintain the roads during mud season. Sources of this stone were Griswald in Burlington, and a quarry in New Haven. They would like to get the 2" stones for the roads and 8" rock for ditching projects.

Mr. Weston also requested that the board put new signs up on the Access Road, Roxbury Mountain Road, and West Hill Road. These signs would state: WINTER TIRES REQUIRED." The board requested that a large "NO BUSES: sign be placed for traffic turning onto Roxbury Gap Road from East Warren Road. They also plan on putting no "over night parking" signs on Main Street by the Pitcher Inn/Warren Store area, so that the crew can adequately remove the snow along that area.

7:25 PM – WARREN RECREATION COMMITTEE - Doug Bergstein reported to the board that the field was used a lot and there were not scheduling conflicts. He reported that they had a few thoughts about a sign maybe 2x3 or bigger to fit the all the guidelines for the field. For example:

Welcome to Brooks Recreation Field
Please leave this field as you hopefully found it.
All activities are at your own risk.
Use the trash receptacles.
Pickup after your dog.
No fires, firearms, fireworks or camping.
Thanks for your cooperation in keeping this field beautiful.

Ms. Reilly also suggested that it state the delineation of the Warren School Property and Brooks Field. Also Ms. Jones stated that it needed to be somewhat maintenance free. Mr. Bergstein would talk to a few local sign people and see what could be designed. Mr. Bergstein inquired what the board wanted to do with the outfield fences. Whether to leave them up for the winter or take them down and pile them up. Mr. Simpson explained that there were special made clamps that came with the fence that help to hold it together and that the town could get more from F.E Hart Fence Company. Mr. Simpson also asked if Mr. Bergstein could tell the rugby people that they need to cleanup around where they take the goal posts in and out. He would like them to pickup the rocks and put some top soil back over the spots. Mr. Bergstein would follow up with the rugby people and have them fix these spots.

7:35 PM – PLANNING COMMISSION CHECK IN - No members present.

8:10 PM – OTHER BUSINESS –

Lighting Request for Back Garage Collins Electric – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the lighting quote of \$2,967.26, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor:
VOTE: 4-0.

8:15 PM – Town Hall Bidding Update: Mr. Bauchner explained to the rest of the board that the bid opening had taken place and the contractor selected was Ruggco Inc. from Barnet, VT. They were the low of three bidders. The contractor would like start the week of September 15th. There were two side issues that were not included in the bidding contract: One was drainage on the side of Carl Lobel's Property and outflow of all drainage to the street; the other is removing the oil tank on the Lobel Property. The drainage issue needed to be taken care of as all the water from rain storms drain into the lower level of the town hall and are causing mold problems. Mr. Lobel has requested that the oil tank be removed from under his flower beds and moved to the back of building off his property. Estimated cost was \$25,000. The cost of this work would be funded out of the Capital Building Renovation Fund.

Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the expenditure of \$25,000,00 second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:25 PM - Moving the Hearse Out Of the Fire Station: - The board was requested by the Fire Dept to find a home for the hearse. It is currently housed in the Fire Station and is beginning to deteriorate from the condensation in the fire house and the fire department would like the much needed space. The board discussed the request from the historical society about using the larger Blair barn as a possible future home for the hearse. It is basically sound as is, but needs to have accumulated junk removed and one pair of doors cut at bottom in order to operate.

8:26 PM - Button Up Vermont Request Host Towns: Ms. Russell-Story, Energy Coordinator, started the conversation off by saying that Yestermorrow Design/Build School, The Carbon Shedders, Mad River Valley Planning District, Valley Futures Network, Chittenden Bank Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston were sponsoring this energy saving, low cost weatherization and do it yourself opportunities to help Valley residents save money and learn to save energy. The pre registration number is 496-7907. There is no fee to attend.

8:35 PM – Wheeler Brook Loan Documents: The Wheeler Brook Affordable Housing Loan Documents were presented to the board for signature. Paul Giuliani, Town Attorney, has reviewed the documents and is okay with them.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham to authorized Mr. Bauchner, Chair of The Selectboard, sign the loan documents, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

Mr. Simpson stated that the contractor on the Wheeler Brook Project was not sure when the actually boring and hookup of the fire hydrant would take place. They are coordinating with Sugarbush.

8:45 PM – Letter of Support for the Kingsbury Community Farm – Ms. Walker from the Vermont Land Trust, has requested a letter of support from The Town of Warren to

support the Vermont Land Trust efforts to conserve the Kingsbury Farm in Warren and the selection of The Vermont Food Bank as the next owner of the Kingsbury Farm.

Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to authorize Mr. Bauchner, Chair of Selectboard, to sign the letter of support on behalf of the Town of Warren, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:50 PM – Gas Expenditure for the Town Constable: A request was made before the Selectboard in regards to gas expenditure for the Town Second Constable, Mr. Bill Peatman. Mr. Peatman has met with the board previously and discussed what he was doing and the expenses he had paid himself for this appointed job. He asked if the Town would pickup the gas cost for night patrolling. The board agreed to the following:

Motion by Mr. Cunningham to authorize an expenditure of \$50.00 per week for 17 weeks, and requested that Mr. Peatman report to the board on a monthly basis, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

8:52 PM – State Police Advisory Board Request: Mr. Peatman also asked if the Selectboard would appoint him to the State Police Advisory Board. Currently there are two representatives, Sandra Brodeur and Michael Brodeur. Mr. Peatman had the support from the VSP on this appointment.

Motion by Ms. Reilly to appoint Mr. Peatman to the State Police Advisory Board, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:00 PM – Approval of Minutes for August 26, 2008 – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the Minutes of August 26, 2008, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:05 PM – Approval of Minutes for September 5, 2008 – Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to approve the Minutes of September 5, 2008, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:10 PM – Appointment of Selectboard Vacancy: The Selectboard voted at the meeting not to fill its vacant seat by appointment, but rather to hold a special election to coincide with the State and National elections on Tuesday November 4, 2008. The board received letters of interest from 6 candidates and they were all very qualified. The board decided to let the residents of Warren decide who they want to represent them. Mr. Bauchner would type up a press release to issue in the Valley Reporter.

9:15 PM – Legal Bills – Two invoices were present to Selectboard regarding a lease agreement with Carl Lobel, and Path Easement research and preparing a Path Easement. The board decided to pay the Carl Lobel Legal bill out of the Capital Building Renovation Account and Ms. Reilly would talk to the Path and the Mad River Valley Planning District on splitting the path easement bill 3-ways.

9:15 PM – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to move into executive session regarding personnel inviting Ms. Jones, and at Ms. Jones request invite Mr. Simpson, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

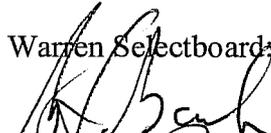
10:15 PM – Motion by Ms. Reilly to come out of executive session, second by Ms. Russell-Story, All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

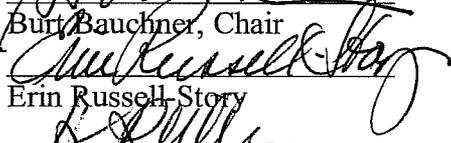
10:35 PM – Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to authorized Mr. Cunningham to sign a letter, directing Ms. Fuller to change Mr. Weston’s title to “Road Foreman” and adjusting Mr. Weston’s pay to \$21.00 per hour and on January 1, 2009 adjusting his pay to \$22.50, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

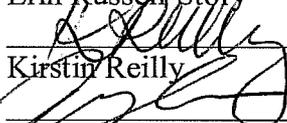
10:40 PM – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to adjourn, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

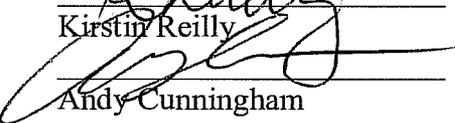
Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Hartshorn-Jones
Warren Town Administrator

Warren Selectboard:


Burt Bauchner, Chair


Erin Russell-Story


Kirstin Reilly


Andy Cunningham