

**Selectboard Special Meeting • July 11, 2019**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Selectboard Present:** H. Childress; C. Fenton; P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

**Town Officers Present:** Auditor Sarah Grimm; Road Commissioner Bill Reed

**Public Present:** Michael Beattie, Art Castle, Robin Chesnut-Tangerman, Kirsten Davenport, Lynne Meyer-Gay, George Gonda, Don Hemenway, Sally Jones, David Wright

**Otter Creek Engineering:** Craig Jewett

**Called to order:** 6:02 p.m.

**West Street Feasibility Study:** Craig Jewett presented two updated alternatives for developing the West Street property. Both would allow the development of the highway garage, salt/sand shed, and transfer station. The highway garage would have a floodable first floor, with mechanical and office functions on a mezzanine level well above flood stage, and would be the same in both proposed options.

The first option segregates the function of transfer station from the highway uses, which improves safety conditions. The second option reverses the locations of the salt/sand shed and transfer station, which raises the salt storage above FEMA flood level.

The majority of conversation had to do with improving traffic and parking patterns for transfer station use, and managing the amount of water that sheds across West Street (VT 140) from the uphill northern slope.

The pertinent State regulatory agency for permitting this project would be the Department of Environmental Conservation. We would not be “applying” to FEMA for permission to build; FEMA merely holds the data for their determination of flood risk. We *could* apply to FEMA to have them revise their data if we wanted to change the insurance requirements for any project we consider.

**Adjourn:** H. Childress moved to adjourn the special meeting; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Special meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk

**Selectboard Regular Meeting • July 11, 2019**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Selectboard Present:** H. Childress; C. Fenton; P. Kenyon, T. Redfield

**Town Officers Present:** Lister Sally Achey; Auditor Sarah Grimm; Road Commissioner Bill Reed

**Guest:** Rutland Sheriff Deputy Justin Cram

**Public Present:** Art Castle; George Gonda; Don Hemenway

**Called to order:** 7:08 p.m.

*Summer road work and parsnip mowing are upon us...*

**Minutes:** T. Redfield moved to approve the minutes of the regular and special meetings of June 27; P. Kenyon 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*]

**Public and Guests:** Deputy Cram presented information about the jurisdiction over the four-way stop. At present, it is a State-controlled intersection, so most of the penalties for non-stop violations are sent to the State. If we adopt an ordinance to make stop sign violations enforceable by the Town, more of the penalties would be held within the Town. The Board will study the sample ordinance provided and determine whether it would be wise to adopt such a Town ordinance ourselves. We could also determine our own speed limits for State-designated roads if we choose.

The Sheriff's Department has had conversations with three possible suspects on the vandalism problem. Sally Achey asked that the roadway graffiti be cleared before the August charity bike ride.

**Town Officers:** Lister Sally Achey reports that the Town Clerk has received an assessment grievance appeal related to 103 Spruce Knob Road. The Board of Civil Authority will meet before July 25th to hear that appeal. The parties invited will be the Board of Civil Authority, and the property owners; the Town Clerk is responsible for setting and warning that meeting.

Lister Achey also informed us of our 2019-20 Vermont education tax rate: homestead \$1.4514, non-residential \$1.5785.

**Highway:** Bill Lyle and Rob Ryan have conferred over the repair of the backhoe bucket; the repair price is more expensive than the replacement, but the quality of the original is unserviceable. We continue to negotiate over next steps.

The crew has caught up with most of the demands of grading and shoulder repair. There's a little bit of undermining on North Street near the catch basin at Spruce Knob, and the crew will be filling and patching that broken pavement.

The Town's VT 140 paving will take place during August; it will take roughly a week, with traffic reduced to a single lane during paving work. More details will be communicated once the schedule is set. The Poultney bridge replacement project expects complete closure from July 24<sup>th</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup>.

At the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board voted to allow the Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA) to do road repairs on the Class IV section of North Street. T. Redfield informed us that the equipment operator for the VASA project is David Gilderdale, who is a State-authorized highway contractor. We will ask Mr. Gilderdale to provide the Town with a certificate of insurance. T. Redfield moved to recognize that State regulations allow ATVs to use Class IV highways; H. Childress 2<sup>nd</sup> [*all in favor, motion carried*].

The roadside mower will arrive this weekend, and we will have it until Friday 7/19, with no limit on mower hours. All of the Town's Class II and Class III roads will be mowed.

**Town Lands:** The Building Committee is working on the last batch of feasibility study communication, expecting the report within the next month.

Bob Parker will be returning to cemetery maintenance as of Monday July 15.

**Correspondence:**

- USPS guidelines for delivery to multi-unit buildings and larger developments
- Certificate of Insurance for Casella
- Thank-you from Mentor Connector
- A notice of assessment appeal from Susan and Paul Handy, 103 Spruce Knob Road
- VLCT News July 2019

**Board Orders:** H. Childress moved to approve the board orders as presented; T. Redfield 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*].

**Other Business:** The Fire Association is working on developing a building committee to meet with the Board for regular information sharing.

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) has been submitted to Vermont Emergency Management for their review. Once they approve, the Selectboard can adopt the LHMP as our five-year plan, guiding budget decisions and qualifying us for greater emergency reimbursement.

**Adjourn:** T. Redfield moved to adjourn; H. Childress 2<sup>nd</sup>; [*all in favor, motion carried*]. Meeting adjourned 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Childress, Selectboard Clerk