

## Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2023

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Frank Severy, Pat Harvey

**Guests Present:** Julie Smith, Kristen LaPell

**Guests Present on Zoom:** Orca, Troy LaPell, Robert Franks, Martha Slater, Bruce Marshall & Jeanine Weir

Doon called the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Doon confirmed the open meeting law conformity.

Doon moved to approve the June 26, 2023, selectboard meeting minutes. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved. Doon moved to approve the July 7, 2023, special selectboard minutes approving the tax rate. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

**Signature required for Better Roads Grant culvert replacement on Rogers Brook/Bethel Mtn:** Doon moved to approve the acceptance of the Better Roads Grant on Rogers Brook. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

**Signature for the Amendment 1 on West Hill Bridge Geotechnical investigation:** Doon moved to approve to sign the amendment for West Hill Geotechnical investigation. This is the follow up from the Design grant. Jason from VHB has sent along the document as discussed to receive a signed copy for their files. Pat seconded. All in favor. So, approved.

**Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee discussion regarding public infrastructure grants vs. personal real estate:** Robert Franks had concerns about Two Rivers Ottawaquechee, public infrastructure, and personal real estate. He wanted to know what grants were put forth for the “Stable Inn”? What were the numbers and if the taxpayers are paying for that? Pat said this was not a question to pose to the selectboard. She indicated the selectboard didn’t apply for any grants for renovation in our town and that they were not privy to that information when it comes to a private business. Robert explained how he didn’t understand how Two Rivers is funding the high school and all the goodness they are doing and where the money comes from. He is concerned with how inundated we are supporting the school and there’s nobody asking the questions. Doon shared if Robert was concerned about Two Rivers and if they contributed to his personal projects by explaining that Two Rivers had not contributed anything to his projects. He said Two Rivers is the regional planning commission, and they are entrusted to oversee the Brownfield development program, which explains their involvement with the high school. Doon explained any BRELLA monies are administered through them. The board said this is a personal issue and not a board issue to discuss. Frank said they don’t have any jurisdiction or ability to award grants. Frank shared the Planning and Zoning has always encouraged the development of communities to stay within the community. This allows the village to be as vibrant as possible. Frank shared his support for Doons growth in the community as a positive development for the

community. Frank felt Doon has good foresight and good business sense to bring that forward, which is no different than any other business in town that wants to make improvements. Frank asked Robert if he was making this a personal issue he was in the wrong forum to do so.

**Re minutes & more generally regarding slavery in Vermont:** Bruce spoke to the board stated they had some clarification of the minutes which summarized what they said. Jeanine read a letter she was submitting to the town. She indicated the synopsis of the proposed minutes are unclear in certain specific ways. There were main points not made which include, the town has been egregiously brutal and dishonest towards them regarding the Lyman Hall Inc. plat map from 2003 and the corrective plat map of 2019. The next point was the town had not been honest or done their job and it was time for the town to do their job. They stated ethics and an honest reckoning needs to be honored herein. They asked that Doon, as the administrator for planning and zoning send a notice of violation to Lyman Hall Inc stating that their plat map violates both local bylaws and laws of State of Vermont and that Lyman Hall Inc must remove it from land records regarding 2003 site map and 2019 corrective map. She said when it is removed it needs to be held in trust with the town clerk while they are resolving the issue with the constitutional court of record. They asked that it be clarified that its time stamped because of an exhibit they will send of the transcript of the 6/26 selectboard meeting 49.06 to 50.03 on the transcript. They clarified the jobs for Doon and Julie. She said the town can think what they want to think. Doon said that Jeanine is stating over the same information. He wanted them to share the information with clarity. He said in a search for clarities around the documents submitted to us were forwarded to our town's legal counsel and he had trouble finding any legal validity to their arguments.

**Public Comment:** Robert Franks shared how important it is for compassion. Martha made a request to ask if she could have Harvest Fair on September 9 and asked if Julie could add it to the next agenda. Kristen confirmed that Julie had already added her request to the next agenda.

**Highway Updates:** Frank said there are minor issues from the storm. Some culverts were addressed and will have some shoulder work to do. He shared John is trying to get the roadside mowing done and this storm hit at a bad time with machines rented. He said John is working long hours. Frank also shared White River Partnership withdrew the River Brook Culvert because of lack of bids. They will resubmit a new bid next spring. John did approve the driveway permit for the landowner that was tabled. Frank also shared he will meet with Kristen next week to apply for the additional \$25K for West Hill Bridge construction through VTrans. Robert Franks shared his concerns for Dean Mendell and asked if the board had addressed their situation with this storm. Doon indicated he had in fact spoken with Dean and with Chris from VTrans to alert Chris about their situation.

**Grant Updates:** Kristen was just looking for the signature for the Better Roads Grant.

Kristen alerted Doon to the fact that Jeanine and Bruce were in the waiting room and wanted to ask permission to let them in, but they had since hung up.

Pat moved to adjourn. Doon seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Smith