

TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

Monthly Select Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes – prepared by C. DeVore

Meeting Date: May 14, 2014

Start Time: 6:33 pm **Adjourn:** 8:32 pm

Meeting Attendees: Robert Burley – ESB Chairman, Whit Hartt-ESB, Caroline DeVore-ESB, Michel Lacasse-Road Commissioner, Bernard Jensen (Resident), Curtis (Resident), Brian Marineau (Resident), Carl Powden (VLT), Marje Kelso (Resident), Julia Kenney (Resident)

Meeting opened at 6:33p

A. SPECIAL TOPICS: (Items requiring expanded discussion)

1. ELMORE WATER PROJECT: System Fully Operational 19MAR14

a. **Start Up Boil Water Requirement Ended** – Next step - move to standby chlorination as needed. If tests come back clean in 2 months chlorination can end. Testing costs will decrease over this period.

Q&A: Is water being consumed today? Yes. Water quality excellent and has been consumed since project began. Chlorination and testing required by state as part of project execution.

b. **Minor leak at Control Panel Pressure Gage** - warranty repair. No danger to system operation.

c. **STAG Grant request for full disbursement submitted.** Final form received and submitted.

d. **ANR continued delays processing STAG Reimbursement#2.**

e. **EPA Audit Results: EPA Audit of WSA financial administration.**

Results:

i. Elmore Financial & Internal Controls rated excellent

ii. 1 of 84 forms missing – resubmitted to EPA & ANR

2. ELMORE WSA CREATION: RE: Select Board Order to Establish 12FEB14

a. **Statutory Legal Documents & Operating Guidelines completed**

b. **First WSA meeting planned for 2 June 2014.** See Town of Elmore website for additional detailed information.

c. **Rates will increase; Bills to be sent and due with Property Tax (2x year)**

d. **ESB to sign WSA meeting Notice.**

Notice signed by SB members.

Q&A: Are users of water paying for the water. Yes. What the town approved by vote was for the Town of Elmore to be signatory for loans to construct water system. Water system will be “self-sustaining” and will not impact the town tax rate. Town will be paying a support payment to water system (consistent with the way public water systems are operated in the state of VT). Rate is consistent with similar sized systems in the state of VT. The new system will meet all state guidelines.

B. NEW ITEMS:

1. Vermont Land Trust (VLT) – Deer Lake Worcester Ridge - Carl Powden

Mr. Powden presented a plan for 6,500 acres – (Deer Lake property and EB Hyde property) to have Conservancy/Conservation Easements (CE) placed on them. The Vermont Land Trust works closely with landowners, families, and municipalities to protect land with a tool called a conservation easement. A conservation easement is a legal agreement that ensures a property will never be subdivided or developed, and protects the ecological, scenic and recreational values inherent to Vermont’s farms and forests. The property can continue to be bought/sold subject to restrictions noted in the easement. For more information see: <http://www.vlt.org/>

Last Text Edits on 7/7/2014

TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

Monthly Select Board Meeting

2. West Loop Rd. (pvt.) winter culvert question – Landowner petition

Petitioners ask the town to evaluate whether the placement of culverts on Beach Road have negatively impacted West Loop Road water drainage when the culvert was frozen this year. Question: Was there too much water and too small a culvert pipe to handle the thaw and flow of water this spring.

SB will review the culvert inventory to see whether new culverts were placed in the section of West Loop Rd in question. SB will make a site visit to evaluate the impact and possible cause/effect of road degradation. Landowners asked if the reconstruction of Beach Rd could have impacted the private section of West Loop. Beach Road reconstruction was done to meet state minimum standards for Class 3 roads. SB will respond within a month to Landowner petition.

SB noted - statutorily, the Town cannot make an improvement to a private road.

3. Lamoille County Regional Plan: Select DRIs to review 2015 update.

Regional plan received. Plans are reviewed each 8 years. Whit will review and share with the planning commission and circulate to the SB.

C. CONTINUING ACTIVE ITEMS: (Update status, by item, by DRI)

1. Road Commissioner Update – LaCasse

Work Completed:

- a. Started grading roads April 11
- b. Used up stock piles for mud season (500yd)
- c. Worst frost damage was on Tallman Rd (200' section collapsed)
- d. 4/16 heavy rain, snow melt water over road. EMR: two spots flooded
- e. Green up day, smallest turnout ever. 1140 lbs trash, 1720 lbs tires, 100 lbs metal

Equipment status:

All well.

Employee Status:

Attended municipal show in Barre.

Upcoming issues:

- a. Lacasse Rd culvert project starts 6/17, road will be closed June 17 & 18.
- b. Culvert priority list written. Tough winter on culverts; frost pushed some culverts up, will need to be dug up and reset and all crushed culverts will be replaced. (Replacement of 6-12 culverts expected)

2. Status: Specifications for 10 ton Town Truck- LaCasse

Dodge 5500 series diesel engine truck, 6 speed transmission and engine brake. Steel, aluminum or stainless steel dump bodies are being evaluated. 9.5' V-plow. Dodge offers a \$10k rebate for municipalities.

3. Status – Break-ins: local actions, add coverage, collab. w/MVL?

Review draft survey and approve/adjust. Survey to be distributed in the following ways:

- a. Post at Elmore Store and TCO will hardcopies that can be completed and dropped at TCO.
- b. Email to all town residents with option to complete hardcopy survey or go online to take an electronic survey.
- c. Electronic survey available on the Town's website.
- e. Survey to be active through June 30th. Discuss outcome at July SB meeting.
- d. [Protecting Your Home From Crime](#) and [Home Security Checklist](#) posted to town website.

4. Status - Revised Elmore Road & Bridge Standards Update – LaCasse (No update)

Last Text Edits on 7/7/2014

TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

Monthly Select Board Meeting

5. **Elmore Planning Commission Update – Hartt**
 - a. **UPDATE: Elmore Zoning By-Laws.** Colin Reynolds is now on board and coming up to speed. LCPC attended last meeting and have found funding to help Elmore with zoning by-laws. Shoreline districting help.
Shoreline Protection Act: SB discussed legislation status and impacts of Act to Elmore Shoreline District.
Rysz completed research on lot size and building height in Shoreline District.
 - b. Hearing for Lake Association set for June 6th
 - c. **Provide interim review chapters**
6. **Tax Map Digitization Update – DeVore**

Received proposal from CAI for work to be completed. SB reviewed the proposal and DeVore to review with CAI and confirm with project kickoff to begin in June.
7. **Route 12 Repaving & Rumble Strip issue**

Burley has evaluated. Rumble strip is a center-line strip and the town will take no action to change the State's plan.
8. **VT Alert program:** Caroline attended Rob Schell's overview (in Johnson on 5/13) and implementation timeframe for VT-ALERT (<http://www.vtalert.gov/>), the Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security's program to provide automated safety alerts to all VT residents. The system is based on NY-Alerts which provides 1.3M alerts daily to registered users.

Access to and use of VT-Alerts is free and all communities and residents are encouraged to visit the VT Alerts website (<http://www.vtalert.gov/>), and register for alerts that can be delivered electronically or by phone (LAN) services. Even those without internet access can be placed on alert notification lists.

VT-Alerts also allow authorized town leaders to push local alerts (public safety alerts only to include road closures, flooding, etc.) to towns people who opt-in for advisories. Town usage is free of charge but select boards must request access and be authorized on the system. SB will designate which town officers are authorized to post information to the VT-ALERT website and utilize communication gateways within the website to disseminate information. We can also define alert "groups" for our own safety communication needs (fire department members, SB members, etc.).

SB team to review the site and discuss again at next meeting.

D. COMPLETED/INACTIVE ITEMS:

1. **Open Action Item List reviewed by SB.**

Meeting Adjourned