

TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

Monthly Select Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes – prepared by C. DeVore
Status: Approved

Meeting Date: August 13, 2014

Start Time: 6:31 pm **Adjourn:** 8:32 pm

Meeting Attendees: Robert Burley – ESB Chairman, Whit Hartt-ESB, Caroline DeVore-ESB,
Michel Lacasse-Road Commissioner

A. SPECIAL TOPICS:

None

B. NEW ITEMS:

1. **Voting Tabulator Hidden Charges discussion.** 2014 state mandated vote tabulators had no indication of recurring election “set up” fees. Elmore fee for Aug 2014 primary is unplanned \$1200 due to multiple ballots. Towns of less than 1000 voters can opt out and continue paper ballot voting. Set up fee for Reg Nov. election, less, single ballot.

Elmore will opt out of using the tabulator for the upcoming primary election. Final decision for November election pending.

C. CONTINUING ACTIVE ITEMS:

1. **Road Commissioner Update – LaCasse**

Work Completed:

- a. July 9, high winds overnight. Crew was called out at 4am for downed trees. All cleared.
- b. Culvert work, replaced aging culverts at beginning of Beach and Westphal roads. State will repave as part of Rt 12. upgrade. Intersections are Town responsibility. Saves costs – culverts were due for replacement in 2015.
- c. Hauling sand.
- d. Mowing road sides.

Equipment status:

- e. Truck #1 serviced at McLoeds for springs and suspension. Changed out u-bolts, center pins and clamps.
- f. Rental of tractor and mower from Fairfield's for roadside mowing.

Employee Status:

Employees have taken some vacation time.

Upcoming issues:

- a. Purchase truck.
- b. Finish sand pile.
- c. Work on priority list of ditching, gravel, example Hoskins Rd.
- d. Signs: Vandals defaced majority of signs on EMR (both Elmore and Morrisville). They will need to be replaced. SB evaluating steps to address this ongoing issue and corresponding town expense.

2. **Water System:**

- a. Transient pump relay failure 7/20/14. Repaired under warranty.
- b. Final reports & reimbursement requests compiled and sent to ANR & EPA. ANR continues to delay reimbursement decisions.
- c. User water invoices included & mailed with Property Tax.

3. **Tax Map Digitization Update – DeVore**

- a. Contract for Query Manager signed, development work started.
- b. 50% Grant reimbursement (VCGI) confirmed
 - i. Contract returned. 1st status report to be delivered by 8/29/14

4. **Route 12 Repaving & Rumble Stripe:** 9Aug14 Meeting with AOT, Brian Searles, Sec’y of Transportation: Rt 12 will NOT have rumble stripes.

5. **DEER LAKE Timber & VLT Land Conservation:**

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- a. **Public Review of proposed Quit Claim transfer to Deer Lake. Complete.**
- b. **Full reimbursement of town legal expenses negotiated.**
- c. **Item 1: SB authorization to proceed with Quit Claim Deed?**
 - i. SB agreed to authorization.
- d. **Item 2: SB authorization VLT letter of support to pursue national Forest Legacy Grant for VLT to pursue preservation of other public and private parcels in Elmore, consistent with Elmore & Lamoille plans?**
 - i. SB agrees that letter should be submitted. Burley to draft and send on behalf of SB.

6. Elmore Planning Commission Update – Hartt

- a. **Lot > 1300' MSL sold –more pending Need zoning update**

Current zoning for Forest Reserve District will be brought to the SB for review of the 1300'-1500' elevation.
- b. **1st State Shoreline permit issued for resident of Lake Elmore.**

Zoning bylaws: First versions ready for review. SB will get copies (hardcopy or electronic) to review with target to have feedback to Whit in September.

ANR has completed work with Colchester on shoreline protection regulations. Elmore is next and our current regulations are in line with what ANR is looking for. Susan Warren, ANR, gave informational meeting at Lake Elmore Beach house. ~20 people from the Elmore Lake Association attended.

Per ANR, zoning bylaws have to be functionally equivalent to the state requirements. Town needs to then show the ability to enforce the bylaws. Existing processes are adequate.

By end of month all shoreline changes will be in place and Elmore will become a delegated authority (2nd in the state behind Colchester).

7. Status – Update on Town Law Enforcement Survey – DeVore

- a. 41 Responses
 - Q1: Are you in favor of enhancing law enforcement protection for Elmore? Y/N 20/21
 - Q2: If yes, what type of enhanced protection do you feel would most benefit the township?
 - Expanded Contract with LCSD: 4
 - Contract with LCSD full time Elmore officer: 6
 - Contract with a local dept (MVL, Stowe): 7
 - Form Town Police Dept: 2
 - Q3: Are you in favor of a Crime Watch program for Elmore? Y/N 32/9
 - Q4: Would you be willing to serve as a Crime Watch member? Y/N 20/20
 - Q5: Would you support a tax increase to pay for this added protection? Y/N 14/27
 - Q6: Would you be willing to serve on a committee to explore enhanced law enforcement? Y/N 10/28
 - Q7: Comments:
 - “Town shouldn’t go overboard”
 - “Current system is totally ineffective”
 - “I’m totally dead set against any increase in taxes”
 - “Because we live so far apart I don't think more police driving on #12 is security. Everyone should be encouraged to have home security and put a chain across your driveway.”
 - “I am concerned about a perceived increase in breakins and protecting our sweet community. I am also very concerned about people speeding on our portion of elmore pond rd...going well over 40 in the 25 mph zone. It is scary to walk on the road!”

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“We do not need the support of any law enforcement agency. If any resident feels unsafe I suggest they weigh their options...St. Albans, Barre, Rutland...we've got it pretty good and we certainly should not electively increase taxes because a few folks weren't minding their property.”

After review of the survey results, SB will provide information to the Town on how to launch Neighborhood Crime Watch teams. Information will be posted on the Town's website.

- 8. Status - Revised Elmore Road & Bridge Standards Update**
Work in process.

D. COMPLETED/INACTIVE ITEMS:

1. Open Action Item List reviewed by SB.

E. COMPLETED/INACTIVE ITEMS:

- 1. Routine Administrative, Operations and payment approvals**
 - a. DRB: SB confirmed Jill Lindenmeyr as interim Chairperson on the DRB to replace John Haggett.
 - b. Tree Warden: SB confirmed Michel LaCasse as Tree Warden to replace John Haggett
 - c. **Discussion: 2014 Open Meeting Law seminar: VLCT 10Sep14- MPV**
SB Members should either attend the meeting or read the law changes.
 - d. **Discussion: VT Education Funding Conference 14Aug14 – So. BTV HS**
Burley to attend.
 - e. **HS122 Penalty Review:** SB has agreed to set the HS122 penalty at traditional 3% (vs. newly allowed 8%) for individual late filing of HS122 and HS144.