

## WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes

April 11, 2011

Present: Glenn Seward, Bruce Boedtger, Tom Kenyon, Cathy Archibald, Mike Spackman, Bob French, Martha Harrison

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- 2) Changes or Additions – Executive Session to discuss pending litigation
- 3) Public Comment – None
- 4) Sign Town Clerk's Orders – The Selectboard signed the Town Clerk's orders.
- 5) Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report – Glenn said Orange Lake was not receptive to helping with the bill from Vermont Pipeline. Glenn asked Fire Chief Mike Spackman who is going to pay the bill – the Fire Department, the Town, or both. Glenn said this is in regard to the culvert cleaning prior to firing up the snowmaking pumps. Glenn added that the bill is approximately \$1,700. **Bruce made a motion for the town and the Fire Department to split the bill. Tom seconded the motion.** Mike said the town can submit the bill to the Fire Department and see what the membership wants to do with it. **Glenn called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.** Glenn asked Cathy to submit a bill for half the cost to the Fire Department. The Selectboard agreed that the town's share of the cost should be charged to Emergency Management.
- 6) Greenall Trail Easement – Glenn said the easement was altered to enable the town to enforce it if the Upper Valley Land Trust (UFLT) does not. Glenn said Matt Birmingham has a copy of the easement but he has not heard from him. Tom said the easement says that the town shall defend and indemnify UFLT. Tom asked who determines to what extent the town is responsible in terms of dollars and cents, or is that up to the Selectboard. Glenn said that is a question for Matt. Bruce agreed. Glenn said he is trying to schedule a meeting with Matt to discuss a number of issues, including this.
- 7) Town Constable/Delinquent Tax Collector's Report - None
- 8) Law Enforcement – Glenn said we have received copies of the agreements between Sharon and Royalton, Greensboro and Hardwick, and Stratton and Winhall. Tom said he didn't think West Windsor was going to make that kind of arrangement. Glenn said we are considering a regional arrangement and these are intermunicipal agreements. Glenn said we have heard from Weathersfield that they are interested in discussing a regional police force. Glenn said he has talked to Tom Kennedy at the regional planning commission and he would like to be involved. Glenn said Tom Kennedy offered to host a meeting for towns that are interested. Tom said Jim Kenyon has checked with Hartford Dispatch and they are interested in dispatching for the regional police force if one is formed. Tom said it could take a year or longer to get a radio frequency license. Martha said she has called Grand Isle twice about getting a copy of their regional law enforcement agreement, but they have not returned her calls. Tom asked if they have a single police department. Martha said they have a Sheriff's department that covers the whole area with the State Police as backup. Tom said he doesn't think that would work here.
- 9) Highway Foreman's Report – Mike said the inmates have finished painting at the Town Garage. Mike said his truck is in the shop and then Phil and Gary's trucks are headed to the shop. Mike said the trucks are all under warranty except Gary's. Mike said he is getting prices on paving. Tom said he would like Rice Tree to do some work on Churchill Road. Tom asked about removing the tree next to the covered bridge. Mike said yes, and added that there is a tree on Rush Meadow Road that needs to be removed before the guardrail is installed.
- 10) Bids - Sand and gravel: Mike said he has bids from D&D, Casella, and Cersosimo. Glenn said he also received a bid for 1" crushed gravel from St. Pierre. Mike recommended D&D for both sand and gravel with the option of getting stone and other aggregate from Cersosimo. **Tom moved to**

**accept the bid from D&D, leaving the Highway Foreman the option of getting product from Casella and/or Cersosimo. Glenn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Excavation contractors: Mike said Dan Lesnick (Dan Lesnick Excavating Contractor, Inc.) and Jim Farrell (One Earth Excavating, LLC) were the only two contractors who submitted bids.

Glenn abstained due to the fact that Jim Farrell is his former business partner. Mike recommended that the town continue to work with Dan Lesnick. Mike noted that Dan is a little less expensive and Jim is not always available. **Tom made a motion to use Dan Lesnick as West Windsor's primary excavating contractor and others as needed if it's in the best interest of the town, to be determined by the Highway Foreman and/or the Emergency Management Coordinator. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed with Glenn abstaining.**

- 11) Stream alteration permit status – Mike said it doesn't look like we're going to get another bridge grant from the state this year but he thinks we should apply for funding to replace the 6' culvert on Wardner Road with a cast-in-place bridge. Mike recommended applying for a paving grant as well. The Selectboard agreed. Glenn said he is scheduled to meet with Todd Menees on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM with regards to the Silver Hill Bridge and the Sheddsville bank stabilization project. Glenn said the culvert work at the intersection of Rush Meadow and Bryant Roads was approved by Patrick Ross under last fall's emergency funding. Tom asked Glenn if they are going to look at the project behind the church. Glenn said yes. Tom said there are 6 or 8 boulders on the west side downstream of the two trees that, if they were put on the opposite side, would stop the water from eroding the clay bank. Tom said he thinks the two trees should remain for now.
- 12) Economic development – Glenn said the town has been investigating the idea of using Burke's Kingdom Trails as a model for West Windsor to bolster economic activity. Glenn said he has received positive feedback from the Burke Selectboard Chair, the Burke Planning Commission Chair, Sports Trails of the Ascutney Basin (STAB) and the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA). Glenn said he spoke with the Resort's representative about mowing some beginner mountain bike trails in the base area, using the Cunningham building's parking area and putting up an information kiosk. Glenn reported that the conversation was positive but he needs approval from the STAB board and the Resort. Glenn would like the Selectboard to acknowledge, on the record, that this is something the town would like to pursue. Tom asked Glenn if he talked to the Resort representative about the trail connecting the resort to Coaching Lane and Bible Hill. Glenn said they are receptive as long as it doesn't cost them anything and they don't have to do anything. Glenn said he met with the Planning Commission (PC) this morning as well and requested their input and assistance. Glenn said the PC was very supportive. Tom said he will talk to the Nilsons. Tom asked Mike if he has a culvert that could be used on Bowers Road. Tom asked the Selectboard if they want to discuss the culvert that is too high on the Brook Road. Tom suggested digging a new ditch and rolling the culvert into the new ditch. Glenn said that might be the only way to salvage it. Mike said the highway department will probably move the culvert this summer. Bruce said he would want the adjacent property owner to agree that, once the culvert is lowered, no additional work will be done. Glenn agreed. Bruce said there is a problem with the culvert at the end of Coaching Lane that goes out to the sandpit; runoff is going over the road and gauging out a trench on top of the culvert. Mike suggested replacing the culvert with a stone-filled depression. Glenn suggested looking at all these culverts and coming up with a plan. Mike, Tom and Bruce agreed. **Glenn made a motion that the Selectboard continue the discussion with STAB, the Resort, Orange Lake, and all other interested parties regarding the expanded use of the current trail system in the Town Forest in an effort to improve economic development in West Windsor. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 13) Wastewater feasibility study – Glenn noted that there is a public meeting tomorrow night with consultants Aldrich + Elliott. Glenn said he will fill out the survey on the town hall's septic system.

- 14) Mile Long Field (MLF) update – Glenn said the Selectboard has signed the Letter of Intent and the town vote has been warned for May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Glenn suggested another informational meeting on MLF and asked if it should be combined with an informational meeting about the mountain bike concept. Tom said he thinks the two meetings should be separate. Glenn said he would like to be able to present some hard facts if we can get approval from the Resort, STAB and the Town Forest Committee (TFC). Glenn said he is trying to set up a meeting with the TFC before April 25<sup>th</sup> so the consulting forest ecologist doesn't have to sit through a discussion about mountain bike trails. Bruce agreed with Tom that the meeting on Mile Long Field and the meeting on mountain biking should be separate but that the mountain biking concept should be mentioned at the MLF meeting. The Selectboard agreed to hold another informational meeting on MLF on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM. Glenn said he thinks the mountain bike meeting will have to wait until after the Special Town Meeting. Sketch Plan review: Glenn said the Development Review Board (DRB) requested contours and an ortho photo of the MLF area. Bruce agreed to supply revised maps with the requested information.
- 15) Website – Martha said the website group met recently to discuss a few questions that have arisen, one being a request to list area churches for visitors. Martha said the group decided to provide a link under “Houses of Worship” to existing information on the *Vermont Standard* website.
- 16) Correspondence - Pyrofax Energy: The town received a letter from Pyrofax Energy requesting the opportunity to bid on the town's fuel requirements. Tom said the town currently uses Dead River and has been extremely satisfied with their service. Bruce said utilities often underbid for one year so, unless the town is unhappy with Dead River, he thinks we should stay with them. VT Animal Cruelty Response Coalition: Glenn noted receipt of a letter from the Coalition about the drowning of a stray cat by a municipal official. Glenn added that the official in question was not a West Windsor official.
- 17) Approve Minutes – February 28, 2011 (evening): **Glenn moved to approve the minutes of the evening of February 28, 2011, as written. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed with Tom abstaining. March 14, 2011: Tom moved to approve the minutes of March 14, 2011, as written. Glenn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. March 21, 2011: Tom moved to approve the minutes of March 21, 2011, as amended. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. March 22, 2011: Tom moved to approve the minutes of March 22, 2011, as written. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. March 24, 2011: Tom suggested attaching a copy of the warning to the minutes. Tom moved to approve the minutes of March 24, 2011, as amended. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. March 30, 2011: Tom moved to approve the minutes of March 30, 2011, as written. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 18) Other Business – Mile Long Field: Bob French asked about the price of Mile Long Field. Glenn said the price is \$379,000 and the town will vote on May 10<sup>th</sup> whether to provide \$150,000 with the balance to be provided by grants and private donations. Town Hall windows and roof: Tom suggested getting Jeff Lemire to come back and paint the side lights on the six large windows. Tom also noted some red slate on the ground outside and suggested asking Cathy Archibald to contact the roofer to come and inspect the roof. Weathersfield Transfer Station: Glenn said the Selectboard received a note from the Weathersfield Town Manager about the proposed changes at the transfer station, which the Selectboard discussed briefly. Tom said he will bring it up at the Solid Waste District meeting. Fire District: Glenn said he forwarded to the Selectboard the opinion of Glenn Howland, the attorney for Orange Lake, as to the structure of the fire district and the prudential committee. Glenn said he thinks there should be five members on the committee: one from the Property Owners Association (POA) board of directors, one from the Mts. Edge Condo Association board of directors, one from the Orange Lake management team, one from the West Windsor Selectboard, and one at-large member from the POA. Glenn said he thinks the terms for the Selectboard member and the at-large member should be one-year terms. Glenn said in a few years, if the village of Brownsville is not going to be involved and things are

running smoothly, the Selectboard's involvement could be phased out. Glenn said he thinks the at-large member could eventually be replaced by the new owner/operator of the Ski Area. Glenn said it doesn't make sense to have the owner of the Ski Area on the prudential committee now since the Fire District will be negotiating with the owner of the Ski Area for the purchase of the utility. Tom suggested that West Windsor's representative be either a Selectboard member or someone chosen by the Selectboard to represent them. Glenn said he would like to discuss this with Town Attorney Matt Birmingham. Tom and Bruce agreed. Budget: All agreed that the budget is in good shape considering the winter we just had. New truck: Mike said the new truck should be at Reed's at the end of this month and then it will be another month before it's delivered. Sidewalks: Tom asked Mike if he has heard anything about the state's plans to clean the sidewalks. Mike said no, but suggested asking the inmates to assist with the cleaning if the state isn't planning to do it.

- 19) Executive Session – **Glenn made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Following discussion, **Tom made a motion to come out of Executive Session and authorize the Chair to talk to Matt Birmingham as Legal Counsel. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 20) Adjourn - **Glenn made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison