

**Windham VT Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
October 3, 2022 Regular Meeting  
With Timber Harvest Regulation Revision Hearing**

**Via Zoom**

George Dutton, selectboard  
Michael Pelton, selectboard  
Mary McCoy (Mac), selectboard clerk  
Richard Paré, road foreman

*Others attending via Zoom:*

Tom & Louise Johnson    Abby Pelton  
Tom & Eileen Widger    Joyce & Russ Cumming

**At the Meeting House:**    Maureen & Vance Bell

**1. Call to Order**

George announced the meeting, called it to order, and started the recording at 5:30 PM.

**2. Additions to Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda, announcements or reminders. George explained that the time for the hearing on the Timber Harvest Regulation Revision was mistakenly posted as both at 5:30 PM and at 6:30 PM, requiring this to be addressed at both times.

**3. Announcements/Reminders**

There were no announcements or reminders.

**4. Public Comments on the Timber Harvest Regulation Revision**

No one was present who wished to speak to this.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

There were no changes to the minutes from the meetings on September 19, 2022.

**Motion:** To approve the September 19<sup>th</sup> minutes. George moved, and all agreed.

**6. Public Comment**

Joyce Cumming asked that in the future the items on the selectboard's agenda be more specific. She said that the posted agenda should let the public know what will be discussed and voted on. George thanked her for her input and said the issue would be addressed.

**7. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence that was not addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

**8. Payroll/Bills**

**Moved:** To approve the pay orders received from the town treasurer. Michael moved, and all agreed.

**Moved:** To have Kord sign for the payments presented. George moved, and all agreed.

**9. New Business**

Discuss replacement of town officer copier – Town Clerk Ellen McDuffie sent an email to the selectboard requesting that our current copier be upgraded to a better machine that makes color copies. Her email included a quote for a Canon ImageRunner Advance Dx C3835. (Email and

quote are attached.) Michael questioned if other options had been explored, and he asked that Ellen speak to this at the next selectboard meeting.

**Next Step:** Michael will ask Ellen to speak to the selectboard. The selectboard will also decide if they want to acquire a new copier, and if so whether to buy or rent one.

## 10. Old Business

### A. Updates from Road Foreman Paré:

1) New Truck – There have been delays, and the truck is now expected to be here on Thursday, October 6.

2) Chase Road Culvert – This is completed except for the guardrails. A good job was done.

3) Roadside Mower – Two companies have advised us to not use a hydraulic mowing attachment for our current loader. Richard is still getting quotes for other options, but it looks like it will be better to get an independent mower. Our current loader has 2800-3000 hours of use on it, and we are still paying for it. We would get a better trade in value for it if we traded it sooner than later. He has looked at John Deere equipment, but most brands are good. The problem is usually replacement parts, so it needs to be a company that doesn't depend on parts from outside the U.S. Richard said he is having trouble getting his calls returned by Volvo and other dealers. He needs to determine the trade-in value of the loader.

4) Equipment Maintenance – Richard said the biggest problem with the equipment is taking care of it. Equipment that is used seasonally may not get good maintenance. The grader needs a 3000-hour maintenance check and update. It has electrical issues, and the two-way radio doesn't work. The backhoe also has 3000 hours on it, and it was broken down for four or five days with a rusted fuel tank. We were able to patch the tank, but if we had replaced it, it would have cost \$4790 and taken 150 days to get here, as it would have come from Denmark. That was a Caterpillar, which you would think is American made.

Michael asked Richard if he would prepare a report on the state of the current equipment and what action he would recommend for the selectboard.

**Next Step:** Richard and Kord will review the current road equipment plan and prepare a report with recommendations for the selectboard regarding the loader and mower situation. This will be addressed at the first meeting in November.

5) Ingalls-Old Farm Roads Connection – Richard suggested breaking this work into segments, starting at Old Farm, so that the expense and work don't all come at once. George suggested putting this forward at Town Meeting, and Michael added that it could be a lump sum in the next budget, but he and others would regret this because it would raise our tax rate. George asked Richard to create a plan for the selectboard to present at Town Meeting. Richard said he sees it as a three-part plan. The idea of getting grant funds for this was suggested.

**Next Step:** Richard will create a simple plan, based on the estimates he has for the cost. It will be discussed at the first selectboard meeting in November.

B. 2023 Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Projects Application – Kord has said that this would be done by the deadline of this Friday, October 7.

### C. Other Old Business

Since it was a half hour before 6:30, the designated time for the second hearing on the Timber Harvest Regulation Revisions, the selectboard discussed a few other issues.

1) AV Equipment – Vance said that everything is functioning well, and some cords are still needed. The projector has not been used yet. George wondered if a cart would be useful for storing and moving the equipment.

**Next Step:** Ten minutes or so before the next selectboard meeting, George and Vance will meet to decide what other purchases might be needed.

2) Air Exchange System for Town Office – Mac reported on the Lunos system that is in her home and that the selectboard is considering. It requires no duct work, only holes in two outside walls for the equipment. She and her husband Michael Simonds have a set of two on each floor of their home. They alternate intake and outtake every 27 seconds, and they capture the heat before it goes outside, then blow it back in. They are very happy with it, and she encouraged the selectboard to give it serious consideration.

3) Constable Training – Michael reported on the Vermont criminal justice training has two levels, level one being for part-time people. He is not sure what the costs are or what would be needed by our constable. Level one provides a certification that the constable is a legal law enforcement officer with the ability to deliver subpoenas, monitor traffic, and other duties.

The meeting was put on hold and the recording was stopped at 6:14 PM.

The meeting and recording were started again at 6:30 PM.

### **Public Comments on the Timber Harvest Regulation Revision**

Mac read the old regulations and the new regulations, and Tom Johnson explained that the town did not have the authority to require the old regs, as those are covered by the state. The new regs address the issues that have been problematic. George asked for comments, but no one present wished to speak to this. The selectboard waited until 6:40, and no one came to comment.

**Moved:** To approve the Timber Harvest Regulation Revision. George moved, and all agreed.

**Moved:** To have the appropriate clerk(s) sign the required paperwork. George moved, and all agreed

### **Adjournment**

**Moved:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM. Michael moved and all agreed.

**The next selectboard meeting is scheduled for October 17 at 5:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary McCoy (Mac), selectboard clerk  
Approved October 17, 2022

Accompanying documents:  
Town Clerk's request for a new copier