

**West Rutland Public Meeting
Minutes
June 23, 2014**

Present: Mitch Frankenburg, John Harvey, Chet Brown, Sean Barrows , Peter Bianchi, Mary Ann Goulette.

Others Present: Mike Mosher, Lucy Gibson

Public Meeting: The meeting for the 2014 VTRANS Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant began at 6:00 p.m. The group reviewed a map showing the project from the West Rutland Park and Ride on Thrall to the Rutland Town Park and Ride on Business Route 4. The length is between 13,000 ft to 26,000 ft depending on which route is chosen. The study will decide figure out the best way to get to Rutland either Busienss Route 4 or Boardman Hill. We will eventually head west to Castleton and the Rail Trail which will provide a connection from Rutland to Poultney. Rutland Town has agreed to pay their portion of the match based on the mileage. The grant being looked at for the project is a competitive grant. \$36,000 is the grant request plus \$3,600 match.

There were no public comments.

Call to order of Select Board Meeting: John Harvey called the Select Board meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:10 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Chet made a motion to amend the agenda by adding a report of the Development Review Board. Mike Moser shared that the variance for the Bania woodshed was denied.

Minutes: Chet made a motion to adopt the minutes of June 9th as presented. Mitch seconded. Unanimously approved.

Public Concerns: None

Discussion Items:

Safe Routes to School Scoping Study: Alternatives Presentation: Lucy Gibson, from Dubois and King, presented the latest developments. They are now 2/3 through the project. Scoping study is to look at alternatives based on the recommendations from the School Ravel Plan. There are 6 segments that they are focusing on. Maps were handed out with findings.

1. Campbell Avenue focuses on the addition of a sidewalk on west side with parallel parking on the east side. The plan is to use granite curbing and concrete sidewalks. Difference in cost in using granite is \$20 to \$30 per meter foot but it is more durable. One utility pole would have to be moved plus some drainage

- work. Cost estimate at this time is \$152,600. Driveway cuts are included. Sean asked about driveway permits. Sean thinks the residents all have off street parking. Mary Ann will review the zoning to check on the parking permits. There will be 9 parking places on the street. No parking signs would be needed in certain places. The Board will invite all neighbors that have an interest in the parking to a board meeting to review the alternatives.
2. Thrall Avenue – proposing sidewalk on west side – relocating drainage structures. May not be able to save hedges by one person's house. All crosswalks will be marked. Dubois and King will look into why there is not a 90 degree crosswalk at Pleasant. The cost for this portion of the project is \$231,000.
 3. Clarendon Avenue from parking lot to Fairview: The first proposal is to bring sidewalk up against the street (3a) and the second proposal is to set the sidewalk back and add green space (3b). Would need to install culvert extension – may need to replace the whole culvert if it's in bad shape. Cost for proposal 3a is \$389,300 and 3b is \$271,300. Dubois and King will do a cost estimate for a separate culvert. They will also need to check on whether VTrans will be involved.
 4. Ross Street and West Rutland School – Suggest putting the path between the end of Ross Street and the school playground and ball field. 4a is Ross Street to West Rutland School Faculty parking lot with shared use path over poison ivy hill. 4b. Path runs in front of the playground. Sean suggested possibly paving vs. gravel. Not much room behind the playground. Suggestion was made to direct kids up Ross Street. Cost for proposal 4a is \$225,000 and 4b is \$247,000 and the cost is dependent on the length.
 5. Cemetery to School: Proposing a 8 ft. wide gravel path. It will need a little grading near the school and will need right of ways. There is already a road through the cemetery. Need to contact Father Vincent. Proposed cost is \$206,000. Best not to involve a federal grant since an easement is involved.
 6. Fairview to Rec. Area – extend sidewalk all the way down to the recreation area. Discussion on possibly needing a retaining wall. It will impact a homeowner at either side. Discussion around cars being able to see, preference is to keep pedestrians on the inside corner. It is a 3 rod right of way. Will need to work on cost estimates. The town needs to see if the town can work with the owner on corner. Parking needs to be considered.

The representative from Dubois reviewed the summary: Reviewed options for funding sources. Priority would be getting across town and getting to the school.

Roundabout: Paved area at Main and Clarendon Avenue has enough area for a roundabout. A roundabout slows down speeds, is safer and the Agency of Transportation is pursuing the addition of roundabouts. Approximate costs are \$1 million. Regional Planning could look into funding sources.

Corridor Study – for the jughandle to Rt 133, looking at growth and development in this high traffic area. May involve Susan in the Regional Planning in the study. Intitail study can be supplied by Dubois and Sons

The next select board meeting is July 7th. The Board needs to set the tax rate and will invite the residents of Campbell, Thrall and Clarendon Avenue to the meeting for input. The next board meeting will be July 21st.

Highway Purchase: Mary Ann shared that Frank is on vacation but she wanted to share with the board the loader prices. Cat’s price was \$129,000 and they revised it to \$120,000 with trade in. John Deere price is \$132,000. Franks preference was the Cat. Mary Ann will get a price from Volvo.

Mowing Ordinance. The board reviewed the sample mowing ordinance. Mary Ann shared that she has received phone calls complaining about the lack of mowing. The ordinance, however, applies to vacant lots. By consensus, the board agreed that the mowing ordinance needs to address neglected lawns.

Town Manager Report: Solar lights – Mary Ann gave the board a picture of a solar light at the park and ride. The cost of the solar lights were approximately \$6,000 and were recommended by the engineer. They were installed in 2012 and are leaning substantially. Mary Ann called Butch Shaw who installed the lights. He looked at them and determined they are top heavy and the washer is pulling through the base. Sent pictures to the manufacturer SOL Inc. and we are awaiting a reply.

A representative from RGS Energy whom is connected to Green Lantern would like to meet with the selectmen to discuss Vermont Municipal Capital solar net meeting programs. The board opted not to meet with him at this time but requested Mary Ann to request information.

Letter of Support for VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant: Chet made a motion to sign the letter of support. Mitch seconded. Unanimously approved.

Sheriff’s Contract: The contract runs from July to June. The dollar amount is in the budget. Talked about merging animal control in with the existing 40 hour contract, with the possibility of paying overtime. Proctor is doing it so Mary Ann will check with them. Chet made a motion to sign the sheriff’s contract as written and Sean seconded. Unanimously approved.

Mary Ann shared that she is still looking for someone for neighborhood watch meetings.

Open Meeting Law changes: Mary Ann shared that the open meeting law requires that minutes and agendas need to be posted at specific at designated locations. The town designated locations are the town hall, the library and the post office. The minutes have

to be available within five days of the board meeting. "Approval of Agenda" needs to be added to the agenda before adoption of minutes.

Board Member Concerns:

Chet: nothing

Mitch: nothing – soccer field looks great. Would like to see it kept mowed.

Sean: parking at recreation center. Right now they are parking on the roadway. Need to look at a more permanent solution.

Both sides of the road to the soccer field need to be mowed and the trees cut.

Bathrooms are done at the recreation area. Discussion with people on Tower Lane complaining about culverts on south side. Highland Avenue needs work about half way up. (Fall project) (Sean) When paving specify that seams will be ground.

Pete: Roadside Mowing – Progress on logging job? Going well. We did receive a bill from Fabian for \$7,000 for the work on the ford and top of Clark Hill road.

Pay orders were approved and signed.

Adjournment: Motion by Pete and a second by Chet to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charleen Bowen