

**MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2008**  
**WARREN SELECTBOARD**  
**WARREN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**7:00 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Burt Bauchner, Chair, Andy Cunningham, Erin Russell-Story, Kirstin Reilly.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Raemon Weston, Kara (VR), Alex Maclay (TV44), Barry Simpson, Damon Reed, Margo Wade, Tony White, Deborah Wetmore, Susan Hemmeter, Rudy Elliott, Carl Lobel, Cindi Hartshorn-Jones.

**7:00 PM** – Meeting called to order by Mr. Bauchner.

**7:01 PM – Road Crew Check in – Raemon Weston** – Mr. Weston started off the discussion stating that all the paving has been completed. They still had a repair patch to do on the Golf Course Road and filling in some side apron access to driveways. He also stated that the town was starting to work on the Granville Plunkton Road Project and that the crew had dug water test holes and began installing drainage. They will be trucking in the drainage stone from Calais to complete the project. All time and material will be recorded and sent to Granville after final completion. Granville's foreman and Selectboard has been actively involved in this fix.

The sand is being hauled in everyday and is almost complete. The trucks are somewhat ready for winter but there is still maintenance to be done on them.

**Tucker Crushing Gravel Quote \$35,000** – Mr. Simpson and Mr. Weston also discussed with the board about crushing the stone that has accumulated in the pit. They would like to crush the gravel this fall and putting the 2" stone off to one side. If crushing does not take place this fall, the town will have to haul in stone for the upcoming mud season to fill in the spring mud holes. Estimated material would be about 9000 yards of 1.5" minus stone and a 1000 yards of 2: minus stone. It would take Tucker about one to two weeks to crush all that has accumulated in the town pit. The price for crushing would be \$3.50 per yard and an additional .25 cents per yard to put the 2" crushed stone off to the side. If the town does not want to crush now, cost to the town would be \$11.00 per yard for the 2" stone and it would have to be hauled in from Chelsea or Williston. Tuckers cost for crushing the 2" stone would be \$3.75 per yard for the 1000 yards of stone at a town cost of \$250.00.

**Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the expenditure of \$35,000 for Ron Tucker for crushing, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.**

Mr. Simpson also updated the board on the Wheeler Brook Access Road Fire Line Road Crossing installation. The open cut and fire line has been installed and was compacted to the standards as stated in the Road Use Permit Issued by the Town. The pavement thickness is 9" and is feathered back as requested.

**7:20 PM – Discussion On Roads Not Maintained for Winter Use** – Mr. Weston started off the discussion with the roads that create safety problems for the road crew. They are Cocklebury Farm, Shepard Hill, Blueberry Lake, Whitworth Road, Bobbin Mill Road, Applewood Road, South Hollow Road, Sugar Loaf Hill Road and the end of Roth Road. Some issues brought up were no turn-a-rounds and backing into roadways, tandems getting in and out fully loaded, some service only 1-2 residents, safety of employees backing back out driveways and watching for surrounding obstacles with the large plows. Ms. Jones explained that the Selectboard is required by law to do site visits on each road and look at the hazards presented. After the site visits a public hearing is required to hear comments from the public regarding this issue. Discussion clarified that there is no present consideration of throwing up roads or of re-classifying to Class 4. The board decided to do site visits for each road on Saturday, October 25, 2008, starting at 9:00AM and to follow-up with a public hearing on Tuesday, October 28, 2008.

Ms. Reilly inquired about the mowing schedule because volunteer wanting to control knotweed needed to know how much time they have to cut knotweed. They want to work with the road crew's schedule on this issue. Mr. Weston inquired on the knotweed cutting as he needed to mow the roadsides because of safety issues arising from road sides not being mowed. It is a requirement to mow the roadsides because if they are not mowed, liability issues can arise from situations involving from not mowed roadsides. Ms. Hemmeter replied that the volunteer groups have been out working on cutting this back. In some areas, the existing marked knotweed has not been cut since it was marked. Mr. Bauchner interjected in and suggested that the Conservation Commission and the volunteer group, working with Barry, DPW and Raemon, Road Foreman, on a coordinated plan and a budget for taking care of this issue on a town-wide basis for consideration in preparing the Town's 2009 budget.

**7:55 PM** – Mr. Simpson discussed that he and Mr. Weston have been working on a Better Backroads Grant for the Dump Road. The grant is for a maximum award of \$7,000 and that the average grant requests given out were for about \$6,500. Total project cost to apply for the grant is \$9,300.

Motion by Mr. Bauchner to approve the grant application for \$9,300 for the Dump Road Erosion Ditch Lining Project, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to authorized Mr. Simpson to sign the grant agreement and Ms. Jones to administer the grant, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

**8:00 PM – Safe Routes to School** – Ms. Reilly asked about lines being painted on new pavement on Brook Road from Main Street to School Street. Ms. Jones indicated that the State always does the yellow double lines on class 2 and class 3 paved roads. They do not do the white lines. Ms. Reilly inquired if white lines were painted on, if the yellow line could be moved over to accommodate a shoulder on one side of the road that would offer residents and visitors a delineated space to walk or bicycle. There were concerns about doing that as large trucks take up the entire roadway when meeting school buses or town

trucks with plows when they pass by each other. Other thoughts were putting a graveled section in the town right of way. This would require homeowner permission as it would mean some would lose part of their groomed property on the roadside. This issue was left to be explored more by Barry, DPW and Raemon, Road Foreman.

**8:10 PM – Town Hall/Library Discussion – Ellen Strauss, Larry Ruggles, Ruggco Inc.** – Ms. Strauss started the discussion by introducing Larry Ruggles, owner of Ruggco Inc., who was low bidder on the contract for the Town Hall. Ms. Strauss discussed the first item of the project was to start the drainage and oil tank removal. Ms. Strauss had been in contact with Gillespie's and they were planning on coming Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> to install the new oil tank in the basement in the furnace room. After installing the new 350 gallon tank they would pump the remaining oil out and fill the new tank and any extra would be credited back to the town or put in other town accounts. There is only room for one 350 gallon storage tank. The old oil tank is an in ground 1000 gallon tank. Mr. Ruggles indicated that they would be moving in and starting the project on Monday, September 29. Mr. Bauchner inquired about Mr. Lobel's planter boxes. Mr. Lobel indicated that he had talked with Nancy Sergeant, which takes care of the plants, and she indicated to him that it would take about 10 hours or less just to remove the plants with an average price of \$250. Board approved this expenditure as part of the drainage and oil tank project. Also discussed was the rail road tie planter box removal. Mr. Ruggles would look at this but thought it would be less expensive just to put in new railroad tie boxes than trying to salvage the old. At a preconstruction meeting on Monday, they would look at this. Mr. Lobel also expressed that there was about 6" of top soil on top of the oil tank that would have to be replaced or the contractor would have to skim off the existing top soil.

Mr. Simpson, DPW, requested and Mr. Ruggles agreed that the handicap ramp and associated stairs be removed intact from the south side of the Town Hall and moved to the front apartment of the Blair house which he will use as a temporary office.

There followed a discussion of the upright piano presently on the stage of the main floor of the Town Hall. Mr. Simpson indicated that it is not in good working order, has not been tuned and several keys no longer work. Mr. Lobel indicated that he did not believe it has any monetary value. The board asked Ms. Jones to post notices offering the piano free to anyone who will take it away. If there are no takers, Mr. Ruggles agreed to cut it up and place it in his construction dumpster.

Also discussed was the moving the electrical meter above and below ground. The contract defers the add alternates of the Marvin Wood Exterior Storm/screen Windows, Replaced of basement windows, relocate exterior electric meter and telephone box and refinish and seal existing wood 1<sup>st</sup> floor. A complete contract is in the Town Administrators Office. Total contract price with deferral items is: \$313,036.00.

**8:30 PM – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve and sign the contract with Ruggco, Inc. for the Town Hall/Library Renovations, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.**

**8:32 PM** – Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to authorized Mr. Bauchner, Chair, to sign the contract as Warren’s Representative, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor:  
VOTE: 4-0.

**8:45 PM** – Conservation Commission Check in – Margo Wade, Damon Reed, Susan Hemmeter. The Commission presented to the board the Conservation Charter to review with the board. The Commission wanted to ensure that the Selectboard and the Commission were of the same mind on the Charter. Ms. Wade went over the items in the Charter. Currently the Charter does not reflect that it is a 9 member commission. The Commission is currently at 8 and is advertising for a 9<sup>th</sup> member.

Mr. Bauchner inquired about the status of the Whiteside Property. Ms. Wade explained that currently the grant application has been filed with the AOT and that we will not hear anything until November or December. Mr. Cunningham inquired about the appraisal for the property. Ms. Wade explained that an appraiser could make an estimate with available soil maps, looking at the required set backs from the river and from Route 100 to make a determination if the property was developable. The state has their list of appraisers for this and will only accept a certain value depending upon what is found if the property is developable.

Mr. Bauchner also inquired about the Nightingale/Goodwin Property in reference to the Sharry’s request on the retaining wall. The Commission has looked at this town owned property and does not see a use as a park etc. Discussions evolved around exploring options of selling the property. Mr. Simpson indicated that the town should first look to see if there are any FEMA Restrictions on the property. Ms. Jones also reminded the board that selling any property requires a town wide vote.

**9:30 PM** – Approval of Minutes for September 9, 2008 – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2008, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor:  
VOTE: 4-0.

**9:35 PM** – Preservation Trust of Vermont & the Adelard A. and Valeda Lea Roy Foundation Grant Agreement award for \$10,000 – Motion by Ms. Reilly to accept the award of \$10,000 for the Town Hall code improvements, and to authorized Mr. Bauchner, Chair, to sign the grant agreement, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor:  
VOTE: 4-0.

**9:40 PM** – Mr. Bauchner acknowledged a letter from Vermont Local Roads regarding Mr. Weston and Mr. White, highway employees, attended a chainsaw safety workshop.

**9:45 PM** – Selectboard Vacancy Update: As of September 23, 2008, 3 candidates have withdrawn from submitting a petition for the open seat. The board will wait until the deadline of September 29, 2008 to see if the other two candidates submit petitions for the open seat.

**9:46 PM** – Road Closure Halloween Night – Ms. Reilly asked if the board had any objection on closing Main Street again this year for Halloween. There were no objections to this. Ms. Reilly will proceed forward in the road closure process.

**9:50 PM** – Planning Commission Recommendation for Vacancy - The Planning Commission presented to the board their recommendation for the open seat on the Planning Commission. After properly advertising the opening, the Planning Commission's recommendation was Daniel Raddock.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham to accept the recommendation and appoint Mr. Raddock to the Warren Planning Commission., Second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

**9:51 PM** – Mr. Bauchner inquired on the status of the Mill Parking Lot Light – Ms. Jones will follow-up again with GMP.

**9:52 PM** – Motion by Ms. Reilly to go into executive session to discuss real estate and invite Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Cunningham. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

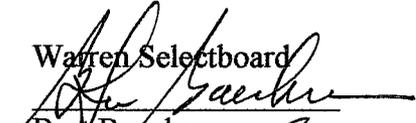
**10:15 PM** – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to come out of executive session, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

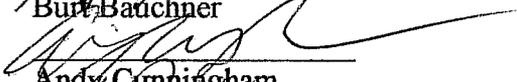
**10:17 PM** – The board discussed and decided to cancel November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting and to have meetings in December on December 9<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**10:20 PM** – Motion by Mr. Bauchner to adjourn, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

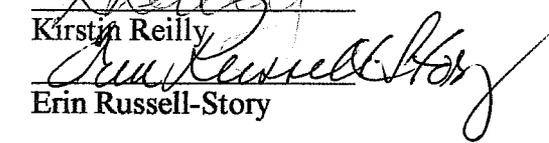
Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,  
Cindi Hartshorn-Jones,  
Warren Town Administrator

Warren Selectboard

  
Burt Bauchner

  
Andy Cunningham

  
Kirstin Reilly

  
Erin Russell-Story

AGENDA  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2008  
WARREN SELECTBOARD  
7:00 PM  
WARREN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

7:00 PM – HIGHWAY CHECK IN – RAEMON WESTON

7:15 PM – DISCUSSION ON ROADS NOT MAINTAINED FOR WINTER USE  
Cocklebury Farm, Shepard Hill, Blueberry Lake, Whitworth Road,  
Bobbin Mill Road – A Public Hearing and Site Visits will be held 30 days  
Out with proper notification of all landowners on these roads.

Gravel Crushing Quote – Tucker \$35,000

7:30 PM – CONSERVATION COMMISSION CHECK IN

8:00 PM – LIBRARY/TOWN HALL ITEMS  
Contract Ruggco for Renovations  
Lobel Easement

9:00 PM – OTHER BUSINES  
Approval of Minutes for September 9, 2008.  
Halloween Road Closure – Kirstin Reilly