

MINUTES FOR JULY 28, 2009
WARREN SELECTBOARD
WARREN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:00 PM

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Barry Simpson, TV 44/45 Bob, Sue Frechette, Grace & Tim Holter, Charlie Snow, Michael Ketchel, Valley Reporter Kara, William & Leslie Smith-Mayo, Becka Rolf, SRTS Consultant, Cindi Hartshorn-Jones.

7:05 PM – Meeting called to order by Mr. Bauchner, Chair.

7:06 PM – Road Crew Check In – Mr. Simpson – The road crew has been out replacing a number of culverts on Fuller Hill Road and two culverts on the Cross Road towards Senor Road. They have also been hauling the erosion control stone for the Dump Road Project and stock piling it at the old town dump site. The crew has hauled about 2/3 of the stone needed for the project. They have also been repairing and cleaning two of the drop inlet boxes on Brook Road. Both were plugged with debris and old pavement droppings.

Mr. Simpson also presented to the board a letter of intent for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Application for the Covered Bridge Project. The board had approved this at the last meeting and Mr. Simpson is submitting a letter of intent for the project. Mr. Bauchner would sign the letter on Wednesday to meet the filing deadline.

Road Crew Hire – Mr. Simpson had expressed that he had been talking with Mr. Weston and the road crew and felt that the town needed to hire an additional person to train before winter and to help with the on going projects that have been assigned to the road crew. The board all seemed to be in agreement in moving forward with hiring an additional man as there was money in the budget to do this.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham to authorized Mr. Simpson and Mr. Weston to proceed in advertising and interviewing qualified candidates as soon as possible, second by Mr. Groom. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

Mr. Simpson also presented to the Selectboard two diagrams denoting possible parking for the Town Hall/Library. Mr. Bauchner asked Mr. Ketchel, Planning Commission Chair, to sit in on the discussion. One diagram showed a grass strip on the north side of the building so that during the winter months snow no cars would be parking there as the snow comes of the roof it would potentially be a liability for the town. Cars could park in a line out front (not blocking the road) and along the grass strip with a handicapped parking spot available. Parking Alternative B, depicted cars parking in a line out front of the building, cars parked parallel on the north side of the building with no parking in the

winter and cars parking at the edge of grass strip in front of the old barn. Mr. Ketchel expressed that the PC would not want to see cars parking on the north side because of snow and ice coming off the roof of the building. The board requested that Mr. Simpson post copies in the Town Clerks Office and one in the Library for comments.

Exterior Parking Lot Lights: Mr. Simpson explained that Mr. Hunkins (who originally installed the lights) was hired to come and assess what the problem was. Mr. Hunkins determined that there was a short between the building and the center lamp post. To re-establish the connection, the road crew would cut the pavement and dig up the old wire and lay conduit in the trench, compact and an electrician would repair the short to the first lamp. Mr. Bauchner inquired on how much this would cost? Mr. Simpson did not have a number and would get back to the board on cost. The board was in agreement that the lights needed to be repaired as only two of the lights currently work and also for safety concerns.

7:40 PM – Cemetery Issues: Charlie Snow – Mr. Snow was at the board meeting to ask permission to do some land improvements to the Village and E. Warren Cemetery. In the Village Cemetery the Commission would like to make the parking lot larger, gravel it before winter, and square off the parking to make more of a lawn to mow around and near the shed. They would like to put in the gravel this year and allow it to settle during the winter for possible paving in 2010. The board had no problem with providing equipment and gravel to level off the site to increase the parking lot. The board did not agree on having the town pave the lot as the cemetery commission has funds to do this. They did agree to get the same pricing for paving as the Town does in 2010. At the East Warren Cemetery, the Commission would like to truck some of the sand from the Village Cemetery to put in front of the first row of graves and build back towards the road to help with all the water that accumulates in front of the cemetery. The road crew has already provided an old culvert to put place as well. Mr. Bauchner suggested that Mr. Snow talk to the adjoining neighbors as the water will drain off possibly onto their properties.

7:45 PM – Mad Bikers – Sue Frechette – Ms. Frechette presented to the board that there was a committee in Waitsfield made up of the Waitsfield Selectboard and others to advocate for plans for bike lanes from Waitsfield to Warren when the RT 100 paving project begins. This group would work with the AOT and advocate safety bike lanes with the required width of 4 foot shoulders. They would be advocating and working with the state to meet the recommended federal guidelines. Ms. Frechette indicated that the RT 100 paving last reported was scheduled for 2011. She indicated that there are 3 areas that need attention during the paving plan of RT 100. One is in the dip before the Bundy Road; one is between Mac's and Kingsbury's Bridge, and Ellen Lane and West Hill Road. In a previous discussion with Ms. Jones, the section between Mac's and Kingsbury's Bridge was going to be improved with the bridge construction replacement. The state has plans of taking out some of the out cropping ledge, replacing culverts at Airport Road, and Volkstown Road, paving in conjunction with the Town of 800' of Airport Road, and the new bridge plans on being considerably wider with 4 foot shoulders.

Mr. Bauchner inquired that the lanes are good, however, who maintains them from all the debris that accumulates on them? Ms. Frechette indicated that the state sweeps them on a 2 year cycle. However, because of the Green Mountain State Bike Race, Route 100 is cleaned yearly.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham that the Mad Bikes Committee will act as liaison and represent the Town of Warren with the state for bicycle safety for the Route 100 Paving Project, second by Mr. Groom. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

8:00 PM – App Gap Promotion Trial Stage Race Permit – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the festival permit for App Gap Promotions, Green Mountain Stage Race Time Trials, September 4, 2009 from 8:30-5:00PM, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

8:05 PM – Juvenile Diabetes Fund Raising Ride August 29, 2009 - Organizers of the event are requesting a rest spot in Warren for the riders. The Fund Raising Ride is expecting about 350 riders to enter the event. The event/ride starts in Killington and follows RT 100 to Warren Village, Warren Village back out to Route 100 to Waitsfield to Bridge Street circling back over the East Warren Road back through Warren going south on Main Street back to Route 100 to Killington. Ms. Jones contacted the organizers and they have already surveyed the route and spoke to the Warren Store for the rest stop. Riders will be in a staggered formation, single file and all emergency personnel MRVAS, VSP, Washington County Sheriffs Dept, the state have been notified of the event.

8:10 PM – Safe Routes To School Committee – Becka Rolf, Consultant, Michael Ketchel

Mr. Ketchel started the discussion off by giving a little background to the board about the Safe Routes to School Grant. Ms. Reilly applied for first round funding of the grant process that provides funds for to implement non-infrastructure projects (Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and evaluation/planning to develop a school travel plan including all of the above plus engineering. The safe Routes to School is a federally-funded program, administered by VTrans, that requires no local match.

The Safe Routes to School Committee hosted walk & bike to school days with parents and the local school buses. They promoted walk and bike to school days very Friday and saw an overall doubling in the number of children walking to school. They also asked the school gym teacher to do a bike safety day at the school where all the children participated. Also the Committee promoted a survey to see what level of interest there was about traffic calming measures, possible safe routes to school etc. As a result of the participation in the SRTS program, Warren will be eligible to apply for an infrastructure grant, to implement some of the engineering recommendations in Warren's School travel plan. Ms. Becka Rolf, Consultant was hired by the grant process to help the Committee in evolving an action plan as presented in a slide show presentation.

The Committee recommended the following for immediate action by the town:

Because the VTrans process may result in 2 years delay to even paint crosswalks on the road, the Warren SRTS Team recommends that following improvements:

1. Stripe crosswalks in 8 village locations, as indicated on the attached map.
2. SRTS Coordinator, Kirstin Reilly will purchase a small striper for the town to use using the stipend she received through the state program.
3. Add in-street pedestrian crossing signs to 4 of these locations.
4. Stripe a walking zone along School Road.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve and go ahead with the above actions as soon as possible before the starting school year, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor:
VOTE: 5-0.

Part two: Proceed with the Grant Application this fall for the following:

1. Enhanced crosswalks with brick color/texture.
2. 3 Radar speed feedback signs – and upgrade to town-striped crosswalks.
3. Feasibility study for sidewalks or paths in the village and a bikeable path connection to School Road.
4. Feasibility study (or construction funds if ready) for changes to the school site to separate bicycles/pedestrians from motor vehicle traffic.
5. Bicycle shared-lane markings in the Village.

Mr. Cunningham inquired who maintains the sidewalks, cost and how are they maintained? Mr. Ketchel indicated that all this would be rolled into the feasibility study. Mr. Bauchner very apprehensive in the sidewalks as the town already has done a study on sidewalks previously and it was not well supported by the voters. Mr. Ketchel indicated that if the feasibility study says no to side walks then it's a done issue once and for all. Mr. Ketchel pointed out that the Selectboard received a memo from the Planning Commission that supported the SRTS plans with an addition of a crosswalk located between the Warren Store and The Pitcher. This would bring the number of crosswalk locations to 8.

Motion by Ms. Russell-Story to support the above part 2 application presented by the SRTS Committee and as requested by Mr. Cunningham to prioritize the more substantial on ground nature of the items, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

9:00 PM – Other Business:

Park & Ride – Leslie & William Smith-Mayo – Ms. Smith-Mayo presented to the Warren Selectboard their concerns again about the Park & Ride. They would like to see if the light could be on timer. They asked if the plowing could be done in such away plowing it towards the south end of the Park & Ride instead of the River to help protect the trees from plow blades and salt runoff. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Weston had looked at the site and it is not feasible to push the snow into that area near the Alvords. Mr. Cunningham also stated that after one storm there would be no where to push the snow. Mr. Simpson also stated the road crew has implemented a snow removal program that trucks a majority of snow away from the area that reduces a lot of snow runoff. They also asked if more

rocks could be put into the area to reduce the distance of plowing. Mr. Simpson again stated that during the winter and heavy storms the parking spaces are substantially reduced. They would also like to see some hemlock trees planted on the bank along with a rain garden which The Friends of The Mad River proposed. Mr. Cunningham spoke up in saying that the state along Route 100 plows a majority of salt into the Mad River and that the little salt at the Park & Ride is very miniscule compared to that. Mr. Bauchner suggested that the group work with the Friends of The Mad River and the Conservation Commission and come back with viable suggestions.

9:20 PM – Approval of Minutes for June 9th, 2009 – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the minutes of June 9th, 2009, second by Ms. Reilly. All in Favor: VOTE: 3-0.

9:22 PM – Approval of Minutes for July 14, 2009 – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to approve the minutes of July 14, 2009, second by Mr. Groom. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:24 PM – Town Fair Representative – Motion by Mr. Cunningham to authorize Mr. Groom to be the Town Fair Voting Representative for Warren, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

9:26 PM – Tax Rate Update: Mr. Bauchner explained to the public that the town tax rate was 0.2570 for the town municipal rate, slightly up from last year's rate. The State Homestead residential rate is \$1.16 per \$100 assessed value, and the State non residential rate is \$1.27 per \$100 assessed value.

9:28 PM – Letter from Ms. Carter: The Selectboard received a letter from Ms. Carter stating that she had received the Selectboard's July 15, 2009 letter regarding the "Village Path". She claims that her family has never given a right of way to a "Village Path" and that it is still private property. She does not want a surveyor or sign posted on her property and his hiring an attorney. Mr. Groom spoke up and indicated that this was not a taking of property only that the town is exercising its right to the public right of way that has been existence for while. Mr. Cunningham indicated that the board should respect Ms. Carter's wishes at this time and allow her time to hire an attorney to prove that the "Path" is on private property. The board agreed to wait until the next selectboard meeting to take further action on this.

9:35 PM – **Slide Brook Letter** – The board received a letter from Mr. Peff, Owner of Slide Brook, on explanation of events at his place of business that an owner from Drumleys has filed complaints about. Ms. Jones indicated she has spoken to both parties about the matter.

9:45 PM – Letter to Ms. Gow and Mr. Hewitt regarding Coates Gravel Pit – Mr. Cunningham presented to the board a letter he wrote to Ms. Gow and Mr. Hewitt regarding the Town Garage Issue. The board thought it was a well written letter that stated the facts and all signed off on the letter.

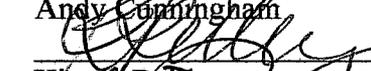
10:00 PM –Motion by Mr. Cunningham to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Russell-Story. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

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

The Warren Selectboard


Burl Bauchner, Chair


Andy Cunningham


Kirstin Reilly


Erin Russell-Story


Matt Groom

Millstone Park and Ride
Concerns and Proposals of Residents of Trout Hollow
July 28, 2009

The Light:

- Thank you to Cindi Jones for arranging to have the light lowered. It is a nice improvement.
- The light seems to remain on all night. Could the timer be checked?

The Plowing:

- There is evidence of plow blade damage to the trees along the rim of the Mad River.
- In the spring, as the plowed snow melts, the salt and road debris wash down the embankment into the Mad River.
- If the snow could be plowed to the **SOUTH END** of the Park and Ride (instead of toward the river) then the salt and debris would percolate through the soil and not go directly into the river.
- The Town of Warren owns **OVER THIRTY FEET** from the south edge of the pavement of the Park and Ride. This is ample space to plow snow and would not impact the adjacent Alvord property.
- There will be no need to truck away snow if it is plowed over the south end. This will save the town money.
- A wooden stake with a white ribbon has been placed on Main Street at the measured edge of the Alvord property so everyone can see the amount of space available to plow.

The Parking Lot:

- Cars are regularly left overnight. Could a sign be placed stating no overnight parking?
- A barrier made of boulders (to match the existing ones currently at the Park and Ride) should be placed on the pavement along the Mad River.
- The boulders will redirect the snowplows toward the south side of the Park and Ride and also prevent parked vehicles from encroaching on the plantings on the rim.
- Placing these boulders will decrease the total surface area of the lot without changing the number of parking spaces. There will be less snow to plow and truck off the site. This will save money.

The Mad River:

- Planting six native evergreen trees will help buffer the Mad River from road pollution and act as a visual barrier for residents of Trout Hollow.
- Hemlock trees would be appropriate, as suggested by tree professionals and The Friends of the Mad River.
- Spring would be the best time to plant as the site is, admittedly, a tough one for tree survival.
- A Rain Garden has been proposed as an additional protective measure by The Friends of the Mad River. This could be pursued as well.