

Warren Main Street bridge to reopen Friday

Warren's Main Street bridge has been closed for repairs for the past couple of weeks. It reopens to traffic this Friday and the renovation of Main Street will be nearly complete.

The bridge, which VTrans inspects each year, was due for rehab. The town is paying Parent Construction \$150,500 for abutment work, repaving, sidewalk and drainage work.

The sidewalk work and drainage repairs were added to the project because the

catch basins in the town were not working, so whenever it rained a large puddle forced pedestrians into the street.

Cindi Hartshorn-Jones said she was very happy with the project and with Parent Construction thus far.

The Warren Main Street Renovation Project, which was completed last month, and the bridge rehab coincided nicely. Originally the Main Street Renovation Project was going to end 20 feet from the bridge, but because

of the timing of both projects it was able to be moved 10 feet closer.

When Parent Construction pours the new pavement on the bridge, it will taper to meet the pavers on Main Street.

Weather will determine which day the project is officially complete, with miscellaneous work and cleanup being done next week, but the bridge will be open to traffic on Friday.

- CLK

HUUSD's on hiatus after tumultuous summer

By Chris Keating

The Harwood Unified Union School District (HUUSD) Board did not meet in July and will not meet again until August 30. When the board does meet again members could have some tough questions to answer.

The board's two-month break followed two turbulent meetings. Prior to the June 14 meeting, Fayston representatives Heidi Spear and Jill Ellis sent a letter to the board that criticized the conduct of the group and Washington West Supervisory Union (WWSU) Superintendent Bridget Nease. Spear and Ellis did not attend the last two meetings.

In response, at the June 14 meeting, the rest of the board took a vote of confidence in the WWSU administration and the board's leadership.

Also in the last two meetings, the board has been trying to set an agenda for a fall retreat, where board members plan to have far-ranging discussions about the school district, from board roles and responsibilities to redistricting.

The board has been trying to decide how much time members will spend of the six-hour retreat as just the board or the board and WWSU administration combined. Board members have also been trying to decide on agenda items. The retreat is slated for September 13 from 3 to 9 p.m. at the Mad River Barn in Fayston.

Board member Caitlin Hollister, Waterbury, polled the board members several months prior to the June 14 meeting. Ninety-four percent of board members wanted to discuss visioning, 75 percent wanted to talk about equity, 50 percent wanted team building to be on the agenda, 31 percent wanted to discuss budgeting and 19 percent clicked "other."

Hollister said that the re-

sponses may have been out of date given the timing of the survey.

Member Garrett MacCurtain, Duxbury, suggested that board roles and responsibilities be added in light of their previous meetings. Board member Alexandra Thompsen, Waterbury, agreed.

"I don't think we can get to visioning until we can do the others. So, I think what we need to do is to vision and to do all that other stuff, but I think first we need to figure out how to function most efficiently and effectively," Thompsen said.

Board member Rosemarie White, Warren, said that she would like to spend more time on visioning.

"I don't want to spend a lot of time going over roles and responsibilities when it seems like, I kind of get the feeling that I'm being bullied into spending a lot of time and spinning our wheels on issues that I don't feel is in the benefit of all [of us]," White said.

"I think most do work well as a team. I want to see us move forward. I want to see us do what's best for the kids. I don't want us to spend six hours spinning our wheels trying to get everyone to agree," White added.

Sam Jackson, Duxbury, asked how much the administration would be involved in the visioning conversation and how long would they be at the retreat. Nease then spoke to the board about issues that had arisen out of the board's distress.

"I am going to be really hon-

est with you and really direct. This is my opinion and how I'm feeling, but it's generated from conversations that we've now had with two retreats of our own admin team," Nease began. She said she viewed the letter, sent by the Fayston representatives, to be an attack on her superintendency.

She then said that the board is not getting any better at working together and that it is having an effect elsewhere in the school district.

Nease said the supervisory union was "falling apart" and "imploding," and while the board meeting was very civil, she said, "We need to talk about what we're not talking about."

Only after the board has those hard discussions can the board have the important conversations. Nease spoke about bringing all of the fifth- and sixth-grade students from throughout The Valley together at Crossett Brook, so they are joined together before getting to Harwood Union High School.

She also mentioned opening part of the Harwood campus at night to bring in adult education, moving the WWSU offices to a district-owned piece of property, how to handle the growing population at Thatcher Brook, and many other topics.

"We need to look at this, it will take three to five years to plan it to figure it out," Nease said.

The HUUSD Board will come back in the fall and have much more than a budget to figure out.

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TOWN OF WARREN PUBLIC NOTICE Warren Development Review Board

The Warren Development Review Board (DRB) has scheduled a public hearing at 7:00 PM, Monday, August 21, 2017 at the Warren Municipal Building to consider the following applications.

Application 2017-45-CU, Establish the separation of Existing Small Lots:

The applicants, Lenord & Genevieve Robinson. Request a determination that the lot described as 1.13 ACRES & Dwelling, XCTY Ski Center/Rental may be subdivided as 2 separate lots as they existed before zoning regulations were established. This determination will be reviewed Section 3.5 of the Warren Land Use and Development Regulations. The property is located in the Rural Residential District at 424 & 404 Plunkton Road, Property Id 028001-903.

These applications will be reviewed under the Warren Land Use and Development Regulations as adopted by the Warren Select Board on March 25, 2008 and last amended November 11, 2012.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a) (1) (C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite site to the right to take any subsequent appeal. A project description, application materials, and site plans for this project are available for public review at the Planning and Zoning/Warren Town Clerk's Office during regular office hours. If you have any questions regarding this application/hearing, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning and Zoning Office located in the Conference Room (old library) of the Warren Municipal Building at 42 Cemetery Road in Warren Village.



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