

Town of Bolton  
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway  
Bolton VT 05676  
Select Board Minutes  
June 20, 2016

Board members present: Gene Armstrong, Josh Arneson, Jen Dudley-Gaillard, Ron Lafreniere, Sharon Murray  
Board members absent: none  
Also present: Deb Shelby, Steve McLeod, Matt Mead  
Clerk: Amy Grover

**1. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Jen with a quorum of 5 members present.**

**2. Additions or deletions to the agenda: none**

**3. Public comment: none**

**4. Recurring business:**

- Minutes June 6, 2016: Gene made the motion *"to approve the June 6, 2016 minutes as amended to correct the statue citation for executive session."* Josh seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (5-0). Noted that going forward: employ a two-step process to enter executive session - first making a specific finding, followed by the motion to enter.
- Warrants: Signed.

**5. Communications:**

Reviewed:

- VLCT June 2016 News.
- HOLD HARMLESS FY 2017 Estimate - \$34,132.
- CEMETERY CD – renew, next maturity date 12/18/16.
- ZA Update – information provided to property owner, zoning permits issued to date, future tasks.
- Better Roads – Notice of 3K award through CCRPC for the Bolton Road Inventory.
- SOV project plans for state lands, letter on file with these minutes at the town office.

**6. Appointments:**

Deb Shelby – ERC and CWAC Updates:

- Economic Resource Committee:
  - Two members have stepped down reducing the board from 9 to 7 members.
  - Current focus: researching funding, Bolton Market Day planned for September - engaging businesses and the community, raffle proceeds to fund the Bolton Senior Baskets in December.
- Clean Water Advisory Board – noted, and discussion included:
  - Erosion Inventory first step.
  - Act 64 – phosphorus, what impacts the levels in Bolton – steep slopes, Joiner Brook. Add information/links on Act 64 to the town website to increase awareness and provide information on a very complex issue.
  - Multiple databases, how to demonstrate improvement, tool needed for managing inventory as that impacts funding.
  - CCRPC has promised to do a presentation for local officials in the eastern part of the county.
- Brief discussion:
  - A thank you town dinner (not potluck) to bring all volunteers, boards, staff, elected officials together – value in sharing. The Select Board noted it was a good idea and asked Deb to explore the timeframe and funding.
  - Need for re-establishing the defunct recreation committee.

Jen noted that the discussion of the Preston Pond Management Plan (PPMP) was much later in the agenda, that there would be no vote, and that she assumed that Steve McLeod and Matt Mead were there to provide input, and asked if

they wanted to provide their comments to the board then instead of waiting; they noted that they did want to provide their comments then.

Steve McLeod noted that with respect to trapping:

- He was interested in the discussion on the PPMP, and was outvoted 4 – 1 on the trapping issue.
- He wanted to see the process the Select Board had used in December 2015 to issue the trapping permit to Matt Mead, which worked well.
- Essentially the language of a clear conservation need creates a back door ban on trapping, and shifts the authority away from the Select Board to the Conservation Commission, to which he is opposed.
- He favors the language regarding the placement and access of traps.
- The land should be inclusive to all uses and users, and not just a segment of recreational users.
- The state has detailed laws on trapping and the area receives good oversight by the state.
- He will have an amendment on trapping to offer when the Select Board votes on the PPMP.

In addition:

- Consider impact of dogs – must be leashed and no dogs allowed during hunting season.

Matt Mead noted that:

- He agreed with Steve's input on trapping.
- He felt that the issue had been on a positive track but then took a turn to proving a clear conservation need, and hiring a nuisance trapper who then had to go through the application process – which essentially would serve the same as banning trapping.
- The plan should either just ban trapping or allow it.

The group briefly discussed:

- Trapping management, stability of beaver populations, capacity, number of trappers allowed.
- Forest management and goal of a mature forest – need for diversity.

Jen noted that the board needed to boil down their comments, and that there was no deadline for the Select Board to take action on approval, and that the PPMP deserved a thorough review.

#### **7. Action Items:**

- O'Brien Notice of Inspection:
  - Brief discussion of statutory process, process as noted by Moretown, current status, and previous DRB process/subdivision.
  - Noted: need for more time to prepare and to meet statutory deadlines. Date for site visit and hearing moved to August 22<sup>nd</sup> from July 25<sup>th</sup>. Amy to notify stakeholders.
- VTrans Paving Grant TA65 Form: signed. Reimbursement by the state of \$95,200 for Duxbury Road paving.
- Russell Property Map Agreement: Gene made the motion "to approve the April 2016 – April 2018 Russell Tax Map Agreement at the cost of \$1,650 for the annual update." Sharon seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (5-0).
- Cargill Contract: Gene made the motion "to approve option #1 of the 2016 – 2017 Cargill Salt Contract for 500 tons at \$74.35/ton" (no increase from 2015 – 2016). Sharon seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (5-0).

#### **8. Business:**

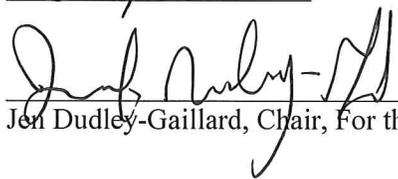
- Preston Pond Management Plan discussion only - points to bring forward for additional discussion with the Conservation Commission to be followed by a public hearing:
  - Page 7. Include additional information on history of the property: interests/easements, use, what was cleared, building sites etc.
  - Page 7. Provide references to cultural resources on the property; cellar holes, fence lines, buildings that were there.
  - Page 7. Provide information on Streeter easement here instead of on the last two pages.
  - Document the public process in an appendix; public input, surveys etc.
  - Reference town requirements.
  - Include a schedule of priorities as a table.
  - Address sanitation facilities at trailheads.

- Page 9. Plowing and grading at trailheads – no information on who is responsible and funding.
  - Page 9. Restricted parking – accommodation for sunset hikes, no overnight parking.
  - Page 9. State Police patrol – confirmation of that.
  - Page 12. Hemlock Swamp and Hooker’s Orchids noted as flooded by beavers; address?
  - Page 13. Invasives – difficult and expensive to manage.
  - Page 15. No documentation of beaver population and little information on mammals, no information on fish/aquatic species.
  - Page 15. Monitoring insects.
  - Page 22. Forest management plan; strategies and goals; not all 400 acres should be kept as mature forest, clear/patch cutting, clarification of plan, create/maintain a diverse forest.
  - Page 24. Define the public access for non-motorized boating.
  - Page 24. Further address dogs – leashed, clean up after your pet, not allowed during hunting season.
  - Page 24. Address trail use during mud season – closures.
  - Page 24. Use – charge a recreation fee to fund maintenance; trails, parking areas, plan updates etc.
  - Page 25. Address ATV use for emergencies - rescue and fire.
  - Page 25. Prohibited uses – mountain biking – a secondary use on the easement, the easement drives the plan, why are some uses disregarded/prohibited.
  - Page 29. Leave no trace mentions camping and fires – these are prohibited on page 26.
  - Page 29. Define “Stewardship Committee;” members and role.
  - Page 31. Forest Steward – elected vs. appointed, should be appointed and not required to be a Bolton resident.
  - Page 35. Trapping – much larger discussion needed. Page 25, 5.4 states trapping permitted in PPCA in compliance with VT laws, contradicts page 35.
- Seven Days – Daisies:
- Bolton Potholes one of five finalists for the Daisy of Best Place to Swim.
  - Amy to resend September 2015 Letter to Board for editing, to be resent to Seven Days via Ron.
- Motor Vehicle Ordinance:
- Typos pages 1 & 2.
  - Brief discussion on speed limits.
  - Page 2 – remove Class 4 roads.
  - Modify current Parking Ordinance and insert.
  - Resident parking only on Curtis Lane.
- Personnel Policy:
- No response from VLCT on review timeframe.
  - Amy to send typos/correction to Josh.
- 9. Any Other Business:**
- July meeting dates and agenda items:
- 11<sup>th</sup> Personnel Policy, Traffic Ordinance, Procurement Policy
  - 18<sup>th</sup> O’Brien Petition
- August meeting dates and agenda items
- 1<sup>st</sup>
  - 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> O’Brien Petition site visit and hearing
- 10. Closing:** No other business was brought before the Board at this time. Gene made the motion “to close the meeting.” Ron seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (5-0) at 9:00 p.m.

Attest: Amy Grover, Clerk

*Minutes are unofficial until approved. These minutes were read and approved by the Bolton Select Board on:*

July 11, 2016

  
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Jen Dudley-Gaillard, Chair, For the Board