



Town of Bolton  
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway  
Bolton VT 05676  
Select Board Minutes  
January 6, 2014

Board members present: Josh Arneson, Ron Lafreniere, Chair, and Rod Wheelock

Board members absent: Gene Armstrong, Dan Champney

Also present: Eric Andrews, Larry Williams; Bolton/Catamount Land, LLC

Clerk: Amy Grover

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Appointments:**

Larry Williams met with the board to share his perspective on the town's regulations and their administration. Mr. Williams noted that:

- The town's regulations and their administration were not reasonable, the DRB process was difficult, too prolonged and costly, and continued to be a burden to Bolton Valley.
- With respect to regulations, Bolton was the most difficult town to work with.
- BV works with ACT 250 and the state, and questioned why the town couldn't relay on those entities for regulation.
- He had acknowledgement from CCRPC that Bolton's regulations may be too excessive.
- The town needed to review the regulations, look at a simpler, more appropriate fit, and that he was willing to be part of a constructive solution.
- He wanted to be sure that the Select Board was aware of his frustrations and aware that there was help available to address regulation changes for the town through CCRPC.

Ron noted that:

- Bolton's unique geography of floodplain and steep slopes impacted the design of the regulations.
- He and the board felt the DRB did a good job following and administering the regulation requirements.
- He and the board were aware of Mr. Williams' frustrations.
- With input on specifics, regulations could be reviewed.
- The board recognized the need to use caution in the conversation due to the filing in Environmental Court.

Eric Andrews met with the board to review highway information:

- The town was not at fault with an incident on Duxbury Road. Amy will follow up.
- The 2008 International was at Clark's being repaired, though under the extended warranty, it could be out of service for 3+ weeks.
- Lack of the 2008 required a plan B – retrofitting the 2001 with a sander; \$400. The Board agreed that was the best option for now. Noted that the brakes may also need attention.
- The loader is going to require repair work at some point.
- Issue with no one from CESU calling for road conditions on Friday 1/3/14. Town will follow up with CESU.
- He was unable to find a vendor that could undercoat/spray the large trucks.
- He had reviewed the Duxbury Road guardrail request and noted that some areas would need shoulders to be built to house the guardrails, a very large expense, and was still planning to have a ride along with the resident. Noted: drivers obeying the speed limit and driving to the road conditions should not have an issue. Noted: there are three sections of cable guardrails on the Bolton Valley Road that still need replacement, \$14 per foot.
- State is re-instituting ride along opportunities.
- The pavement inventory had started on Duxbury road, culvert and sign studies were completed.
- He had contacted Green Mountain Power concerning trees on Duxbury Road in need of removal.

**Business and Action Items:**

Arrowwood Presentation: Noted: the final ECOS Project presentation by Arrowwod will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2014, 6 – 9 p.m. @ Smilie School.

911 Update: Amy noted that Carol was Bolton’s new 911 Coordinator working with 3 property owners with 4 parcels on the Notch Road that needed to change 911 numbers due to numbering inconsistencies and errors. Amy asked if the board would consider reimbursement of costs for residents that needed to change numbers. While acknowledging the frustration and effort needed to change numbers, the board stated no, adding that the town would provide new 911 signs at no cost.

Town Meeting 2014 – PEACH Power Petition: Tabled until full board present.

Support Staff DRB: Tabled until full board present.

Warrants: Warrants were signed.

Budget Review/VMERS: Noted: notification from VMERS of an increase in the town’s % contribution for Group B employees for FY ’14 – ’15, and an additional Group A employee. Budget re-approval including those increases tabled until full board present. Noted: the town was required to cover the employee’s retroactive contribution as payment was required immediately. Rod motioned “*to request that the employee pay the town back the employee contribution within one year.*” Josh seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (3-0).

Other Business:

- Issues with health insurance reported. Amy will follow up.
- Vault keypad had to be replaced – broken lead wire. Kudos to Eric for getting the vault open and the precautions taken to keep it from locking.

Minutes December 16, 2013

Rod motioned “*to accept the minutes of December 16, 2013.*” Josh seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (3-0).

Closing:

The Select Board will meet the February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, and March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. No other business was brought before this Board at this time. Josh motioned to close the meeting. Rod seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor and the motion passed (3-0).

The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

Attest: Amy Grover, Clerk

*Minutes are unofficial until approved. These minutes were read and approved by the Bolton Select Board on: February 3, 2014, Ron Lafreniere, Chair, For the Board*