

WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes

April 25, 2012

Present: Glenn Seward, Tom Kenyon, Mike Spackman, Trevor Starr, Martha Harrison, Annie Burke

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- 2) Annual meeting with Agency of Transportation (AOT) – Paving grants: Trevor said grants are based on the town's percentage of Class 2 mileage. West Windsor has 2.24% of the total class 2 mileage in District 4 and has received 3.27% of total funding so it will be a year or two before West Windsor gets another paving grant. Trevor said there are approximately \$750,000 in available funds for FY 2013 so District 4 will be able to approve 5 or 6 grants. Trevor encouraged West Windsor to apply for a paving grant anyway because it demonstrates need, and some towns may not have enough matching funds to apply. Mike said the Governor announced additional funding for paving in Vermont and asked where those funds will go. Trevor said the state is trying to get the books cleared from Tropical Storm Irene, so the District got more money in their leveling program, which they will use for the worst areas. Bridge grants: Regarding the structures program, Trevor said, the funds are divided evenly among the 25 towns in the district so each town should receive approximately 4% of the funding. Trevor said West Windsor has received 9.6% because we submit an application every year. Trevor said the funding has to be distributed so if the only application he has is from West Windsor then West Windsor is going to get it. Trevor said the rule of thumb is that the cost of a box culvert x 2 will put it in the ground. Mike said in the 30 years that he has been Highway Foreman, West Windsor has replaced, maintained or widened every bridge in town. Brownsville-Hartland Road culvert: Glenn asked Mike about the sink hole by the culvert on the south end of Brownsville-Hartland Road. Mike said he inspected it after Tropical Storm Irene. Mike said it's a poured concrete culvert with stone abutments and one of the abutments has shifted a little so the road settled in that depression. Route 44 Bridge: There was discussion about the repairs needed on the state bridge on Route 44 over Mill Brook at the east end of town. Glenn asked Trevor about the state's plans. Trevor said the plan is to close the road, dig it up, address the issue, and back fill it. Trevor said the town will get at least one week's notice before the road is closed. Annual Financial Plan: Trevor completed West Windsor's annual financial plan with help from Mike and the Selectboard. Trevor said the price of black top has gone up by \$3.40 per ton. Mike said West Windsor will submit grant applications for paving, and to replace the 6' steel tube under Rush Meadow Road with a box culvert, just below the intersection with Wardner Road. Trevor talked about the impact of stream crossings on wildlife. Tom and Mike noted the presence of trout in some of the smaller streams. Tom asked Trevor about correcting sight distance issues on Route 44 west of the intersection with Shattuck Hill Road. Trevor said District 4 would probably support it but he doesn't think they would develop a project there. **Glenn made a motion to sign the Annual Financial Plan for the Agency of Transportation. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** There was discussion about the impact of Tropical Storm Irene on the town and the state. Mike and the Selectboard encouraged Trevor to look at the washed out bridge on the Brook Road in Windsor. Salt shed: Mike said he got a price of \$6,500 to do the concrete footings for the salt shed. Glenn asked about the budget. Mike said it will have to come out of winter maintenance. Mike said Miller Construction will lift the roof off the salt shed next week, the walls will be rebuilt with blocks, and then Miller will put the roof back on.
- 3) Highway access application: Hammond – Mike said he has no problem with changing the access from agricultural to residential. **Tom made a motion to grant initial approval to Scott Hammond for a residential access on Hammond Hill Road (parcel #6-102.1). Glenn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 4) Other Business – Sidewalks: Tom asked Mike if he is working with Paul on the sidewalks. Mike said Paul asked him what kind of cement to use and he told Paul to get the hardest grade available. Dugdale culvert: Glenn said the town has started to get pricing on the replacement of the damaged stone box on Dugdale Road and it appears that the cost is going to be higher than the amount that FEMA has allocated so we need to go through the process of getting more funds allocated. Tom asked about the timing of the work. Mike said it will be done in June or July. Mike said Dave Dugdale is going to repair the dam and

may dredge the pond. Mike added that the Fire Department may install a dry hydrant there. Bowers covered bridge: Glenn said FEMA has indicated that they will fund the north abutment but he is waiting to get that commitment in writing so the replacement of the bridge has been delayed. Glenn said he has contacted Roger Gilman from Miller Construction for revised pricing on the north abutment. Tom said Chris Nesbitt would like to restore the stone wall on his property along Westgate Road. Tom said Chris asked about using some of the stone that was washed away from the bridge abutments. Tom asked who owns that stone. Glenn said the town generally uses it for headers and other projects. Mike said Miller will reuse a lot of the stone. Glenn suggested telling Chris that he can have any stone that is not reused or stockpiled for future use.

- 5) Sewer line discussion – Glenn said the Selectboard met with Dan Purjes of MFW Associates, his attorney Chris Dugan, and Town Attorney Matt Birmingham yesterday. Glenn said they had a positive discussion about the purchase of the sewer line and the attorneys are going to discuss the matter further. Tom said the Selectboard’s actions are in compliance with the two articles that were approved at Town Meeting. Glenn agreed. Sewer fees: Annie said the town got a call from someone who is getting an invoice for sewer fees and she is not on the sewer line. Glenn said she should send a note to the address on the bill. Sewer line (continued): Glenn said the attorneys are going to try to come up with a “Letter of Terms,” which is a framework for a potential purchase. Tom said he is comfortable with Glenn continuing to have sewer line discussions with Orange Lake representatives. **Glenn moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the matter further. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Following discussion, **Glenn moved to come out of Executive Session at 11:35 AM, after discussing contract issues relating to the sewer line, with no action taken. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 6) Other Business - Town Forest: Glenn said many years ago Dennis and Tammy Conley built a bridge to gain access to the VAST trail system and put up a sign indicating that the bridge was for snowmobiles. At some point, it was interpreted that the bridge was only for snowmobiles and no one else had the right to use it. Glenn said Tom had a conversation with the Conleys and they indicated that the bridge is not restricted to snowmobiles but it was not built for foot traffic, bicycles, or skis. Glenn said he will suggest that the Town Forest Committee consider improvements to the bridge at town expense that will make it suitable for bicycles and pedestrians. Glenn noted that he walked the Town Forest trails with Forrest Hammond this morning and Forrest saw no issues with the trails and is planning to forward his opinion to the District Environmental Commission. Glenn said he thinks Forrest’s opinion was the last piece of information needed for West Windsor’s Act 250 application. Fourth of July theme: Tom said the theme for the Fourth of July is “Vermont Strong.”
- 7) Adjourn - **Glenn moved to adjourn at 11:40 AM. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison