

TOWN OF ELMORE, VT

Monthly Select Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes – prepared by C. DeVore
Status: APPROVED

Meeting Date: December 14, 2016

Start Time: 6:26 pm **Adjourn:** 7:50 pm

Meeting Attendees: Robert Burley – ESB Chairman, Caroline DeVore – ESB, Robb Wills – ESB,
Michel LaCasse – Road Commissioner, Lea Kilvadyova – LCPC, Steve Guterres – Resident

A. SPECIAL TOPICS:

1. **DISCUSSION: Energy Siting is significant addition to required town plans/zoning to achieve PSB status for solar/wind development**

Update: The state of VT developed a process for towns to have a voice in the siting of renewable energy. As of today, only one town (Bennington) presented arguments that resulted in the siting changing for their town. Act 74 outlines the process for towns to have a voice in renewable energy siting. There are now funds for LCPC to work with 3 towns on an Enhanced Energy Plan.

If the plan is certified by the State (Public Service Dept), then our town can participate in, and have a voice in, the siting of renewal energy. The process is complex – involves a lot of analysis. LCPC has tools to help. Mr. Dudley from the Elmore Planning Commission, asked LCPC if Elmore could be one of the towns to request support in development of an Enhanced Energy Plan.

The SB expressed formal interest in participating in this program with LCPC.

2. **DISCUSSION: New Water Quality regulations become effective throughout CY18-CY19. Permits, annual fees and restrictions increase on agriculture, forests and landowners. Food scraps disallowed from landfills.**

Action: SB to review Stowe's VTDEC Local Road General Permit Presentation on this topic.

B. NEW ITEMS:

1. **UPDATE: Highway Department returns to full roster. Raymond LaCasse added as full time employee. Highly experienced in necessary skills.**
2. **UPDATE: Zoning Administrator/Health succession plan: Low response. 1-2 interviews scheduled. CY 16 Target of new ZA/H may slip. No backup.**
3. **DISCUSSION: Lea Kilvadyova, LCPC, Elmore Hazard Mitigation Plan update.**
Elmore has a local hazard mitigation plan in place as an annex plan to the current regional plan. Elmore's plan will expire when the regional plan expires in October 2017. Since the last regional plan was developed, towns have moved to developing their own independent plans.

LCPC will no longer develop a regional plan. Elmore will need to develop a standalone plan this year in preparation for our current plan expiration. LCPC has resources to help us develop our hazard mitigation plan that essentially examines natural disaster planning (wind, flooding, ice storms), and possible actions the town may take to address this potential issues.

FEMA is driving this planning process. The benefits of having this plan include qualification for pre- and post-disaster support from FEMA.

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Action: SB needs to work on the development of our standalone plan that would take effect in October 2017. We need to migrate from the existing annex plan and submit updates ASAP. The plan will identify major hazards impacting our town. Lea left an overview of the requirements with the SB. She advises that we begin the process ASAP as it could take FEMA up to a year to approve our plan once submitted.

There is no charge to the town for LCPC to work with the SB on this plan.
DRI: Bob Burley.

Ms. Kilvadyova also outlined timing of review and adoption of Elmore's Flood Hazard Bi-Laws which are specific to River Corridor Protection. The Planning Commission has approved and adopted the update which now needs to be reviewed and adopted by the SB. We have 120 days to hold a public hearing on the document once it is delivered to the SB. If there is a delay, the process must begin again. Update: SB will review.

Ms. Kilvadyova also reviewed the Healthy Lamoille Valley program that addresses substance abuse prevention. She left a flyer with the SB to review to evaluate actions we could take in implementation of this program through zoning, etc.
DRI: Rob Wills to review materials and make a recommendation of next steps.

4. **UPDATE: Elmore added as party to Regional Planning Commission meetings to secure "Alternative Transportation Grant" to create public access from Rte. 12 to southern portions of land n/f of VLT, E.B. Hyde, Atlas Timber.**
DRI is Bob Burley – will attend meetings as scheduled. Will notify M. Lacasse.
5. **DISCUSSION: Severely depressed saw log and pulp prices will result in reduced forest harvest this winter. Way of Necessity for Route 12 project (Wesolow) may need extension.**
6. **ACTION: Budget preparation meeting for Elmore FY18 Town Meeting vote completed.**
7. **ACTION: Employee Personnel Policies and Procedures updated.**
8. **ACTION: Employee Wage and Benefits Plan updated based on regional norms.**

C. CONTINUING ACTIVE ITEMS:

1. Road Commissioner Update – LaCasse

Work Completed:

- Graded as much as possible weather permitting.
- November 21st started plowing and sanding. Have been on the road everyday through December 10th.
- A few complaints were received from residents that the roads were in poor condition not allowing Cassella to pick up trash. In fact, Cassella had not put winter tires on their trucks and were unable to drive on our well plowed and sanded roads.

Equipment status:

- Grading having wing installed December 15th.
- Winter equipment working.

Employee Status:

- All is well.

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- Greg Adams is driving part time.

Upcoming Issues:

- Updating inventory maps.

2. UPDATE: AGGRESSIVE DOG: Hayford Rd.

Letter mailed to Mr. & Mrs. Guterres on November 9th and they responded with a detailed package of information for the SB to review. Mr. Guterres attended the meeting and outlined his understanding of the issues with his 3 dogs along with the specific steps taken to contain his German Shepherds within his property. Containment of two dogs seems well planned, containment of a third dog (11 year old lab), needs to be addressed. Neighbors have complained that the lab continues to defecate on their property. Mr. Guterres was instructed to make his best efforts to keep all of his dogs contained to his private property.

Caroline to talk with Elmore's animal control officer for followup and forward information to neighbors. SB to be notified if continued issues arise.

E. SB EXECUTIVE SESSION

SB voted to enter Executive Session at 7:27pm

No minutes were taken during the session

Executive session ended at 7:48pm
