

Agenda- Selectboard - September 28, 2017

Landgrove Town Hall 6:06 PM

attendance: John Ogden, Greg Eckhardt, Tom Dibble, Andrea Ogden, Chrystal Cleary, Steve Hall, Hal Wilkins, Jim Henderson (BCRC)

- Steve brought the new signs for Red Pine, Jaquith and Sled Run as well as the big orange Road Work Ahead signs

- The Selectboard read a letter from Craig Hafer about Utley Brook restoration, but determined that due to the private ownership of the land around the Brook, this subject is best addressed among the property owners.

- Jim Henderson of the BCRC presented about road grants: The Fed (EPA) is pressing Vermont about the pollution of Lake Champlain (to bring it into compliance with the Clean Water Act) and the State is moving into high gear so as to retain control of the process, rather than EPA stepping in. The State has decided that all towns must contribute \$2000 (regardless of location, size of the town, etc "We're ALL in") as an annual "permit fee," starting in July 2018. This money will go (with other money sources) to fund grants for Towns to ID and complete projects that serve to control or limit the flow of minerals, sediment and contaminants from farms & dirt roads into the watershed.

Within 5 years, Towns must hire a contractor to conduct an assessment of all roads segments (100 yard segments) that are within a close proximity to any wetland, stream, pond or river. Due to the mountainous terrain of Vermont, most of our roads fall within this parameter. Step 2 will be to Identify 5 high priority projects to improve. Jim provided a chart of the various grants available to pay for this work- most have a % required match contribution by the Town, though this may not necessarily be in the form of cash, it may be in the form of use of Town trucks and road staff time. Measuring these improvements allows VT to prove to EPA that it is taking action.

Roads must be crowned and will be checked for working culverts and drainage ditches, and any road segment over 8% grade pitch will be require a stone lined ditch. Less steep roads will fulfill requirements with just a vegetated swale ditch.

There are grant opportunities for design and construction of sand sheds, which would be advantageous for Landgrove as we have a perennial quest to find a place to build a storage shed to cover our road sand and truck and show that we are averting a water quality problem.

Road commissioner Steve Hall then discussed with the Selectboard the road work and billing for grant areas and non-grant areas in town for our existing Better Back Roads grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm