

Town of Westmore
Selectboard Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2014

In attendance: Bill Perkins, Chair, David Stevens, Burton Hinton Selectmen, Greg Gallagher, Town Clerk, Steve Davenport, Road Foreman, Gerald Saindon, Lister, Richard Lewis, Appraiser, Bruce Wheeler, Tim and Kathleen Aldrich, Vince and Louisa Dotoli, and Cindy Poplawski.

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:00.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to add Dog Issues and Overlook LN to the Agenda. Passed.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to approve the April 7th and April 15th VTrans Minutes. Passed.

Road Foreman-Steve said he met with Alan May, Better Back Roads (BBR), about doing work on Coles Road. He hopes to get a \$10,000 grant with a 10% match from the Town.

David moved and Burton seconded to authorize Steve to apply for a BBR Grant for Coles RD. Passed.

Steve explained the bids he has for a compressor.

David moved and Burton seconded to purchase a compressor from Clarks for \$2699. Passed.

Legal Trails- David said that people don't know where they are. He said he had spent some time with Michele reviewing her records. He needs to do more research on them. The issue was tabled for now.

Burton moved and David seconded to set a Hearing date for Overlook LN on Saturday, June 14th at 9AM. Passed.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to go into Executive Session at 7:02 for contract negotiations with Richard Lewis. Passed.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:16.

Bill moved and David seconded to accept a contract extension thru the 2015 Grand List from Lewis Appraisals. Passed.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to sign an amended contract with Richard Lewis Appraisals. Passed.

There were no Health issues.

Bruce asked if there would be any new signs for the Beach. David said "No Parking" signs would need to be looked at. Louisa suggested posting the new rules. Bruce suggested checking with the Sheriff. Burton will call.

Burton moved and David seconded to accept Pace & Hawley's proposal for the 2014 Audit for \$5,900. Passed.

Greg explained the Myers over billing on fuel surcharge. A Myers representative was in the office Monday to review the bills and propose a new contract.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to sign the new contract with Myers for \$240 per haul plus a \$10 fuel charge pending Greg's satisfaction with the settlement. Passed.

Bill Perkins (Chair)

David Stevens

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Greg reported that the annual VLCT Workers Compensation Audit went well. He reminded the Board that it is important to have employee and contractor forms and paper work before paying anyone or the Audit would not go so well and Westmore could face possible extra payments.

Burton moved and David seconded to have Steve get the beach bathrooms ready and get two port-o-lets. Bruce said the Forest and Parks guy he dealt with said there might be grants for this.

Bill moved and Burton seconded to approve Select Orders and Payroll #8. Passed.

Greg explained a dog complaint from Andrew Murray about his neighbor's dog running loose on his property. It is the tenant of Jeff Willey who said last year that the tenant would be gone. He's not. Mr. Murray had numerous complaints about this same dog last year. Greg showed the Board a new VLCT "Big Book of Woof" with dog control issues and informed the board of a Dog Control Workshop May 29th in Montpelier.

Burton moved and Bill seconded to appoint Kathleen Aldrich and Chelsea Cummings as assistant Animal Control Officers. Passed.

A letter from Diane Lehder containing a disturbing unsigned note to her was read. It will be attached to these Minutes.

Bill moved and David seconded to adjourn at 8:34. Passed.

Signed by,

Greg Gallagher
Westmore Town Clerk

Bill Perkins (Chair)

David Stevens

Burton Hinton

Diane Z. Lehder

61 Foster's Grove South, Orleans, VT 05860 – 802-525-1120 – dianelehder@gmail.com

3 April 2014

To Town of Westmore Selectboard
Bill Perkins
Burton Hinton
David Stevens
54 Hinton Hill Road
Willoughby Lake
Orleans, VT 05860

Vermont State Police
35 Crawford Road
Newport, VT 05855



My family owns property on Willoughby Lake and on occasion over the last several years we have taken public positions on a variety of zoning requests and applications for Act 250 permits. We have also been actively seeking restoration of properties on the lake damaged in recent years by violations or suspected violations of Act 250 permits.

These matters are clearly emotional for many people. Our concern has always been to see that regulations are followed and when broken, damage is suitably repaired. Any positions we have taken have been carefully thought out and presented objectively. Our overriding concern has always been maintaining the integrity and beauty of the lake, one of VT's greatest natural resources.

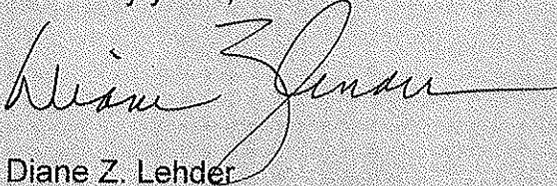
Unfortunately, some individuals who do not agree with our concerns have taken our actions personally, as an attack on them or on their neighbors. I am enclosing a copy of mail I received on March 29. It was written on a 3 x 5" piece of paper torn from a small spiral notebook. The unsigned, handwritten note says, "You don't even deserve proper letterhead – How mean can you act. I do not appreciate this letter you sent. You are scum + petty. Leave these people alone. (signed) Neighbor"

The envelope is postmarked 26 March 2014, White River Junction, VT, 5 days after a public hearing on Act 250 Application #7R0226-11. The message is clearly from someone on a short list put together by the state, who was copied on comments we submitted regarding this application, as required by the Act 250 process. There is no question this individual holds a differing opinion. It would not be difficult to determine who sent it.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time attempts have been made to intimidate residents and property owners of Westmore who have differing opinions and are not reluctant to speak up.

While the content of this particular note is not threatening, I respectfully request your records note my receipt of this correspondence, should there be any need to refer to it in the future.

Sincerely yours,



Diane Z. Lehder

Winter Contact Information:
843-243-9005
306 Palm Warbler
Kiawah Island, SC 29455

Copy to:

Justin G. Johnson
Deputy Secretary
Agency of Natural Resources
Secretary's Office
1 National Life Drive – Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620

Kirsten Sultan
Act 250 Coordinator
District 7 Environmental Commission
1229 Portland Street – Suite 201
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

