

**TOWN OF BURKE  
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June 4, 2018 – 5 p.m.  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Burke Town Clerk's Office**

**PRESENT:** Joe Allard, Christine Emmons, Darryel Corrow, Linda Lotti, Eric Law, Several Residents and interested parties from Walker Road (List attached). Brent Schafer

Joe opened the meeting at 5 p.m. with the reading of the May meeting minutes. Chris made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Darryel seconded.

**VISTORS:** Walker Road residents and interested parties in the Walker Development, off the Kirby Road, came before the Board to discuss future plans and upgrades for the Walker Road. The residents continue to want the Town to take over their private road as a Town Highway. One of the barriers in previous discussions has been the water lines in the roadway, which are scheduled to be replaced this summer. After a lengthy discussion the group wanted reassurance that the Town will continue to maintain the road as they have in the past, which is to grade the road twice a year and continue to plow and sand it in the winter time until the new water system is in place. Joe made a motion to continue with the current maintenance including specifying that if there is a washout that the Town would make minimal repairs it to make the road safe- until such time that the water project upgrade on Walker Road is complete. It was also agreed that the Town and the Walker Road residents would meet again on-site to discuss future plans and requirements for the upgrade and potential take-over by the Town. The motion was seconded by Darryel. This is basically the same agreement that was reached in a Special meeting with a previous Selectboard on July 27, 2010. These minutes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Christine explained to the audience that the Town of Burke adopted Town Highway Codes and Standards that specify the requirements (gravel depth, culvert sizes, ditches, etc.) for the Town to take over a private road and to upgrade it to a class three road. She gave Julie Guerette a copy of the Standards to share with the group. Some of the residents also questioned the Board about the new water system. Some told the Board that they have not been consulted as to where the lines were going or who's properties will be affected, but other residents stated that there had been a landowner meeting. The Board advised that this issue was between the Water District and the residents of the road- as it is not a Town Highway the Town would not have reviewed that portion of the project. The office does have copies of the plans but they do not have the specific Walker Road section. Garrett Paquette said that he would go see Jeff Hale of the Water District to get a copy of the plans.

**Linda Lotti, One Burke Infrastructure Committee and Eric Law, USDA** –came before the Board to bring them up to date on what is happening with the Wastewater project for the villages. Eric Law of the USDA told the Board that he is on his way to Washington DC tomorrow (Tuesday) to plead for the \$30,000 grant needed for the feasibility study for a wastewater system for the Town of Burke. He was hopeful to secure the funding and felt that there was a good chance for this project and if funding isn't awarded now that they would try again in October when the new Federal FY starts. He told the Board that it is very rare for the added assistance that Burke would be receiving from the state with the new pilot program. Eric also wanted reassurance that the Board would sign the grant if he brought it back. They indicated they would.

**ROAD FOREMAN REPORT** – Dave told the Board that they have graded every road in Town so far and they are about to start the second grading. Dale's truck has been having a lot of emission errors. Dave suggested that in the future when buying a truck that they also purchase an extended warranty for seven years and when that time is up he would like to see the truck replaced. They road crew has been replacing culverts and several more need replacing but they have used up all of the culvert budget.

Dave told the Board that the Burke Hollow Road needs a lot of attention and soon. They do have a grant to repave the road. The Town will be responsible for the repair of the dips and bad places. A site visit was set for Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. They will meet at Joes house because some of the issues are in that area. They will discuss how they will proceed.

Bugbee Crossing is about half done with ditching and graveling. Dave told the Board the he attended a Road Foreman meeting and they discussed right of way and tree cuttings. He learned that the Road Foreman has no authority to make decisions on cutting trees in the right of way. Those decisions need to come from the Tree Warden.

Dave has talked to George Wagner and he will start screening and crushing the material from the Dam in about three weeks. Dave would like the Selectboard to meet over at the pit to make a decision about how much sand and how much gravel is needed.

The road crew went to Municipal Equipment show last month and Dave talked to a new Salt vendor, American Rock Salt. They said that they could match or beat the State pricing. They assured Dave that they would be able to produce product without delay. They also carry a treated salt which would help reduce corrosion on the trucks.

Dave has talked to the Road Foreman for East Haven and he needs help with some trucking and he asked the Board how they felt about swapping services with adjoining Towns as needed. Chris told him that he should be careful on grant projects and make sure that the Town of Burke will get reimbursement for in-kind services. The Board indicated that they did not have a problem with it as long as it wasn't a constant issue.

Dave told the Board that he had gotten several calls and people were stopping him to ask what the problem is with the mowing at the Darling Park. Darryel told the Board that the contractor is mowing the Park in sections. He will mow one half one day and the other half another day. It was noted that he is leaving the grass too high and it should be cut shorter. Darryel will speak to Garrett Paquette who was awarded the bid.

Dave met with Jim Carrien from the Vermont Cities and Towns (VLCT), who is the Towns insurance carrier. They inspected the playground area and noted several issues that need attention. The most immediate need is to get playground mulch around the equipment. We need to use engineered wood mulch rather than wood chips. Dave will get some quotes and order enough mulch for the playground area so that there is depth of at least 9 inches around all equipment. There were a few other issues that Dave said he can take care of right away such as taping or replacing worn out grips, etc. and he will also take down the slide as it has a crack at the end of it. It was also suggested that the bleacher seats by the ball field have rails put on them or take them down. The Board said take them down. Dave and the Road Crew will take care of the repairs. He said that it will be more than a day's worth of work for them.

**CONSTABLE REPORT** – No Report

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Joe told Brent that he thinks that the trailer on Route 5 that is in violation is hauling in more trash. Brent told the Board that he has been in contact with the owner and he wants to fill in the old cellar hole. Dave told the Board that they could help him out by dumping the ditching scraps. Brent will call him and let him know.

Brent said that the DRB wants to be sure that the Old River Garden is not in the flood plain before they issue the permits to the new owners.

Joe also told Brent that the guys are back at the old Schwag building and they are doing repairs on vehicles which they were asked not to do. Brent will check in on that. Joe also told him that the Thomas Williamson property on Route 5 was in violation from unregistered vehicles.

Brent told the Board that he went to The Publick House in East Burke because they have been doing some building without obtaining the proper permits. He said that the owner will be in to get a permit to fill out and go through the proper process.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** The Board briefly discussed reviewing all classifications of Town Highways. There are several Town roads that are now basically driveways for single family homes, specifically McDowell Road, Rice Road and Belden Hill. Christine thought that since they were discussing taking over the Walker Road it may be a good time to start the process.

The Board:   Signed Overweight Permits  
                  Signed Road Access Permits  
                  Signed the Police Contract

Signed Overweight Permit  
Signed Trust Papers

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The Board reviewed the correspondence. No action taken.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:** The Board reviewed the payables and signed the warrant as submitted.

With no other business to come before the Board, Joe made a motion to adjourn. Darryel seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla Aldrich, cvc, cvt, cmc  
Town Clerk and Treasurer