

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
Underhill Town Hall
Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

Selectboard: Cliff Peterson, David Rogers and Rick Heh

Town Staff: RaMona Sheppard - Finance Director/HR Manager, Sherri Morin - Town Clerk/Treasurer and Brian Bigelow - Town Administrator

Public: Ruth Miller (MMCTV), John Barbour, Jennifer Desautels, Peter Bennett, Jennifer Silpe, Seth Friedman, Peter Duval, Brian Smith, Sandy Murphy, Carla Hochschild, Jean Archibald, Irene Linde, Cynthia Seybolt

6:00 p.m. Call to order, adjustments to agenda. Meeting called to order by Chair. Adjustment to agenda: add an Executive Session after Member Items to discuss personnel issue. Decision made to add Town Contracts to a later agenda.

6:01 p.m. Public Comment Period. None

6:02 p.m. Col. Robert Gingras, Camp Ethan Allen Training Site, VT Army National Guard

By consensus, in the absence of Col. Gingras, the Board moved ahead with later agenda items with less anticipated public interest.

- **Warrants:** The Selectboard reviewed and approved current warrants.
- **Public Comment period:** Reopened by Selectboard. Peter Duval requested that the Selectboard become involved in the Act 250 appeal of the Jericho Market. The consensus of Selectboard is to continue to remain neutral.
- **Minutes:** David Rogers moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2016 Regular Selectboard meeting. Rick Heh seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

6:08 p.m. Old Business:

- **Hill (VT485) – Rawson (CH440T)** proposed Boundary Line Adjustment and impact on Town Contract. Chair to follow up with counsel to draft a conditional approval for the specific proposal and for an improved contract template.
- **State of Vermont Highway Certificate:** Reviewed by staff. The Selectboard signed the certificate with the inclusion of the 238'/0.045mi of legal trail on the west end of Repa Road.
- **PZA Position Vacancy Status Update:** Draft Job Descriptions for Planning Coordinator and Zoning Administrator reviewed. Scenarios for a range of budget impacts reviewed based on different number of hours and rate of pay. Input sought from Planning Commission and Development Review Board. Chairs to communicate directly with Human Resource Manager.

6:35 p.m. Camp Ethan Allen Training Site, VT Army National Guard. Staff to contact Range officials to reschedule. Resident John Barbour provided Selectboard with a handout of concerns related to increased man days, rounds expended, environmental impacts and noise. Staff to forward handout to Range officials and attach to minutes. Peter Duval also addressed noise. Chair offered to contact ANR/DEC regarding water testing.

6:50 p.m. Albertini (PV109) Final Access Approval. Jennifer Desautels, P.E. with Trudell Consulting Engineers discussed modifications made since last Selectboard review. Submittal included spreadsheet which addressed points brought up by independent engineering review. Peter Duval presented two handouts related to access management and intersection spacing.

Jean Archibald, Sandy Murphy, Brian Smith, Irene Linde, Carla Hochschild, Cynthia Seybolt, Peter Bennett and Peter Duval commented on concerns. Staff read Marcy Gibson's comments received via email. Sight distances, signage, speed, safety, intersection spacing, bicyclists, school buses, alternate access were among the concerns raised.

Chair proposed to continue the application to allow for more review. Rick Heh and David Rogers ready to vote.

Rick Heh moved to deny the Applicant's application for Final Access Approval. David Rogers seconded. Rick Heh voted in the affirmative to deny. David Rogers voted in the negative. The motion failed for the lack of a majority on a 1-1-0 vote with Cliff Peterson abstaining.

The application will be carried over to the February 23rd Selectboard meeting.

8:25 p.m. Member Items, Correspondence, Announcements, Schedule: Notice made of the next meeting being held on February 23, 2016.

Chair signed letter of appreciation for Jim Gilmartin for his tenure on the Development Review Board.

8:25 p.m. Executive Session

Clifford Peterson moved to enter Executive Session under 1 VSA §313 (a)(1)(B), with Human Resource Manager to discuss a personnel matter. David Rogers seconded and the motion passed by a 3-0 vote.

On a motion by David Rogers, seconded by Rick Heh the Board came out of Executive Session on a 3-0 vote at 8:15 p.m. No action taken as a result of Executive Session.

^{8:36}
8:16 p.m. Adjournment: On a motion made by David Rogers and seconded by Rick Heh the Selectboard voted 3-0 to adjourn.

Submitted by Brian Bigelow, Town Administrator

Read and Approved as submitted/amended


Clifford Peterson, Chair


Date

1. Increased level of activity

Man days of training at Range have almost doubled from 2010 through 2015 - from 70,081 in 2010 to 139,072 in 2015.

Why is this? Was it anticipated? How many of these are related to training Vermont Guard and how many to out of state forces (such as the recent presence of some 800 Marines)? What should we expect in the future?

2. Much higher usage of newer firing ranges than projected

One of the newer ranges is the Modified Record Firing Range, also designated 7-1, I believe. In the most recent Environmental Assessment, it was projected that 92,000 rounds would be fired at this range; in fact, the total rounds fired were more than 230,000.

Another newer range is the Multipurpose Machine Gun Range. The rationale for this range was "to support transition qualifications for 360 soldiers to the M249 machine gun." Projected rounds to be fired in 2015 were 41,400; in fact, total rounds fired in 2015 were more than 500,000. On at least a single day, more rounds were fired than were projected for the entire year.

Why were the projections for these two ranges so much lower than the actual usage? What should we expect in the future?

3. Environmental Concerns

A considerable amount of lead has been generated over the years and continues to be generated at the Range and no one at either the federal EPA or the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation appears to have any jurisdictional oversight. EPA records indicate that more than 80,000 pounds of lead may be currently stored at the Range. The amount of lead released in 2014 was more than twice what was released in 2013. What efforts are taken to determine if contaminants are leached into soil or water?

An outside consultant, Zapata, examined individual ranges and recommended in 2013 a number of improved management practices to "mitigate or minimize the transport of munitions constituents of concern (MCOC) containing soils, particulate MCOC and dissolved MCOC offrange, and to provide range personnel with guidance documentation to assist with maintaining the long-term sustainability of the operational ranges." Have these best practices been implemented?

4. Noise

A noise study was conducted by a contractor but was only directed at small-arms noise at the newer ranges. Has there ever been a Range-wide noise study looking at larger weapons as well?