

**Town of Bristol, VT  
Selectboard  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday, July 30, 2024**

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**Members Present:** Ian Albinson, Joel Bouvier (Chair), Peeker Heffernan, Michelle Perlee (Vice Chair).

**Members Absent:** Jessica Teets.

**Staff Present:** Valerie Capels (Town Administrator), Eric Cota (Public Works Foreman), AZ Larsen (Zoning & Planning Administrator).

**Others Present:** Brett Bassett, driver.

**I. Call to Order.** Joel Bouvier called the meeting to order at 3:10pm at the Public Works facility, 80 Pine Street.

**II. Regular Business**

**1. Capital projects tour. Starting at the Town Garage at 80 Pine Street, the Selectboard will visit sites in Bristol that are the subject of current and future capital project discussions.**

Members of the Selectboard, Valerie Capels, AZ Larsen, and Eric Cota met at the Public Works facility. Brett Bassett drove a Bet-Cha bus.

The following locations were visited and matters discussed:

- Pine Street drainage structures and paving schedule were reviewed. Pike might begin grinding off the pavement the first week of August. The drainage structures are expected to be installed mid-August. VTUMS will mark the valves and other water appurtenances that need to be adjusted by Munson before paving.
- Lincoln Road. The Briggs Hill Road slide was viewed from below. Visited the Eagle Park universal fishing platform. The rail replacement and the accessible parks design initiative currently underway were briefly discussed. Some members walked down to one of the riverbank repair locations.
- Atkins Road in Lincoln was followed to Briggs Hill Road. The area where a temporary detour was deployed after the 1998 storm that took out a section of Lincoln Road was observed. There was discussion whether the time is right to explore developing a permanent alternative connection in this area between Lincoln Road and Briggs Hill Road as an alternative to the \$2 million Briggs Hill Road slide repair. Valerie will reach out to the property owners.
- The Briggs Hill Road slide was viewed. It has continued to worsen and undermine sections of the uphill lane. Eric has arranged to rent solar traffic signals to close a section of this uphill lane. They will be installed the first week of August.

- Eric's planned replacement of the Upper Meehan Road culvert was reviewed. There was brief discussion of the proposed alignment. This will be the subject of a VTrans structures grant application.
- The Lewis Creek storm damage was reviewed along Ireland Road. Some of the 2020 streambank repair at 455 Ireland Road was taken out by this month's storm. Damage along the Starksboro sections was vastly more extensive. The road remained blocked.
- The snow plow damage in the green strip at 96 Mountain Street was reviewed. There was consensus among Selectboard members that the Town should not be responsible for repairing it or paying for the repair.
- The new guardrail installed on the Lower Hardscrabble Road curve was observed and appears to have been effective.
- Varney Cemetery on Hardscrabble Road was visited. Rather than mark trees to be removed, Town Tree Warden John Swepston marked the trees to save, which were far fewer in number. Installation of the new fence was briefly discussed. Selectboard members felt it could still be installed adjacent to a tree marked to be saved.
- The nearby Heffernan gravel pit was visited where the large stone for the Lincoln Road riverbank repair project has been reserved.
- On the way back to the DPW, the deteriorated condition of a section of the West Pleasant Street sidewalk was observed. Valerie assured Joel that replacement of this section has been identified as a priority and she has numerous photos for when it comes time to put it out to bid.

From there, the bus returned to 80 Pine Street.

### **III. Other Business.**

There was no other business.

### **IV. Adjourn.**

At 5:45pm Michelle Perlee moved to adjourn the meeting. Joel Bouvier seconded. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator