

Agenda Summary
February 13, 2017

Agenda Item No. 3b
No Appeal or Suit Pending on 2013 Grand List

Summary: See attached Certificate – No Appeal or Suit Pending

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the attached Certificate

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Agenda Item No. 3c
Highway Mileage Certificate

Summary: Attached is copy of the annual "Certificate of Highway Mileage" required by Vermont Agency of Transportation to be completed by 2/20/2017. Changes this year include minor corrections to the length of Upper Hollow Hill Rd. (TH-80 and 81), Logging Hill Rd (TH-79) and Whitney Lane (TH-80).

There are a few other miscellaneous changes that have been identified for possible future consideration and action in 2017 for revisions to the 2018 submission.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: The Certificate of Highway Mileage is required for receipt of appx. \$175K of Annual Highway Block Grant. The adjustments made will have a negligible impact on the Grant value.

Recommendation: Move to approve and endorse the attached 2017 Certificate of Highway Mileage.

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Agenda Item No. 3d-1
Oktoberfest Special Event Permit Application

Summary: The Stowe Rotary Club has submitted a Special Event Application for their annual Oktoberfest, to be held September 29-October 1, 2017. The event will be held on Events Field A. They are requesting to display Bavarian Flags on Main Street and possibly a portion of Mountain Road, as they have done in previous years. They do not anticipate requiring on-site EMS coverage. The applicants do NOT intend to have a parade this year, making traffic concerns less complex. There will be Stowe Police presence to direct traffic and provide security at the event, and Chief Hull has signed the agreement for police coverage.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the Oktoberfest Special Event Permit Application for September 29 – October 1, 2017.

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Agenda Item No. 3d-2
Nordic Cup Special Event Permit Application

Summary: The Nordic Soccer Club has submitted a Special Event Application for their annual Nordic Cup, to be held June 17-18, 2017. The event will be held on the Polo Field. This is a soccer tournament with 54 teams. They will have no alcohol and do not anticipate needing EMS or Police Services. Chief Hull is working with the organizer to develop a parking & traffic plan.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the Nordic Cup Special Event Permit Application for June 17-18, 2017.

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Agenda Item No. 4
Liquor Applications

Application for Special Event Permit:

Vermont Hard Cider Company (d.b.a Green Mountain Beverage) at 7416 Mountain Road on
4/8/17

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the Special Event Liquor Permits listed above.

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Agenda Item No. 5
Rec & Quiet Path Ordinance Amendments

Summary: The Town recently built a bridge on the Quiet Path. The Parks Department desired a regulation not to allow climbing and jumping off the bridge, similar to those that exist in the Rec Path Ordinance. Rather than create another ordinance, staff drafted one ordinance for your consideration that covers both the Recreation Path & Quiet Path. Where there have historically been different rules, they are stated differently in the draft Ordinance (e.g. dogs on the Recreation Path have to be on a leash and on the Quiet Path they to be under the owners immediate control).

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to warn a public hearing for your 2/27/17 meeting.

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Agenda Item No. 6
EMS / Fire Consultant Report Follow-up

Summary: The EMS / Fire study consultant made the following major recommendations:

1. 4.20 “The Stowe EMS and the SFD should become a single agency, but maintain two groups. This would allow volunteers to participate in either and not be precluded from participating in both agencies. Although this merger would create a fire/ EMS department, it would maintain two groups and not force cross-training of personnel.”
8.20 “The Town should establish a working group composed of stakeholders to provide a report relative to the steps, timeline and barriers to a potential merger of the Stowe EMS and the SFD into the Stowe Fire Rescue.”
2. 8.6 “Stowe EMS and the SFD should work together to develop an expanded recruitment and retention strategy that harnesses the new ideas and concepts contained within the report.”
3. 6.2 “As the chief has publically discussed his plans to retire in the next two to three years, the town should ask that the chief provide a one year notice to allow for the delivery of a comprehensive recruitment process. In addition, the town should provide for an orderly transition by recruiting a full-time fire chief to start work in Stowe 6 months prior to the retirement of Chief Sgantas.” Enclosed is a list of administrative responsibilities for the Fire Department.
4. The consultant also makes a number of recommendations regarding equipment.

Chief Sgantas and fire officers will be here to discuss the need for a paid position to assist with the daily operational and administrative functions within the Stowe Fire Department (see enclosed list of administrative duties). This will be an adjustment for the Stowe Fire Department which has historically been an all-volunteer agency. Barring anything unforeseen, it should be a priority in the FY’19 budget development process to do so and then allow the department to adjust before pursuing a merger with Stowe EMS. However, before the need for additional paid personnel develops in fire or rescue, the concept of merging the departments should be further explored.

The departments should work internally on evaluating the equipment recommendations and an inter-agency working group should be created to evaluate ideas to recruit / retain volunteers.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to instruct the Town Manager to work with an inter-agency task force on methods to recruit / retain volunteers and to instruct the Town Manager to work with the Fire Department to develop a recommendation to bring on a chief or other paid position as part of the FY’19 budget process.

Agenda Summary
February 9, 2017

Agenda Item No. 7
Maple Street Request for an Electronic Speed Sign

Summary: Enclosed is a letter from Leah Hodari requesting the Selectboard approve the installation of an electronic speed sign heading out of the village on Maple Street similar to the one that is at the head of Pucker Street as you head into the Upper Village. Enclosed is a map showing the location of the proposed speed sign.

Town Plan Impact: Transportation Task #8: *Continue to identify and prioritize roadways for study and improvement*

Fiscal Impact: The cost of a digital speed reader is approximately \$4,500. The FY'17 highway sign budget is \$6,000. As of end of December we have spent \$2,580 of it, leaving a balance of \$4,420.

Recommendation: Discuss and advise.

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Agenda Item No. 8
Traffic & Motor Vehicle Ordinance Amendment (Main Street Speed Limit)

Summary: Leah Hodari is requesting the Selectboard lower the speed limit on Main Street to 15 mph. The current speed limit is 25 mph. State law permits municipalities to lower the speed limit in designated downtowns to as low as 15 mph. One thing to take into consideration is if you want the placement of speed limit signs on Main Street for aesthetic reasons. Currently there are none.

Town Plan Impact: Transportation Policy #11: *Traffic calming improvements should be incorporated, as appropriate, along major roads in existing village centers, including along Route 100, Route 108 and Moscow Road.*

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: If the Selectboard desires to lower the speed limit on Main Street, move to warn a public hearing for your 2/27/17 meeting.

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Agenda Item No. 9a
Other Business - Manager's Report

Summary: Unless otherwise instructed, staff will warn the start of the Selectboard's 2/27/17 meeting for 5pm to allow ample time for regular business (including the discussion of the Luce Hill / Rt. 108 Intersection) before the Town Meeting Informational Meeting starts at 6pm.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: No action is necessary. This time is set aside to ask questions of a general nature and for the public to be heard on any issue not on the regular agenda that doesn't require Selectboard action and is of a non-personnel nature.

Agenda Summary
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Agenda Item No. 10a

Executive Session – Personnel (Rec. & Cemetery Commission Appointments)

Summary: Peter Smith passed away creating a vacancy on the Cemetery Commission. His term expires on 4/30/2019. Enclosed is a letter from Nancy LaVanway expressing her interest in the position. Donna Adams, Chair of the Cemetery Commission, will be here to provide her input on the candidate to the Selectboard.

Tom Ashworth has resigned from the Recreation Commission. His term expires on 4/30/19. Norm Williams has indicated that he does not wish to be reappointed when his term ends 4/30/2017. Enclosed are emails from two people interested in serving on the Recreation Commission (Michael Loughran and Leah Hodari). Brett Loomis, Chair of the Recreation Commission, will be here to provide his input on the candidates to the Selectboard.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Discuss and advise.

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Agenda Item No. 10b
Executive Session – Personnel (Annual Appointments)

Summary: Attached is a list of appointments expiring at the end of April. In the past we have advertised for all positions whether the incumbent was interested in continuing to serve or not. However, in the vast majority of instances the Selectboard reappoints the incumbent leaving the other applicants wondering why we wasted their time “if there really wasn’t an opening.” Therefore this time has been set aside to see if there is anyone on the list the Selectboard is inclined not to reappoint.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Unless otherwise instructed, staff will call the incumbents that the Selectboard has indicated they are open to reappointing to see if they desire to be reappointed. Staff will only advertise for those positions where they Selectboard has indicated that they are not inclined to reappoint the incumbent or the incumbent has indicated they do not desire to continue serving.