

APPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042

SELECT BOARD MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Crandall at 7:04 PM. Other members present: Andrew Smith and Darryl Perkins. Also present: William Hetu, Patricia Crocker, Regina Hazel, Wade and Crystal Franklin, Nelson Elder, Mike Thomas and Elizabeth Page.

Minutes of February 13, 2023 were reviewed. Andy moved to approve the minutes with 2 corrections, 3rd paragraph spelling correction and 4th paragraph should read: Peter would like to meet with the Mapping Division at Vtrans, Darryl seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Comment and Possible Additions to the Agenda. None

Richard Balzano asked to be on the Agenda at the previous meeting, he did not show up for tonight's meeting.

Crystal Franklin-ANR Report-Meader Trail-Franklin Property. Crystal presented the report from Julie Follensbee, District Wetlands Ecologist- Agency of Natural Resources. This area is considered a Class II Wetland. Establishing a trail or road in this area shown on the maps presented would require a wetland permit and could be a significant undertaking and ultimately not permissible. If there is to be any consideration of establishing a road or trail through these areas you will need a wetland delineation to determine the boundary of the wetlands in relation to the project. The report is available at the Town Clerk's Office. Andy stated that the legal trail is still there even though it is crossing these wetlands. The Town has no intention of doing anything with that end of Meader Trail and if we did, as with any highway project we would consult with ANR. The Town has no obligation to keep a legal trail travelable. The public has a right to travel the trail, but nothing can be done to maintain the trail without the landowner's permission. Crystal stated there are groups in town that are adamant about opening the trail on her property, this will not happen and a wetland delineation permit is required. The Franklins are willing to discuss with the group an alternate route through their property.

Treasurer's Report: The Board reviewed bills and signed orders.

Road Report: Winter is back. We have had a few breakdowns and issues with getting parts. Nelson has been working on the Class 2 roads resurfacing grant.

FOR ACTION: The Board signed the Certificate of Highway Mileage even though there may be an error in the Class 4 mileage, that will be noted when sent to the State.

The Board discussed the Class 4 Road and Trail Policy and are still reviewing it.

Carl Bayer, in an email to the Clerk asked the Board if they are continuing to maintain Class 4 roads as legal right of way for the Town. Andy stated that has nothing to do with this policy.

The Board signed the Grand List Certificate of No Appeal or Suit.

Andy read out loud the S. Ryegate Library Letter and Request. The library will not be asking for a special budget request at Town meeting. They have raised the money needed through a Go Fund Me event. They are asking for \$1000.00 from the Nicole A. Hayne Fund to be used for furniture, a rug for the children's corner, crafts and children's books. Andy made the motion to approve the Library's request for \$1000.00 to be taken out of the Nicole A. Hayne's fund, Steve seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Comment: None

There being no further business. Andy moved to adjourn at 8:05 PM, Darryl seconded the motion and it carried.

Elizabeth Page, Clerk for the Board

