

**TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042**

**Select Board Minutes
August 8, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Paul Keenan. Members present: Paul, Andrew Smith and Claudette Sortino. Also present: William Hetu, Richard Fraser, William Elder, Nelson Elder, Mary Dole, Richard Hodgson, Fremont Nelson, Rick Colby, Walter Bragg, Marsha Nelson.

Minutes of the July 25th meeting were read and approved after making the following corrections: *no letter has been sent twelve months after the fire* cover it with *clean* fill The Town has rules and *everyone has* to follow them. On the second page Cesari said he want to *drive* up and down the road. Paul moved to adopt the minutes with the changes. Andy seconded the motion and it carried. Under Public Comment the Clerk requested some additions to the agenda: 1) The see saw at Ticklenaked Beach, 2) The road into Boltonville, 3) Praise for Cemetery upkeep and 4) Town Attorney.

Paul Keenan read a poem written to commemorate the moving of a school in East Ryegate in 1908.

Fremont Nelson introduced the Zoning Discussion. The By-Laws have come to a point where the Board is talking about junkyard ordinances and farm animals. Claudette mentioned her endeavors in getting a Junkyard Ordinance passed. Mary Dole mentioned Alison Low by name from NVDA. She has made it clear that if we don't have an ordinance in the books somewhere, there is only one person in the State who will come to help with the situation and he won't come if an ordinance is not in the books. Andy will not call it a Junkyard Ordinance but would prefer a Junk Control Ordinance. State Law never allows us to go on the property and take the junk. Paul wonders what other towns have such ordinances. Several do. Andy has been against them in the past but has three reasons why he feels better about them. 1) Enforcement has been a problem in the past but the Caledonia County Sheriff will work with the town. 2) He doesn't like telling people how to keep their lawn. 3) He has learned that Middlebury's ordinance requires a written letter from an adjoining land owner complaining about the situation. The Town then goes out to verify the problem. Paul mentioned the definition of a junkyard: Is it unregistered cars on a lawn or a farmer with spare parts? Wally said there's a huge difference between a 200 acre farm with junk parts around or a quarter acre piled high. Paul asked if the Zoning Board would research various town ordinances. Fremont said the ZB feels they have enough positive feedback from the Select Board to proceed. Fremont wondered about horse lots in villages and fences around chickens. Paul said chicken laws in

Lyndonville are strict. Andy's initial response when dealing with various horse situations is the state requirements are pretty loose. He would like more spelled out. Fremont thanked the Board and said this is what the ZB needs to know.

Andy will check into various suggestions for Town Attorney as David Willis does not want to continue. The Clerk will also check with VLCT on printing signs that say properties are in violation of Ryegate Zoning.

The Zoning Administrator's compensation was then discussed. It was decided to keep the status quo. He will submit his spread sheets for hours and mileage and the Treasurer will keep track of Zoning Application payments as they come in and pay him accordingly for them. The two parts will be kept separate.

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl's folder of bills was available. The Board viewed bills and signed orders.

Road Report: Nelson mentioned grant bids and who to send the bid specs to. Add Darryl Matthews and Farquharson Brothers to the list. Fairfield suggested adding a leaf spring to the 2015 truck. Andy said to go ahead and do that. Nelson has received calls from two companies on winter sand. A discussion followed on accuracy of loads. The road crew has done some research and Andy took the information. The Kenworth Bill was discussed. It's for the extended warranty. It should be paid out of the machinery fund but not before the next meeting. Complaints have been coming in about the condition of the road, which is in the Town of Newbury, leading from Ryegate Corner to Boltonville. Newbury does not seem interested in repairing it until they have grant money for the bridge. Nelson will look into it again. Paul mentioned an All Terrain Vehicle Ordinance. A State man is willing to come and explain it.

The see saw at Ticklenaked is a concern to some. Paul will look at it.

Claudette moved adjournment at 8:40 PM. Andy seconded the motion and it carried.

Marsha Nelson,Clerk