

Minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting of Monday, December 14, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Members present: Sarah Nunan, Chair; Suzanne Lupien; Sharon Racusin; Roger Blake; Pete Webster, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Assistant to the Town Manager. Absent: Ed Childs.

There were 4 people in the audience.

Also participating: Jim Gold, Andy Hodgdon, Rosamond Orford, Dan Weintraub.

Nunan opened the meeting at 6:31 pm.

1. Public Forum on Route 132 and Union Village Intersection. Racusin spoke about a November 17th email from Hodgdon that talked about four accidents at the intersection in a six week period. There was discussion about one of the accidents which involved a tractor and trailer. Orford said the island is over the top with way too many signs. Gold also talked about the signs saying he would like 2/3 of them removed. Gold also spoke about the "superfluous" island and the lack of crash data. Gold would like the Selectboard to take action now. Lupien said the Board should bear the political cost and she would support the Selectboard taking action. Nunan and Racusin both discussed that they would have liked more information on this project before it happened. Nunan said there has been incredible negative feedback on this intersection. Nunan said she believed the Board had taken control of this project at their October 14th meeting and was displeased that the State went forward with changes without Selectboard approval. Webster has spoken with residents that felt the intersection was problematic. He also said the sign package was in accordance with federal regulations and that the street light is temporary. Webster agreed with the changes and feels it has improved safety at the intersection. Webster would like the changes to stay at least until spring. Gold said there is a petition signed by over 100 concerned citizens regarding the proliferation of signs and wanting them removed. Blake spoke about a November 18th email from Dan Newhall regarding the Town's liability if the signs and/or the island are removed. Lupien is concerned about the Town's liability regarding accidents at the intersection. Hodgdon believes the Town should give the intersection a chance and that traffic warrants the changes that were made.

After further discussion, the Selectboard by consensus deferred a decision to December 21st at 6:30 pm. The Board would like the Town Manager to supply crash data; Chief Robinson's and Chuck Wise's written statements, or their presence; and a cost breakdown for signs, guardrail and island if removed for this meeting.

Blake **moved** (2nd Racusin) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on January 13, 2010.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Sarah Nunan
Selectboard Chair

Special Selectboard Meeting – January 11, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Next Regular Meeting – January 13, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Town Report FY09
- 2) Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy/NORCAP Report/Strategic Planning
- 3) Municipal Enforcement of the VT Fire Prevention and Building Code
- 4) Code of Conduct for Town Officials/Employees
- 5) Town Boundaries
- 6) Lister Roundtable
- 7) Ownership of Foley Park