

Westfield Selectboard Minutes
April 1, 2019 – Town Offices

- SPECIAL MEETING 5 P.M. -

- **Town officials present:** Selectboard members: Yves Daigle (Chair), Jacques Couture (Vice-Chair) and Anne Lazor (by conference call); and Town Clerk, LaDonna Dunn
 - **Others:** Danny Hale, Executive Director of VASA; Lee Curtis; Rudy Percy; Jerry Bouchard, Jr.; and Scott Janness
1. Call Meeting to Order: Yves called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.
 2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda: None
 3. Approve Minutes of the March 11, 2019 Selectboard Meeting: There was a motion by Anne and second by Jacques to approve the minutes with no corrections. Motion passed unanimously.
 - A. Business from the Minutes: None discussed.
 4. Discuss ATV's on Town Roads with Danny Hale, Executive Director of VASA: Danny has been the Executive Director of the Vermont All-Terrain Vehicle Sportsman's Association, Inc. (VASA) for 19 years. He explained part of his job is to help towns manage ATV usage in their community. There were other VASA representatives from the local VASA club at the meeting as well as one property owner from Westfield.

Highlights from the discussion:

- There are big changes happening around Vermont with promoting connector trails and the parameters of how to create this network system.
- Helping towns manage use is an important part of VASA.
- There was discussion about the pros and cons of towns issuing permits. Danny said there is a question about legality because it limits who can use the roads.
- VASA promotes a trail system more than opening town roads in communities.
- Scott stated the local club would eventually like to have a trail network system to get to Jay.
- Abutting towns sample ordinances were reviewed. Danny sent a sample of VASA's ordinance prior the meeting. He explained the problem with each town creating their own ordinance is that it is difficult for law enforcement to enforce each town's individual laws. It is difficult for law enforcement to know exactly which town they are in sometimes when they are out on trails. Danny said VASA's ordinance follows all of the state statutes relating to ATV's.
- There was discussion about what/how to open a portion of Route 100 which would allow ATV's to legally get to different roads in Westfield creating connectors to abutting town's. VASA representatives said it is possible to apply to the state to open a state highway to ATV travel. They can help the town through this process.
- Jerry Bouchard, Jr. said he would like to see Route 100 from the General Store to Cemetery Road opened to ATV travel. He volunteered to work with VASA officials to help explore this option. He offered to get other ATV users in Westfield together to meet with the local VASA club to explore the options and once they have figured out a plan, present it to the Selectboard.
- Danny suggested the Selectboard make some modifications to the VASA ordinance and consider adopting it.

There was a motion by Jacques and second by Yves for the Clerk to modify VASA's ordinance and email the draft ATV Ordinance to the Selectboard for review. If all are in agreement there will be an electronic vote which will be ratified at the next Selectboard meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Other Business: None

6. Adjourn: Following a motion by Jacques and second by Yves, all were in agreement to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: LaDonna Dunn
LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk

Westfield Selectboard Approval: Date: 4/15/19 with Ø changes

Yves Daigle
Yves Daigle, Chair

Jacques Couture
Jacques Couture

Anne Lazor
Anne Lazor