

# TOWN OF CLARENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING REGULAR

Monday August 10, 2020  
Minutes

Attendees:

Select Board

Mike Klopchin, Chair  
Bob Bixby, Clerk  
Cash Ruane  
Robert Congdon

Heidi Congdon, Treasurer  
William Chmielewski, PEG-TV  
Laura Stone, VTrans  
Kyle Obenauer, VTrans  
Josif Bicja, Hoyle, Tanner, & Associates  
Sean James, Hoyle, Tanner, & Associates  
Ellie Delong

Morgan Blanchard  
Margaret Skidmore  
Jerome LaFrancois  
Mary LaFrancois  
Ralph Ford  
Cindy Davis  
Sandra Woods  
Charles Woods  
Sherwin Young  
Deborah Roberts  
Harry Roberts  
Bryan Johnson  
Matt Jakubowski  
Ron Evans  
Linda Evans

## 1. Call to Order

Chairman Klopchin called the meeting to order at 6:06PM. He reminded the public of elections the next day.

## 2. Agenda additions/deletions

N/A

## 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Selectman Bixby recused himself from voting the approval of the Emergency Site Visit (7/23) minutes because he was not present. Selectman Ruane motioned to accept the minutes, Selectman Congdon seconded, and the motion passed 3 to 0. Selectman Congdon motioned to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from July 27, 2020, Selectman Ruane seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

\*Selectman Congdon motioned to move to the Kingsley Covered Bridge local concerns discussion, Selectman Ruane seconded, and all approved. \*

#### **4. New Business**

VTrans, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates- Kingsley Covered Bridge- Josif introduced himself and the Hoyle Tanner team to the public. He presented a slideshow giving Town residents an overview of the potential bridge project. Construction could tentatively start summer of 2023, depending on funding. After the presentation they asked for the Select Board's as well as the public's input. VTrans and the engineers talked about taking away the runners up to the bridge, and make it more level, thus avoiding wear and tear on the bridge. Janine Nilsen questioned whether taking them away would encourage speeding. She also questioned how the Town would enforce weight limits on the bridge. Jerome LaFrancois had concerns about overweight vehicles as well. Laura from VTRans, responded that she would recommend talking to the DMV to enforce the weight limit, but ultimately the responsibility of enforcement is up to the Town. Rick Hildebrandt recommended rating the bridge for a weight allowance up to an ambulance sized vehicle. Road Commissioner Ruane was in agreement that leveling out the entrance to the bridge would be beneficial in maintaining it; there would be less impact from vehicles bouncing onto it. "Don's iPad" from the Zoom call, had concerns about Bump Road being used as the detour route. He didn't think it was maintained well nor would Google maps reroute correctly. Selectman Congdon said that the Select Board has had a brief discussion about upping maintenance on Bump Road. Sandra Woods asked about the cost effectiveness of closing the current bridge as a historical site and building a modern bridge beside it. Laura, from VTrans, explained that this bridge project is part of the Act 153 Bridge Program, and replacing it with a modern bridge would make the Town cost share go up. Kyle, from VTrans, also explained that there is federal legislation that limits what the Town can and cannot do because it's a historic structure and the funding that's tied to it because of that. Rutland resident, Morgan Blanchard, asked if the Town owns the bridge, to which Laura answered yes. She said any Town structure over 20 feet is eligible for the Town Structure Program. Sandra Woods questioned if taxes would be increased to cover the cost of this project. Clarendon Treasurer, Heidi, answered that no, they would not increase, because each year voters allocate money to a bridge replacement fund. There should be adequate funds to cover the Town's portion of the project cost. To end the discussion Deborah Roberts asked one more question: How long will the bridge be closed? Hoyle, Tanner, and Associates said that it would be closed summer through fall/early winter of 2023.

#### **5. Highway**

**Road Commissioner Report-Road** Commissioner Cash Ruane said that the Road Crew has started mowing on the East side of Town, there's still a bit more to mow on the West side. He mentioned that the Town has a few small equipment needs (such as leaf blowers for cleaning ditches). The Town will be applying for grants as they come along if they deem it essential. Mr. Ruane announced the Chippenhook Cemetery parking lot was completed and was waiting for final inspection/approval by ANR. Selectman Congdon added that he would appreciate Katie giving the mowers a call about the front small section of the cemetery- it has not been mowed since July 1. Selectman Congdon would also like to have a conversation about the small trees that are growing up, before they are out of control. Selectman Bixby complimented the Road Crew on their exemplary work with the cemetery's parking lot.

## **6. Approval of Select Board Warrants**

All new warrants and warrants previously signed by the designated Select Board Member were approved and signed by all Select Board Members.

## **7. Guests**

N/A

## **8. Public Comments**

N/A

## **9. Old Business**

**Fire Alarm System-** Matt Jakubowski, Clarendon Fire Chief, reviewed the two bids. He thought that with Royal's bid, the Town would get the "biggest bang for their buck," and would recommend that one. He advised having both companies rebid at a later time, when the Town is ready to install systems in the other buildings. Selectman Congdon motioned to get the open tickets (open insurance recommendations) taken care of so the Town is qualified for the full Safety Grant amount and move forward with Royals installing the Town Office's fire alarm system. Selectman Ruane seconded the motion, and all approved.

**East Street/Bump Road/Haven Hill Road speed limit-**Brian Johnson, a resident who lives on East Street, was happy that the Board considered lowering the speed limit. He advised putting signage up about blind hills on Bump Road. Selectman Congdon motioned to move forward with the ordinance change and posting it around Town as required, have all Board members sign it, and warning signage be put up. Selectman Bixby seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Klopchin said he would communicate with Wallingford to see if they might consider changing the speed limit on their side from 35mph to 25mph. The Chairman also reiterated the process for ordinance changes. The full text of the ordinance is attached.

## **10. Town Officer's Report**

Heidi Congdon, Treasurer, noted that she was happy to make appointments with folks if they would like to go over Town financials and answer any other questions.

## **11. Select Board Member Concerns**

Selectman Congdon wanted to correct the misconception that the Select Board has control over the Education budget and tax rate, because they do not. He said the public is in control of it, by using their ballot every March for the School's budget and Board members. The municipality is working very hard to not raise the municipal tax rate. He asked the public to seek to understand what is going on with Town finances and the role the State plays as well. The School is completely out of the Select Board's hands. Selectman Congdon challenged the voters to look at how much their municipal rate has been over the last 5 years. The Select Board's priority has been to keep the municipal tax rate down.

## **12. Adjournment**

Selectman Congdon motioned to adjourn at 7:30PM, Selectman Ruane seconded, and all approved.

TOWN OF CLARENDON

TRAFFIC ORDINANCE  
ORDINANCE #21

This is a civil ordinance to (1) regulate the speeds of all vehicles upon any state aid, city, town or village street or highway in the Town of Clarendon; (2) otherwise regulate the traffic upon any state aid, city, town, or village street or highway in the Town of Clarendon by traffic signs; and (3) provide penalties for violations.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Selectmen of the Town of Clarendon, of the State of Vermont as follows:

Traffic Ordinance #20, previously adopted by the Town of Clarendon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1985, as it may have been amended from time to time, is hereby amended by deleting that ordinance in its entirety upon final passage of the ordinance as set forth below, pursuant to 2 V.S.A § 1971 et seq., and the following ordinance is adopted in lieu of the previous ordinance:

Section I. That State traffic laws regulating the speed of vehicles shall be applicable upon all streets and roads within the Town of Clarendon, Vermont except as this ordinance hereby declares and determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation.

Section II. That, unless otherwise posted and except as otherwise provided in section 3 of this ordinance, the maximum lawful speed on all town highways shall be 35 miles per hour.

Section III. That speed limits other than the 35 miles per hour limit provided in section 2 of this ordinance shall be as hereinafter set forth on those streets and highways herein designated at all times when appropriate signs are erected upon the street or highway.

SPEED LIMITS

1. Walker Mountain Road (TH 3): Beginning on Walker Mountain Road and heading westerly on this road from the junction of Middle Road (TH 1) and Walker Mountain Road a distance of .60 miles to the junction of Walker Mountain Road TH 3 and the Creek Road (TH 2).  
35 mph
2. Walker Mountain Road (TH 3): Beginning at the junction of Creek Road (TH 2) and Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) and heading west to the East Tinnmouth Road (TH 11) for a distance of 1.50 miles.  
35 mph
3. Walker Mountain Road (TH 3): Beginning at the point where East Tinnmouth Road (TH 11) intersects with Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading in a westerly direction to where Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) intersects with Quarterline Road (TH 9) for a distance of 0.2 miles.  
25 mph
- 3A. Walker Mountain Road (TH 3): Beginning at West Tinnmouth Road (TH 22) heading in a southeasterly direction to the intersection of Firehouse Road (TH 10) for a distance of 0.19 miles.  
35 mph
4. Walker Mountain Road (TH 3): Beginning at the point where West Tinnmouth Road (TH 22) intersects with Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) and heading first westerly then in a northwest direction to the junction of Route 133 for a distance of 3.1 miles.  
35 mph
5. Middle Road (TH 1): Beginning on the Middle Road (TH 1) at the Rutland Town Line, heading southerly on Middle Road (TH 1) a distance of 3.56 miles to the intersection of the Middle Road and the Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).

- 6. Cold River Road (TH 6): Beginning on Cold River Road (TH 6) at the Rutland Town Line heading southerly to the jct. of Shrewsbury Town line. 40 mph
- 7. Creek Road (TH 2): Beginning at the junction of Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) and Creek Road (TH 2) heading northerly on Creek Road a distance of 3.2 miles to the Rutland Town Line. 35 mph
- 8. Alfreacha Road (TH 13): Beginning at the intersection of Middle Road (TH 1) and Alfreacha Road (TH 13), running westerly to the intersection of Alfreacha Road and Creek Road (TH 2). 40 mph
- 9. Hier Road (TH 20): Beginning at Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading westerly on the Hier Road (TH 20) a distance of 0.70 miles to a dead end. 25 mph
- 10. Anderson Hill Road (TH 21): Beginning at Hier Road (TH 20) heading in a southerly direction to the dead-end on Hier Road Extension (TH 21). 25 mph
- 11. Clarendon Springs Lane (TH 16): Beginning at Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading easterly and southerly on Clarendon Springs Lane (TH 16) a distance of 0.21 miles to a dead end. 25 mph
- 12. Firehouse Road (TH 10): For its entire length for 0.190 miles. 35 mph
- 13. Schoolhouse Hill Road (TH 12): Beginning at Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading easterly to the Quarterline Road for the entire length of Schoolhouse Hill Road 1.520 miles. 25 mph
- 14. West Tinnmouth Road (TH 22): Beginning at Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading South for the entire length of West Tinnmouth Road (TH 22) for 2.200 miles. 25 mph
- 15. Beginning at the intersection of East Street (TH 39) heading east for the entire length of Knipes Drive (TH 37), to the cul de sac at the east end of Knipes Drive (TH 37). 25 mph
- 16. Gorge Road (TH 25): For its entire length of 1.6 miles. 25 mph
- 17. Windy Lane (TH 42): For its entire length of .42 miles. 25 mph
- 18. East Street (TH 39): For its entire length of 3.06 miles. 25 mph
- 19. Bump Road (TH 26): For its entire length of 1.29 miles. 25 mph
- 20. Haven Hill Road (TH 28): For its entire length of .5 miles. 25 mph

21. All other town highways and sections of town highways not previously listed or otherwise posted.

35 mph

Section IV: That traffic signs controlling and regulating traffic shall be erected and maintained as hereinafter set forth on those streets and roads herein designated:

STOP SIGNS

- 1. Stop sign on Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) at the junction of Middle Road (TH 1).
- 2. Stop sign on Creek Road (TH 2) north and south side of Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).

3. Stop sign on East Timmouth Road (TH 11) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
4. Stop sign on West Timmouth Road (TH 22) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
5. Stop sign on Gravel Pit Road (TH 24) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
6. Stop sign on New Horizons Lane (TH 23) at the entrance to West Timmouth Road (TH 3).
7. Stop sign on Hier Road (TH 20) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
8. Stop sign on Teer Road (TH 17) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
9. Stop sign on Schoolhouse Hill Road (TH 12) at the entrance to Quarterline Road (TH 9).
10. Stop sign on Alfrecha Road (TH 13) at the entrance to Creek Road (TH 2).
11. Four way stop sign on Alrecha Road (TH 13) at the entrance to Middle Road (TH 1).
12. Four way stop sign on Moulton Avenue (TH 14) at the entrance to Middle Road (TH 1).
13. Four way stop sign on the north and south side of Middle Road (TH 1) at the junction of Alfrecha Road (TH 13) and Moulton Avenue (TH 14).
14. Stop sign on Schoolhouse Hill Road (TH 12) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
15. Stop sign on Scenic View Drive (TH 48) at the entrance to North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4).
16. Stop sign on East Clarendon Road (TH 8) on the north and south sides of the entrance to North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4).
17. Stop sign on Beacon Heights (TH 47) at the entrance to East Clarendon Road (TH 8).
18. Stop sign on North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4) at the entrance to Cold River Road (TH 6).
19. Stop sign on Windy Lane (TH 42) at the entrance to North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4).
20. Stop sign on North View Drive (TH 43) at the entrance to Windy Lane (TH 42).
21. Stop sign on Windy Lane (TH 42) at the entrance to East Clarendon Road (TH 8).
22. Stop sign on Gorge Road (TH 25) at the entrance to Airport Road (TH 7).
23. Stop sign at Airport to enter onto Airport Road (TH 7).
24. Stop sign on East Street (TH 39) at the entrance to Gorge Road (TH 25).
25. Stop sign on Bump Road (TH 26) at the entrance to East Street (TH 39).
26. Stop sign on Squier Road (TH 19) at the entrance to Middle Road (TH 1).
27. Stop sign at the exit from Mill River Union High School to entrance of Middle Road (TH 1).
28. Stop sign on Meadowcrest Drive (TH 44) at the entrance to Middle Road (TH 1).
29. Stop sign on Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) at the intersection of Gravel Pit Road (TH 24).
30. Stop sign on Mumford Road (TH 46) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
31. Stop sign on Quarterline Road (TH 9) at the entrance to Walker Mountain Road (TH 3).
32. Stop sign at the entrance to Route 133 from Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) at Chapman Farm.

Approved August 24, 2020

33. Stop sign on Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) heading north at the intersection of Walker Mountain Road (TH 3) and Firehouse Road (TH 10).
34. Stop sign on Knipes Drive (TH 37) where it intersects with East Street (TH 39).
35. Stop sign on East Street (TH 39) at the entrance of Gorge Road (TH 25).
36. Stop sign on Gorge Road (TH 25) heading east at the intersection of Gorge Road (TH 25) and East Street (TH 39).

#### YIELD SIGNS

1. Yield sign at the intersection of Firehouse Road (TH 10) and Quarterline Road (TH 9).

#### WRONG WAY SIGNS

1. Wrong way sign at the intersection of East Clarendon Road (TH 8) and North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4) heading north.

Section V: The driver of any vehicle shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control sign or device applicable to him placed in accordance with this chapter, unless otherwise directed by an enforcement officer.

Section VI: It shall be unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle at a speed excess of applicable State traffic laws, and further, it shall be unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of any speed declared in this Ordinance, where that speed limit is in force and notice\_(by properly erected signs) is given thereof.

Section VII: That any violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be known as a traffic offense and shall be subject to the provisions of 23 V.S.A. § 2201-2207, inclusive.

Section VIII: That should any part of this Ordinance be held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining part shall be severable and shall continue to be in force and effect.

Section IV: That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, recording, and publication as provided by law.

### **Town of Clarendon**

#### **TRAFFIC ORDINANCE #21 AMMENDMENTS**

Based on the overwhelming amount of feedback from East Street and surrounding area residents, the Clarendon Select Board has suggested the following amendments be made to the current Traffic Ordinance #21:

#### **1.) Amendment to page 3- SPEED LIMITS**

ADD no. 17- Windy Lane (TH 42): For its entire length of .42 miles at 25mph.

ADD no. 18- East Street (TH 39): For its entire length of 3.06 miles at 25mph.

ADD no. 19- Bump Road (TH 26): For its entire length of 1.29 miles at 25mph.

ADD no. 20- Haven Hill Road (TH 28): For its entire length of .5 miles at 25mph.

\*Previous #17 changed to #21.

#### **2.) Amendment to page 5- WRONG WAY SIGNS**

ADD no. 1- Wrong way sign at the intersection of East Clarendon Road (TH 8) and North Shrewsbury Road (TH 4) heading north.

Approved August 24, 2020

**A full text of Traffic Ordinance #21 is available at the Town Clerks Office during regular business hours or online at [clarendonvt.org](http://clarendonvt.org)**

**CITIZENS RIGHT TO PETITION:**

Citizen's Right to petition for a vote on the Ordinance at the Annual or Special Meeting, as provided for in 24 V.S.A. §1973. The Traffic Ordinance amendments (set forth in this notice) may be disapproved by a vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the Town of Clarendon voting on the question at an annual or special meeting duly warned for that purpose, pursuant to a petition signed and submitted in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1973 (b). A petition for a vote on a question of disapproving the above amendment to the Clarendon Traffic Ordinance #21 shall be signed by not fewer than five percent of the qualified voters of the Town of Clarendon, and presented to the Select Board or the Town Clerk within 44 days following the date of adoption of the ordinance. If you have any questions about the amendment set forth in this notice, you can write/email Katie Rock at Clarendon Board of Selectmen, PO Box 30, Clarendon, VT 05759, [clarendonadmasst@comcast.net](mailto:clarendonadmasst@comcast.net); or telephone the Town Clerks Office at 802-775-4274. Unless a petition is filed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1973, the ordinance amendments will become effective on 10/9/20

Posted on 8/13/20 in the following locations: Clarendon Town Hall, Clarendon Post Office, Clarendon Transfer Station, Bailey Memorial Library, Loretta's General Store. Notice published in Rutland Herald on 8/14/20

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Klopchin, Chair

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Bob Bixby, Clerk *(Official Signed copy in  
Town Ordinance Binder)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cash Ruane

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Congdon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Wilbur

SIGNED: *W.H. F. Hglc* Mike Klopchin, Chair

SIGNED: *Robert Bixby* Bob Bixby, Clerk