

# The Reading Informer August 2015



Published by the Town of Reading

## Reading Cemetery Commission

Your cemetery commissioners have been hard at work this summer reviewing records, reviewing cemeteries for work that needs to be done and planning projects. We estimate that there is over \$5,000 of stone repair work to be done in EACH of the Town cemeteries. Donations are always welcome to help offset costs. The first focus has been at the Weld Cemetery on the Weld Cemetery Road in South Reading. This cemetery was severely over grown with brush and overhanging trees which can cause more stone damage. Dave Appleton has been working there getting rid of the trees and brush. Thank you Dave for a great job!

Adam Kozlowski (Chair), Susan Goodhouse, Kevin Kaija





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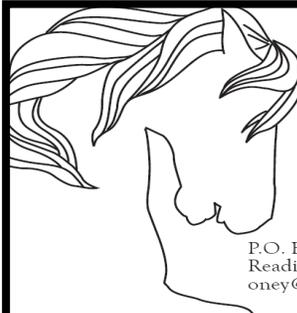
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# Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2015  
UNAPPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

Present: Robert Allen, Gordy Eastman, Jim Peplau, Calista Brennan, Glen Towne, Elisabeth Morrison, Jon Springer, Gary Vittum, Linda Farnsworth and Karl Hanson.

Robert started the meeting asking if there were changes to the agenda. There were no changes. Minutes of the June 8th Selectmen's meeting were approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** As of 6/30/15, Expenses were \$62,964.17; Revenue was \$9,281.28. Balance in LSB \$399,098.27. Delinquent taxes for 2011-14 are \$95,185.35. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

## Action Items:

**Church Building Lease to Reading Historical Society:** Jim moved to sign the 99 year lease. Gordy seconded. Lease was signed.

**Bridge #2 and Bridge # 28 Engineering Responses:** There were three engineering firms that responded and one declined. Still waiting to hear from AOT on grant money.

**Highways:** Summer maintenance is underway. Roadside mowing will start in about 2 weeks. Cersosimo has given the Town a break on the cost of gravel until April 2016. There was no major damage from the storm on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**2015 - 2016 Tax Rate:** The Selectboard discussed the tax rates for the Town and School. Jim moved and Gordy seconded to set the Town rate at \$0.4571 based on the approval of the Selectboard's budget and 11 special articles at Town Meeting. The School rates are set by the State of Vermont. This makes the 2015/2016 total rates at \$2.2385 for residents and \$1.9958 for non-residents.

**Other:** Linda Farnsworth was here to ask about Brown Schoolhouse Road. The road has changed over the years and is close to a watering trough and seems to be higher. This part of the road was rebuilt after Irene. The Selectmen and Road Foreman will take a look.

Jim asked about the work on the end of Robinson Hall. Robert stated he is waiting to hear from Paul at the Windsor County Prison. They are also looking at having the Town Garage stained.

Gary Vittum asked about cutting the trees on the driveway and along the side to have the Fire Station be more visible. All three Selectmen agreed.

Karl Hanson asked about the Dog Park. The Selectboard gave him their list of concerns and asked him to go over them and return to a future meeting.

Robert asked if there were any problems moving the next meeting to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of August. Everyone agreed to move the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next Selectboard meeting will be on Monday, August 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Calista N Brennan

## South Reading Thrift Store

3456 Tyson Road S. Reading

### *Free Clothing*

The Thrift Store is opening their doors for extra hours so that **ANYONE** can come and get free clothing. They have a great problem to solve—too many items to keep. Some of these items are brand name, brand new; still have the sales tag on them and some are gently used. There are jeans, shorts, tops, sweaters, children's clothes (many brand new), baby clothes, summer outfits, linens, women's business suits; you name it, it's there!

Bring really big bags and load them up.

No Charge — \$0.00

**Open: Every Thursday, 4 -6 pm**

**Also: Thursday, August 6th, 4 - 8 pm**

**Saturday, August 8th, 9 am —1 pm**

#### Name Brand Clothing.....

LL Bean	Sonoma	Cold Water Creek
J. Jill	Lee	Dockers
Carter's	Carhart	Croft & Barrow
Levi's	Ralph Lauren	Alfred Dunner
Tommy Hilfiger	Van Heusen	
Many, many more		



Donations to the Food Shelf always welcome! A \$6.00 donation will purchase \$30 of food for the food shelf.

back to  
School



## Reading Elementary School

First day of school will be Wednesday,  
August 26, 2015

Please watch out for our children as  
they return to school

## Back to School BBQ

Sunday, August 23rd, at 4 PM

The Reading PTO will be hosting their annual Back to School  
BBQ @ the Reading Elementary School playground.

Everyone is welcome.

Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert  
to share. The PTO will provide hot dogs,  
burgers, veggie burgers, watermelon,  
lemonade, ice tea and popsicles.



## Weathersfield Transfer Station Stickers

As of July 1st, you need to have a blue sticker on your vehicle, the orange ones are no longer valid.

These stickers are available at the Reading Town Office for Reading residents. The first sticker for residents is free; a second sticker can be purchased for \$5.00 Renters must pay the \$5.00 fee to obtain a sticker.



**Reading Planning Commission Meeting  
July 6, 2015  
Meeting Minutes—Unapproved**

Present: Steve Strait, Ken Cox, Kevin Kaija, Becky Basch  
Guests: Jens Hilke, Vermont Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

1. Minutes of June 1, 2015 – Steve made a motion to approve the minutes posted on the Town website, Ken seconded, all were in favor
  
2. Wildlife Habitat and Travel Corridor Discussion -- Jens Hilke, a Conservation Planning Biologist with the Community Wildlife Program of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, attended the meeting to discuss the proposed wildlife corridor overlay district and other areas designated as wildlife habitat in the Reading Zoning Bylaws. Steve provided background for the discussion by saying that the proposed Wildlife Corridor Overlay District was developed as part of the Forest Fragmentation Study that the Planning Commission worked on with Hilke and representative from the Vermont Natural Resources Council.  
Reading is important because big areas of forest are more chopped up east of the Green Mountains. He said that there are not many connections across the Connecticut River so Reading provides an important link to NH habitat areas.  
Jens said that subdivision regulations are important for smaller towns, and noted that Warren has a tiered code for wildlife habitat and conservation areas. He said that although Reading has little development now, it does not mean that the pattern will be consistent over time.  
Jens said that it would be important to include a definition of “critical wildlife habitat” and to indicate those areas on a map. He noted a VT Supreme Court decision that struck down a town’s zoning regulations as they were too vague. A higher regulatory standard would be needed for corridor as it is a narrower area, while there could be more flexibility in large blocks of forest. There could be development on the edges of forest blocks but road length should be limited. Town roads are not necessarily barriers as wildlife movement generally takes place at night. However, the town may want to limit development on either side of road within the corridor boundaries. Building envelopes should be located closer to other buildings to keep open space.  
Jens said that in terms of climate change preparedness, land that is cleared will come back. But there could be an influx of new development which could be worse for the wildlife habitat. The Town can’t regulate land management but it can regulate where development goes. He suggested that making landowners aware of habitat corridor and providing recommended land management practices in those areas could help maintain benefits into the future. Jens said that with climate change, even shorter range species will need larger areas to migrate.  
Jens offered to come to future meetings and said he could review proposed zoning language with the RPC. He noted that his area of expertise is the science behind the regulations and not necessarily the regulations themselves.
  
3. Municipal planning grants – Steve said that priorities this year include bylaw to correct conflicts w/ town plans, and resiliency implementation. Becky suggested applying for assistance to get village center designation for Felchville as it may help the Town to access grants that prioritize designated village centers. Becky said she would look at MPG guidelines and will talk to the RPC about a possible application.

Minutes continued on page 7

Zoning Minutes continued from page 6

4. Zoning Update – Steve sent out a summary of the state regulations for group homes and child care facilities and what may or may not be regulated. Group homes with 8 or less people are exempt from regulation, but group homes with more than 8 could be a conditional use. Child care homes with 6 or fewer are also a permitted use. Child care facilities have a different level of state review. Child care facilities may require more review by the town. Members agreed that conditional use and side plan review should be required for child care facilities. Conditional use review could be required for two family dwellings in some districts. Steve commented that this is a higher density use and pointed out that they are allowed in all districts but are a conditional use in 5, 10- and 25-acre districts. There was some discussion about making two-family homes a permitted use in all districts. The discussion was tabled for now.
5. Planning Commission Vacancy - Steve noted that there is one on the planning commission and anyone interested in joining the Planning Commission should contact him
6. Next meeting – There will be no meeting in August
7. Adjournment - Kevin made a motion to adjourn, Ken seconded – meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Basch, Secretary

## Help Wanted.....

The Planning Commission is looking for a new member and anyone interested should contact Steve Strait at [strait.stephen@gmail.com](mailto:strait.stephen@gmail.com).

### **Reading's 9th Annual Old Home Day Ducky Derby**

We would like to thank the following businesses and people for their donations and support of our annual ducky derby-Mary Jo & Channing Smith, Osgood Welding, Calista Brennan, Watroba's Store, Reading Greenhouse, Runnings, Tree Farm Campground, Crown Point Campground, VT. State Parks, Welch's True Value, Newhall Farm, Echo Lake Inn, Zampini & Sons, The Cavendish Pointe, Kedron Valley Auto Body, Aveda Spa at Castle Hill, Vermont Teddy Bear, Imageworks, Happy Acres Farm, Woodstock Farmers Market, King Arthur Flour, Country Creemee, Green Mountain Smokehouse, Keepers Cafe, Mac's Market, Downer's Jiffy Mart, Vermont Standard, Walmart, South Woodstock Store, Denise & Norm Dupuis, Steve & Madison Moore, Stephen Titus, Jacob Cole, Nick Bishop, Sam & Eli Mitchell, Kyle Barnes, Kevin Kaija, Newmans Own.

### **PTR's — Reading Property Transfers**

⇒ Pamela Cheney to Donna Martin  
3089 Tyson Road \$230,000

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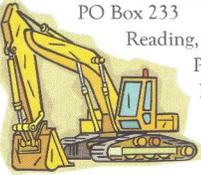
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## Librarian's Note

For the remainder of the summer, the library will offer a pass for many of Vermont's state parks, good for free entry into designated park day-areas for up to 8 people in a vehicle. The pass can be checked out for 2 days and is good at Ascutney, Plymouth, Wilgus, and Silver Lake state parks, among others. We've got a similar pass for half a dozen Vermont historical sites, including the Eureka Schoolhouse in Springfield, the Old Constitution House in Windsor, and the Calvin Coolidge Birthplace at Plymouth Notch. The passes are good until the parks and historic sites close for the season; those dates vary according to the rules of the individual park or site. We also have free passes available for the American Precision Museum in Windsor, the Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, and the Vermont History Museum, with branches in Montpelier and Barre; and we have reduced-price passes for Echo Aquarium and Science Center in Burlington.

The library has purchased about 25 of the books from the current Dorothy Canfield Fisher (DCF) Children's Book Award Master List. Since 1957, the DCF award has honored quality literature for grades 4-8. Each spring, a committee nominates 30 books. After reading at least 5 books from the list, Vermont students then vote for their favorites.

The library has both a Nook and a Kindle available for borrowing. Patrons must be at least 18 years old with a library account in good standing (no overdue materials). We also maintain a paperback book swap on the main floor of the building. There are 8 shelves of about 120 books to trade. Simply take one you'd like to read and leave one in its place for someone else. If you don't have a book to swap, that's O.K. Take one anyway and return it when you're through. It's self-serve. Speaking of which, we've always got coffee, cocoa, and tea on hand for our patrons. And there are once again Vermont Common Crackers available in the cracker barrel. Help yourself.

By the way, we've revamped the website. Let me know how you like it. As always, we are open to suggestions. Thanks.

Cordially,  
Tony

*Reading Public Library. Tues. 12-3:30 p.m. & 4-7; Thurs. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 2-5; Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mail: P.O. Box 7, Reading, VT 05062. Tel. 802-484-5588. E-mail: [reading.public.library@comcast.net](mailto:reading.public.library@comcast.net). **Web: [www.readinglibrary.org](http://www.readinglibrary.org). The board meets the last Tues. of each month at 6 p.m. Wi-Fi 24/7.***

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Please note, at the request of the librarian, the Town website will not have the meeting agendas or minutes on it. Please refer to the library's website for the posted agenda and meeting minutes.

## Meeting Schedule

### Board of Selectmen

Second Monday  
6:00 PM at Town Office

### Elementary School Board

Third Wednesday  
6:00 PM at Reading School

### Planning Commission/ZBA

First Monday  
7:00 PM at Town Office

### Fire Dept Auxiliary

First Monday  
7:00 PM at Fire Station

### P.T.O.

Third Monday  
6:30 PM at Reading School

### R.A.T.S

2nd Wednesday  
7:00 PM at Fire Station

### Library Trustees

Last Tuesday  
6:00 PM at Library

### Fire Department

First Tuesday  
7:00 PM at Fire Station

### Reading Rescue

First Tuesday  
7:00 PM at Fire Station

### Little Ascutney

**Snowmobile Club**  
Second Thursday at 7PM  
Sept - April, at Fire Station

### EC Fiber

Second Tuesday at 7pm  
Oaks Hall 1st floor of Law  
School  
In S. Royalton, VT

## Emergency Telephone Numbers

*Fire and Ambulance 911*  
*State Police 457-1416*

**Town Clerk/Treasure Office**  
484-7250

Mon—Thurs 8am-4pm  
First Saturday of the Month: 9am-12pm  
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Email: [readingvermont@comcast.net](mailto:readingvermont@comcast.net)

**Post Office**  
484-5994

**Retail Counter**  
Monday – Friday  
9:30 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-4:30 pm  
Saturday Retail Counter  
9:00 to 12:00

**Lobby**  
Monday – Friday  
8 am to 5 pm  
Saturday  
8am to 12pm

**Library**  
484-5588  
Tuesday 12:00 to 3:30, 4:00 to 7:00  
Thursday 10:00 to 1:30, 2:00 to 5:00  
Saturday 10:00 to 2:00

**Listers**  
Call for appointment – 484-7258  
Email: [rtownhall\\_464@comcast.net](mailto:rtownhall_464@comcast.net)

**Reading Elementary School**  
484-7230  
**Fire Warden - Fire Burning Permits**

## Reading– West Windsor Food Shelf

**Monday 2:00 to 4:00 (Food Shelf)**  
**Thursday 4:00 to 6:00 (Thrift Store & Food Shelf)**

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at the Stone School House

The Thrift Store is open to anyone, not just  
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To send a donation please mail to:

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to request this.

**It's Calendar Time**  
**11th Annual Reading Community Calendar**  
**Sponsored by the Reading Fire & Rescue Department.**

This year's calendar will include a photo of the top readers from the read-a-thon at Reading Elementary School, who received the prize of a ride to school in the fire truck. This calendar is personalized with the dates that you request for birthdays, anniversaries, or in memory of someone. We also include meeting dates and dates of annual town events. The calendar is also an opportunity for local businesses to advertise.

If you would like to order your calendar for 2016 please fill out this form and return it along with your check payable to **Reading Fire Department** to:

Kate Allen  
PO Box 191  
Reading, VT 05062



**PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN: September 15, 2015**

**Your payment must accompany your order form.**

The calendars cost \$6.50; this includes 4 dates on the calendar for each calendar purchase. Each additional date is .50 cents.

Please indicate if the date is a birthday, anniversary, or in memory.

Please print clearly and check your dates:

***Example: 1-12-2005 John Doe Birthday***

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date #1:

Date #2:

Date #3:

Date#4:

Extra dates may be included on a separate sheet of paper.

If you have questions please call 484-3213 or e-mail me at [c2nk8allen@gmail.com](mailto:c2nk8allen@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your continued support of the Reading Fire & Rescue Department**

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## August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Fire Auxiliary 7pm</i>	4 <i>Fire &amp; Rescue Mtg. 7 pm</i>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Informer articles due to Town Clerk</i>	15
16	17 <i>Selectboard 6 pm @ Town Hall PTO 6:30 pm @ RES.</i>	18	19 <i>RES School Board 6 pm</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25 <i>Library Mtg. 6 pm</i>	26 <i>School Starts</i>	27	28	29
30	31					