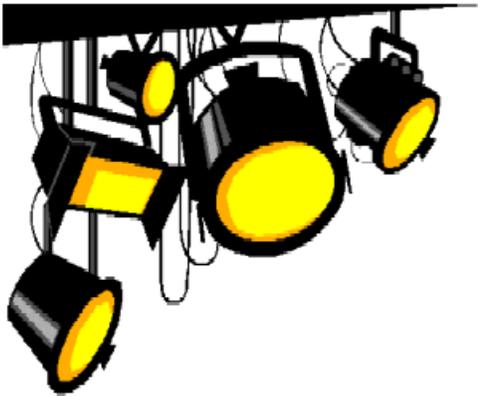


The Reading Informer

March 2016



Published by the Town of Reading



Come join us for the 13th Annual Reading Community Talent Night!

Saturday, March 19th
6:30 p.m. at Robinson Town Hall

This evening highlights local singers, instrumental musicians, musical collaborations, skits, commercials and art.

Admission : Adults \$5, Students \$3

During intermission try the make-your-own-sundae bar for \$2 and take a chance on our three prize packages.

Tickets are one for \$1 or 6 for \$5



Event is sponsored by the Reading Friends & Neighbor,
a committee of the Reading Recreation Commission



Calling All Stars for *The Reading Community Talent Night*

We are looking to showcase our local and surrounding talent on Saturday, **March 19th**.

If you are interested in sharing your talent, please contact Chris Titus at 484-5610.

Rehearsals will be held at the Reading Town Hall on **March 5 and 12** from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

This event is sponsored by the Reading Friends & Neighbors a committee of the Reading Recreation Commission.



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, **March 26th** at 10 AM

Toddlers to 6th graders

Peter Cotton Tail is hopping his way to an Easter egg hunt with games and give-a-ways at Bartley Memorial Field

(bad weather location is Reading Elementary School).

Bring your baskets and have some fun!!!

Sponsored by the Reading Recreation Commission
Reading Friends & Neighbors
Please call Kevin Barnes 484-5156 or
Chris Titus 484-5610 for more information

Selectmen Meeting

February 15, 2016

UNAPPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

Present: Robert Allen, Gordy Eastman, Jim Peplau, Glen Town, Calista Brennan, Becky Basch and Noella Pickett, Vermont Standard Reporter.

Robert started the meeting asking if there were changes to the agenda. Correction made to the date on the agenda.

Minutes of the January 11th Selectmen's meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Correction was made to the date on the report. As of 1/31/16, Expenses were \$65,890.32; Revenue was \$27,401.66. Balance in LSB \$80,643.30 and balance in the sweep account \$807,263.25 for a total of \$887,906.55. Delinquent taxes for 2013-15 are \$105,001.44. Jim moved to approve and Gordy seconded. Report is accepted.

Action Items:

Energy Committee Report: Becky reported that Sustainable Woodstock has a contract with Cata-mount Solar from March to June and Reading residences were included this time. There was one homeowner that finished a solarizing project in the last time frame. There were several that had inquired about it. There will be a table set up at Town Meeting with more information. Becky asked to have Res-Tech from Bridgewater Corners to do an assessment of the size and cost of a solar Photo, Voltaic (PV) system for all the town buildings, this is free service and Becky will coordinate. The Selectmen agreed to have a report done.

Town Farm Bridge Engineering Status: Still waiting for reports from Holden Engineering.

Town Hall Siding Update: Robert received the proposal from Paul Brosseau and a bid from Greg Smith. The selectmen will look at both closer to be sure everything is included.

Highways: Glen reported that all highway personnel are registered flaggers. He has been working with Wade Masure from VLCT to make sure that the garage is up to OSHA compliance. Jarvis will be hauling some gravel this week. Glen has prices for the culvert on Town Hill Road. Robert and Gordy have been to the site to look and took measurements. There are 2 options. Robert will get with the homeowner to discuss.

Better Back Road Grant: When all the information is compiled for the Town Hill project it will be submitted to SWCRPC and they will help write and submit the grant.

Status of Land Sale on Stone Chimney Ext: The Selectmen signed the Warranty Deed for the sale of the property.

Liquor License: The Selectmen signed a liquor license for Watroba's General Store.

Other: Calista gave the Selectmen the Certificate – No Appeal or Suit Pending from the Listers. The selectmen signed it. Calista also gave copies of a quote to get some of the floors refinished in Robinson Hall, to be discussed at a later date.

Being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 6:46PM.

Next Selectboard meeting will be on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Calista N Brennan



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 384 WELD CEMETERY ROAD
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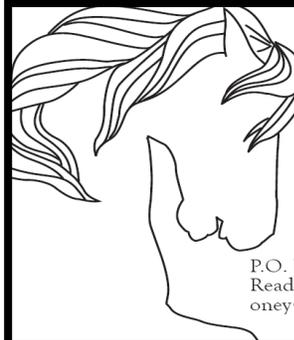
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(802) 674-2649
Fax: (802) 674-2990
Springerlaw1@comcast.net



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Librarian's Note

Access to books in childhood is one of the biggest predictors of literacy, and a child *who visits a library is twice as likely as one who doesn't to read well*. There are few individuals who could buy every child in town a book, but all of us together can buy a kid a building full of books. The library also has many types of craft supplies, along with markers and crayons, building blocks, puzzles, instruments, puppets, and a flannel-board with felt story-pieces. All of these are available for you and your children to use in the library. Just ask.

Libraries offer access to important services even when the building is closed. Many substantive materials—documents, reports, papers, articles—are not available for free on the Internet. Most, however, are available at no cost through your library's database subscription account. Reading Public Library is a Vermont Online (VOL) member. This allows you access to more than four dozen databases containing information on a variety of topics, including health, business, science, genealogy, and the arts. The databases contain articles culled from popular and scholarly journals, newspapers, and other reference sources. Much of the information is not available through a typical search engine. The regular cost for access to all the databases would be thousands of dollars. But it's free through the library. VOL is a great resource for kids with homework assignments and for adults researching a subject for work or pleasure. To acquire remote access, log in at the following link: <http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/>. The username is vol_r22. The password is club. Below are 4 examples of available databases.

General Reference Center Gold: provides access to magazines, newspapers, trade publications, and reference books through one easy interface.

Small Business Resource Center: learn how to start, finance, or manage your small business; resources include sample business plans, how-to guides, articles, and websites.

Career Transitions: walks users through the job-search process from beginning to end. It brings together all the tools needed to explore and take the leap to a new career. Career Transitions employs a step-by-step approach to help people: 1) explore new career possibilities; 2) assess their interests and experience; 3) identify ways to improve their prospects, including networking and education; 4) prepare for a job search; and 5) search and apply for jobs.

Health & Wellness Resource Center & Alternative Health Module: provides instant access to carefully compiled and trusted medical reference materials. Includes nearly 400 health/medical journals, hundreds of pamphlets, over 700 health-related videos from partner Healthology, Inc., and articles from 2,200 general interest publications in addition to a broad collection of Gale reference titles. Material contained in this Resource Center is intended for informational purposes only.

If there are people in the community who cannot make it to the library because of physical disability or debilitating illness, I will be happy to deliver books to your home. Just call the library at 484-5588.

Cordially,
Tony

Alison Clarkson's **Legislative Reports** may be found on our website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com and a copy is posted in the Town Hall.



Vermont's 5th Season

Is coming: Mud Season

Please be aware that the dirt roads can be a bit messy during the spring thaw.

Your Town highway crew will do everything they can to maintain the roads.

Town of Reading, Vermont Notice

Posting of all Class 2 & Class 3 Town Highways

Pursuant to Title 19, Vermont Statutes Annotated, Sections 1109-1110, the Town of Reading Select board has posted all Class 2 and Class 3 town highways, effective

March 9, 2016 through May 15, 2016.

No vehicle having a weight, including vehicle and load, in excess of the weights specified below, shall be operated on any part of any Class 2 and class 3 town highway which are posted under the provisions of these Sections, except by permission of the Reading Road Foreman.

Two-axle trucks 15,000 lbs.

Three-axle trucks 18,000 lbs.

Tractor-trailer units 20,000 lbs.

Per order of Selectboard

Please Note: Road Conditions may alter these dates of closure. Watch for posting signs on the roads, at the Town Office and on the Front Porch Forum.

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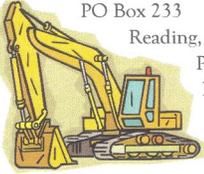
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- Smoked Sausages
- Marinated Meats
- 10 Flavors of Sausage
- Beef Jerky
- Pepperoni

Available locally at Watroba's Store & Reading Greenhouse

**Please be advised:
 Mailboxes placed in the Town right of way and
 subsequently damaged by Town snowplows will not
 be replaced by the Town.**



Reading Historical Society
Preserving The Past For The Future

Reading Safe House(s) on the Underground Railroad

In January, in the announcement for the Reading Historical Society Annual Meeting, we introduced our speaker Lorraine Zigman and the topic she would discuss, Vermont's role in the Underground Railroad. We asked, "Do you know where the safe house was in Reading?"

Turns out it may have been several. During her talk at the meeting, Lorraine pointed out one in Felchville, but some who have lived in Reading for years recalled hearing stories of safe houses all around town. Some mentioned safe houses on Bailey's Mills Road, others told stories of another safe house in Felchville.

Those recollections say a couple of things about history. First, they underscore the point that our history must be preserved. The true facts of the Underground Railroad and safe houses, in this case, must be known, recorded, and shared as a statement of who mid-19th century citizens of Reading were and what was important to them during a time that is so different from today.

Second, they remind us that history is, for better or worse, fluid. Those people who grew up believing that the tiny room under the stairs in a friend's house was a hideaway for slaves seeking freedom (even if the house was built after the Civil War ended) may have the facts wrong, but they have the general history right. At some point in our town's history, our citizens risked a lot to help those they believed deserved freedom. That is a history we can all be proud of.

Lorraine furnished the following information after the meeting that gives us a link to more information on this topic. This book has specifics about towns and routes through Vermont taken by runaway slaves making their way to freedom in Canada. This book indicates homes owned by B.D. Bowen in Felchville and the Denisen Family on Twenty Mile Stream Road.

<http://www.vermontcivilwar150.com/imgs/history/friendsoffreedomcopy.pdf>

Stephen D'Agostino



Tuesday, March 1st
Presidential Primary Vote
And the
Woodstock Union High School
Budget Vote
At the Reading Town Hall
10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Meeting Schedule

Board of Selectmen
Second Monday
6:00 PM at Town Office

Parent Teacher Org
Third Monday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Cemetery Commission
Fourth Wednesday
6:00 PM at Town Office

**Planning Commission
& Zoning Board**
First Monday
7:00 PM at Town Office

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

R.A.T.S
2nd Wednesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

Fire & Rescue Dept.
First Tuesday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

School Board
Third Wednesday
6:00 PM at Reading School

Fire Dept. Auxiliary
First Monday
7:00 PM at Fire Station

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

Library Trustees
Last Tuesday
6:00 PM at Library

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Fire and Ambulance 911
State Police 457-1416

Domestic/Sexual Violence Hotline
866-348-WISE (9473)

Town Contact Information

Town Clerk/Treasure Office
484-7250
Mon—Thurs 8am-4pm
First Saturday of the Month: 9am-12pm
Website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com
Email: 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

Reading Elementary School
484-7230
Fire Warden - Fire Burning Permits
Nathan Willard 484-0094

Reading– West Windsor Food Shelf

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

Located at 3456 Tyson Road
in South Reading
at the Stone School House

The Thrift Store is open to anyone, not just
food shelf members. Please feel free to stop in

Inquiries please contact
Sara Norcross 484-5097

Dana Waters 802-291-3299

To send a donation please mail to:

Reading– West Windsor Food Shelf
PO Box 384 Brownsville, VT 05037

Copies of the *Informer* can be found on
our Town website at
www.readingvt.govoffice.com
Or we can e-mail a copy to you.
Send the Town Clerk an e-mail at
readingvermont@comcast.net
to request this.

Reading Planning Commission

Feb 8, 2016 at 7 pm Unapproved Minutes

Please note that these are only an abbreviated version of the minutes.

The complete minutes are available on the Town website: www.readingvt.govoffice.com

Present – Steve Strait, Kevin Kaija, Ken Cox, Becky Basch

Guests – Dan Potter, SWCPC; Kurt Voight

1. Minutes of January 4, 2016 – Steve made a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the Informer and posted on the website, Kevin seconded the motion, all were in favor.
2. Zoning kick-off meeting – Dan Potter from SWCRPC had reviewed the scope of work for the project with the Planning Commission at last month’s meeting, the Commission opted not to review it again.
3. Proposed Zoning Map - Dan Potter brought copies of the revised zoning map for discussion. He explained that the districts were re-drawn to better conform to parcel boundaries. Steve made a motion to remove the overlay districts (wildlife corridor and deer wintering areas) from the proposed zoning map for now and add them back once we have refined the draft regulations. Ken seconded the motion, all were in favor.
4. Proposed revisions to Ridgeline Protection Overlay District - Steve explained that he asked SWCRPC to revise the Ridgeline Protection Overlay District on the map as the elevations of ridgelines are varied throughout town. Rather than including all areas above a certain elevation, the proposed overlay district boundaries would be based on the elevations of the different ridgelines – i.e. lower elevation ridgelines would be the top contours of those ridgelines while the higher elevations do not include those lower elevations but include the upper contours of those specific ridgelines. Dan will bring the edited maps to the next meeting and we will review and then put them out for public comment/ feedback.
5. Wildlife travel corridor and deer wintering habitat – Dan asked if we want to overhaul the language or keep it generally as drafted. Members agreed that we would review the language and discuss at the next meeting.
6. Flood Hazard Regulations - Dan handed out model flood hazard regulations for review and commented that the Planning Commission should consider whether we want to revise our current regulations or propose new regulations based on the new model regulations from the State. Dan explained that the Emergency Relief Assistance Fund has different reimbursement rates depending on the type of regulations a town adopts. The model he handed out would offer the Town the most relief from the assistance fund as it would require less matching funds. Dan said if there is a declared disaster and the town is seeking emergency funds, the regs would reduce the amount of match required from the Town. Becky asked if the mapped river corridors would affect whether or not people have to get flood insurance – Dan will research that question.
7. Correspondence – Steve announced that Ludlow is holding a public hearing on 2/23 to adopt revised energy and flood hazard chapters for the Town Plan.
8. Letter regarding residents who live next to the Mill Brook – Steve said that Sue Greenall from the Windsor Conservation Commission sent out mailings to residents of West Windsor who live next to the Mill Brook. The materials alerted them to educational information and plantings, and offered assistance. Sue is offering to send letters to Reading property owners as well. Steve will work with her to amend the letter in order to introduce the resources to people on the brook. Kevin agreed to sponsor the letters but did not think tree planting would help the erosion on the river. All were in favor.
9. Planning Commission Vacancy – Steve commented that there is still a vacancy on the Planning Commission, and members should think of people who we could invite to join the Commission.
10. Adjournment - Steve made a motion to adjourn, Kevin seconded – meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Basch, Secretary



Time to do your income taxes.....
3 EASY WAYS to get your Vermont Income Tax Forms

- 1) Download from www.bit.ly/vttaxforms (Form IN-111)
- 2) Email your request to tax.formrequest@vermont.gov
- 3) Order forms by phone 802-828-2515 or 855-297-5600

Homestead Declaration

Tax Preparation time for year end 2015: Reading Listers' Reminder

Homestead Declaration- Reading parcel owners who have their domicile in Reading are required to file a Vermont Homestead Declaration **annually** on or before April 15! This is the criteria for determining income sensitivity eligibility for any residential state-wide educational property tax adjustment. Individual circumstances may require filing for an income tax extension. Remind your tax preparer of the annual Vermont Homestead filing requirement and the date for filing. There are no extensions for the Homestead Declaration Late filings are subject to late penalties.

Per the Selectboard there will not be any waiving of penalties!

Non-residents- These parcel owners pay the non- resident state-wide education tax only adjusted for the Local CLA.

Impact of not filing Homestead Declaration-If you have your domicile in Reading and fail to file a declaration, you are subject to paying any difference between the residential and non-residential education tax plus a substantial penalty. Forms are available by going on line, and entering Vermont.gov, clicking on VT Tax Department, and clicking on forms.

The Reading Common Level of Appraisal for 2016 is 101.01.

Reading Listers,
 John Fike, Penny Allyn, Richard Sullivan

License your dog by April 1st to avoid a late fee The Town Office will be open on the 1st; 8 am—4 pm

In accordance with the State of Vermont Statute Title 20: 3541-3591 and 3801-3813 the municipal clerk shall issue licenses for dogs and wolf hybrids.

If you own or keep a dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months or older on or before April 1st of each year you must license the pet. If you become an owner or keeper of a dog or wolf-hybrid that is six months old after April 1st, you have 30 days to license the animal.

Stop in at the Town Clerk's office to register any new dogs or renew your dog's license.

You must have a copy of a current rabies vaccination certificate.

Dog Fees:	
Males/Females	\$13.00
	Neutered/Spayed \$ 9.00
After 4/1 add a late fee of \$2.00 / \$4.00	
Replacement Tag	\$ 3.00
	New Dog after 10/1 Half Fee



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March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Fire & Rescue 7 pm Fire Station VOTE	2	3	4	5
6	7 Plan Comm 7pm @ Town Hall Fire Auxiliary 7 pm Fire	8	9 RATS 7 pm Fire Station	10	11	12
13	14 Selectboard 6 p.m. Town Hall	15	16 School Board 6 pm at RES	17	18	19 Talent Night
20	21 PTO 6 pm at RES	22 Library Mtg. 6 pm	23 Cemetery Com- mission 6 pm Town Hall	24	25	26 Egg Hunt
27 Easter	28	29	30	31		