

# The Bolton Gazette

SEPTEMBER 2009

Editor - Deborah La Rivière · Production Coordinator - Kate La Rivière

[Gazette@townofboltonvt.com](mailto:Gazette@townofboltonvt.com) · 434-5075

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Articles, opinions and comments in this newsletter are the express opinions of the writer(s) and not of the Town



## Town News

By Deborah La Rivière

### Highway News

Driving up or down Bolton Valley Road lately? Have trouble reading all the signs? New signs were installed by our highway crew recently to upgrade the Access Road. VAOT, with federal funds, designated the Access Road a high risk road and funded the sign package. Participation in these federally sponsored programs is occasionally a 'must' when applying for other grants. The cost of the signs and posts will be reimbursed through the state with federal funds. The road crew is always getting ready for winter by stockpiling sand. Brush was cut and ditching completed earlier this summer. A grant for paving will allow the town to resurface about twice as much as anticipated with that project being completed before the end of October.

### Taxes

September 01 was the deadline

to file the HS-121 prebate form. Corrected tax bills for those who filed after April 15 and before September 01 will be out in the mail this week. The listers and assessor are working on the Notch and Stage Roads for this year's portion of the 5 year reappraisal. If you live on either of these roads, expect a call from Theresa Stockwell to set up an appointment.

### Dogs

Dogs on the loose, dogs barking and dog bites have become an unfortunately all too frequent occurrence lately. Gene Armstrong is the Constable and the Select Board is working on rewriting the current dog ordinance to include a civil fine that will be payable to the town for violators. A draft of the new version is available online at [boltonvt.com](http://boltonvt.com). The Board will accept comments on the new version at their September 21 meeting. At that time, the Board will adopt the ordinance. A thirty day waiting period follows this, wherein residents

may file a petition asking for this issue to go to a town wide vote. If no petition is received, the new ordinance will go into effect at the end of the waiting period.

### MMU Vote

The MMU Board voted at their last meeting to hold a bond vote on October 06, 2009. The Bolton Board of Civil Authority voted to allow this vote to take place at the Town Office. Voting will still take place from 7 am to 7 pm. Just come into the office, check in and you will go into the conference room and into a voting booth, the same way we do at Smilie School. If you are new in town and intend to participate in the vote, check prior to that day to be sure you are on the voter checklist in Bolton. The warning for the vote is in this newsletter.

### Food

The next Vermont Food Bank Sort-A-Thon will be Saturday September 12 from 8:30 to 12:30 at the Barre warehouse.

Volunteers must be 14 years of age and 18 to work in the kitchen. Under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Patrick at 802-477-4127 or [pgilbert@secondharvet.org](mailto:pgilbert@secondharvet.org). The Richmond Food Shelf (located in the Miscellany Mart), which services Bolton is always in need of the following items: Peanut butter, tuna, hot and cold cereals, pasta and sauces, canned ravioli, toothpaste, shampoo, shaving cream and meaty soups. If you have any questions, please call Marcia Levison at 434-2026. Outdated items CANNOT be distributed and canned fruit and regular soups are not needed at this time.

### VT Progressive Party

Tuesday September 22, 2009 is the date set for the Progressive Party caucus. Anyone interested should contact Morgan Daybell at 802-229-0800 or [info@progressiveparty.org](mailto:info@progressiveparty.org).

### News From The Waterbury Public Library

The annual Friends of the Library book sale is still on for a couple more weeks only! We have dropped the prices on our books to \$1 for adult hardcover books and only \$0.50 for everything else! We still have lots of great titles to choose from, so come and browse the selection on the back ramp of the library. All proceeds from the sale help fund the many free programs the library offers. Story Times with Dawn will return for the fall session on Wednesday, September 2 at 10:00 am with Baby-Toddler Lap Time. Story times for Preschoolers will begin again on Friday, September 4 at 10:00 am. Come into the Library and pick up a new Fall 2009 Story Time flyer which includes news and details of some exciting fall programs and special events we have in

store, such as a meeting with Jake the Snake on September 26 (registration required for this one), Game Days on early release days, and our annual Family Pumpkin Carving!

Keep your eyes peeled for the details on two very special author visits coming this fall: Thomas A. Middleton on September 15th and Archer Mayor on October 5th!

The library had loads of fun this summer with our "Be Creative" theme. The entertaining programs with Peter Burns, Tom Joyce

*See Library, page 4*



## Welcome Back To Our Smilie Community

*Mary E. Woodruff, Principal*

It's hard to believe but another summer is waning and Smilie Memorial Staff are ready to open our doors for another school year.

Ginny Gifford is thrilled to be back in the Pre-school and is excited to be part of her students learning and development. She looks forward to getting to know all the special things about Bolton's 3 and 4 year olds.

Tina Cole is happy to return to Kindergarten after teaching first grade for a few years. She is looking forward to being among her students after a restful, enjoyable summer.

Katie LeFrancois will be teaching 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy and science and social studies grades 1 – 4. She is so excited for new beginnings. In her class you all will be learning about frogs, electricity, doing some incredible writing and learning and growing together this year.

Steve Menz will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade home-room but he will be teaching math, science and social studies to grades 1 – 4. He is very excited to be teaching math to everyone so that he will be able to recognize students' growth over time.

Helen-Ann Cafferty will be teaching grades 3 – 4 literacy and science and social studies in grades 1 - 4. She is looking forward to a fantastic year in reading and writing as well as with our new multiage configuration. Our social studies units are Our Caring Community, world geography, and continents and countries.

I am amazed at the positive energy in this building when staff is here working together and supporting each other through the "getting ready" process. Having students in the building in just a few days will be great. We all look forward to a stellar school year.



## Official Warning: MMU District #17 Special Meeting, October 6, 2009

The legal voters of the Town School Districts of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill, and Underhill Incorporated School District, being of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17, are hereby notified and warned to meet to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm at:

- Bolton Town Office in the Town of Bolton,
- Huntington Town Office in the Town of Huntington (6:30 am – 7 pm),
- Jericho Elementary School in the Town of Jericho,
- Richmond Town Office in the Town of Richmond,
- Underhill Town Hall in the Town of Underhill, and
- Underhill Incorporated School District shall vote in the Town of Jericho or the Town of Underhill as determined by their residence on Tuesday, October 6, 2009.

### ARTICLE I

Shall general obligation bonds of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 in an amount not to exceed One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,300,000), bearing **interest not- to-exceed zero percent**, subject to reduction for available grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing certain public improvements, viz: electrical system upgrades and energy efficiency improvements to reduce operating costs at Browns River Middle School in the town of Jericho and Camels Hump Middle School in the Town of Richmond and Mt. Mansfield Union High School in the town of Jericho, the aggregate cost of such improvements estimated to be One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,300,000)?

State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive state school construction aid, and in connection with temporary bond construction financing. The district is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing done in anticipation of state school construction aid.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, re-opened at Mt.

Mansfield Union High School in the Town of Jericho, the ballots mingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond and Underhill under the supervision of the Clerk of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17.

The legal voters of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 are further warned and notified that an **informational meeting will be held at Mt. Mansfield Union High School in the Town of Jericho on September 30, 2009, commencing at 7:30 pm, for the purpose of explaining Article I.**

The legal voters of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Section 706u-706w of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Board of School Directors of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 held on August 27, 2009.

Jeffrey W. Forward  
 Yasmine Ziesler  
 Marsha Faryniarz  
 Michael Marks  
 Robert Robbins  
 Linda Willmott  
 Julie T. Jones  
 George Till  
 Kenneth A. Remsen

### SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Received for record this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 2009.

Nancy C. Bradford, Clerk, Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17



## Select Board Minutes

**AUGUST 3, 2009**

Present: J. Devine, R. Vallie and G. Armstrong, D. La Rivière, E. Andrews.

Two bids for paving were received and opened. ST Paving bid \$63.50 per ton and Pike bid \$59.59. RJ motioned: "To accept the bid from Pike Industries of \$59.59 per ton." Gene seconded. The budget for resurfacing is \$36 thousand and the town received approval for a grant up to \$56,000. Andrews would like to hold back about 3 thousand for cold patch throughout the year. The Board will not exceed 89 thousand. The question was called all were in favor, motion passed and contract signed.

The Board re-reviewed the driveway access permit for James Cornett. Andrews had measured the site distances and they were corrected. John motioned: "To approve the driveway access for James Cornett." Seconded by Gene. All were in favor, motion passed.

The Board reviewed an access permit for Dave and Sue Beckman. Gene motioned: "To approve a curb cut for the Beckmans." RJ seconded. Andrews confirmed the site distances. All were in favor. Motion passed.

John motioned: "To approve the minutes from the July 20, 2009 meeting." RJ seconded. There were no changes or corrections, all were in favor, motion passed.

Highway logs were reviewed.

The Board requested that both members of the highway crew not take vacation at the time.

The Board would like engineer Mike Wiesel at a board meeting in early October to finalize figures and information for the Notch Road project.

Warrants were signed.

John motioned: "To approve the annual Marshall and Swift contract for the assessor." Gene seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

The Board read a response letter from Trini Brassard regarding rail crossings. The Board would like a little research done on the Sarah Holbrook property and its crossing. Deb will do.

The Town still has not found an animal control officer but will continue searching. Deb will speak with Robert Fletcher, Esq. regarding changes to the current dog ordinance that would allow the town to collect a fee from pet owners found to be in violation. Gene received a call from Fletcher Allen over the weekend regarding a dog bite and will bring the information in for Deb to follow up on.

There was no other business to be brought before this Board at this time. RJ motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Gene. The meeting ended at 7pm.

**AUGUST 17, 2009**

Present: J. Devine, G. Armstrong, D. Champney, R. Vallie, R. Streeter, D. La Riviere.

Joe Lafreniere met with the Board to bring them up-to-date on the Green Mountain Club's proposal to build a bridge over the Winooski. The Lafreniere property is the proposed southern location for the bridge. Joe is meeting with the GMC next week and will keep the Board in the loop.

The Board discussed dog issues and the current dog ordinance. Deb has been speaking with Amanda Lafferty at Stitzel, Page and Fletcher and a penalty clause, payable to the town, can

be added. The Board read the draft executed by Lafferty and Deb will add it to the next newsletter. The Board would like an additional section added that will state 'one warning phone call may be made before issuance of a civil fine, but if the constable is dispatched, a fine will be assessed'. John motioned: "To appoint Gene Armstrong as constable." Richard seconded. There was no further discussion on this, the question was called, Dan, John, RJ and Richard in favor, Gene abstained. Motion passed. John motioned: "To set a payment for the constable at \$100 per call for animal control." Dan seconded. There was no further discussion on this, the question was called, Dan, John, RJ and Richard in favor, Gene abstained. Motion passed. The other issue is where to take dogs if they are picked up by the town. The Humane Society does not take animals that have not been quarantined first. John motioned: "To have Gene Armstrong build a small kennel on his property for the purpose of housing pets that have been picked up. The Town will reimburse Armstrong." Richard seconded. There was no other discussion, Richard, John, Dan and RJ in favor, Gene abstained. Motion passed.

Richard P. Streeter spoke to the Board as a resident and inquired about the town usage of his property as a turnaround for the highway trucks. He would like an agreement with the town to protect all parties; so that the town may continue this usage should Streeter sell and so the town cannot at some later date claim eminent domain and seize the property. The Board reviewed an agreement with a Notch Road resident with a similar issue. Streeter will look this over and get back to the board at the September 14 meeting.

Highway logs were reviewed.

A commendation letter from the

VLCT regarding highway crew members Eric Andrews and Tom Champney was read.

Peter Fenn has completed his driveway on Wentworth Road. Eric should do another inspection prior to a Certificate of Occupancy being issued. The Board asked for pictures and would like a sentence in the curb cut application that requests before and after construction photos of all driveway accesses. Deb will do.

Flood maps are being reviewed and the Planning Commission has a meeting scheduled to accept public comment on September 14.

John motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 7pm seconded by Gene. The Board resumed their regular meeting at 7:20 pm

Deb will contact Lisa from the VLCT to attend the next meeting.

A dog bite issue from 10 days ago remains unresolved. Deb will try again to contact those involved.

Treasurer Reports for July were read.

John motioned: "To approve the minutes from August 03, 2009." Seconded by RJ. There were no changes or corrections. All were in favor, motion to accept passed.

The Board discussed the ongoing problem of parking on Bolton Valley Road. Deb has called the state police several times as well as a local towing company. The Board would like a price quote on installing guardrails from the Baker property up to the former Peterson property. Deb will have Eric Andrews get a quote.

There was no other business to be brought before this Board at this time. John motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Gene. The meeting ended at 8pm.



## DIGITAL FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP, FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY REPORT, & PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has presented the town of Bolton with a preliminary copy of the DIGITAL FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (DFIRM), and accompanying FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY REPORT (FIS).

FEMA has produced the DFIRM and FIS Report in Countywide Format which means that flood hazard information for the entire geographic area is presented.

FEMA highly recommends that the Bolton community review the DFIRM and the FIS Report, as they convey critical flood hazard information for our community. The DFIRM and FIS Report are available for review at the Bolton Town Office during regular business hours.

The Bolton Planning Commission invites the entire Bolton community, and especially those landowners whose property may be affected, to discuss, comment, suggest needed corrections, and ask questions about the DFIRM and FIS Report on:

Monday  
September 14, 2009  
6 – 6:30 p.m.  
At the Bolton Town Office

Our community's comments on the preliminary DFIRM and FIS Report are an important part of the review process before the final forms are produced, and after review, the town can request or decline a meeting with FEMA representatives. In conjunction with this review, the Planning Commission will be reviewing and updating, as needed, Bolton's flood hazard area regulations to meet or exceed federal and state standards in order for the town of Bolton to continue participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### Questions?

Contact Bolton Planning Commission Clerk, Amy Grover, at 434-410 or [tagrover@yahoo.com](mailto:tagrover@yahoo.com)

### Calling Bolton Democrats

- ◆ Do you think our country is on the right track with President Barack Obama?
- ◆ Do you support universal access to health care in the United States?
- ◆ Do you feel that we have to do more to stop global warming?

If your answer to any of these questions is YES, then you need to become active in the Democratic Party. Bolton needs a Democratic Committee and the opportunity to organize one happens in September when each major political party in every town and city in Vermont reorganizes.

If you would like to help organize a BOLTON DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, give me a call and I'll be glad to help organize a caucus with you.

Mike Yantachka  
Chittenden County Democratic Committee Chairman  
802-425-3960 (H)  
802-233-5238 (C)  
[www.chittdems.blogspot.com](http://www.chittdems.blogspot.com)

*Library, from front page*

and Adam Miller were very lively and well attended. There were lots of children who attended the weekly Lunch & Listen to Greek Tales and Game Days. All the Friday Preschool Story Time specials were full. And did you see the staff in the Waterbury Independence Day parade being creative with their costumes? It was a great summer, thanks to the involvement of our patrons and volunteers.

Kids can still turn in their Summer Reading Logs by September 11 to be eligible for some great prizes! This year we also have a very special bonus: choose a book to keep from more than 100 like-new kids books (while supplies last, suitable for grades 1-6).

If your child has earned a Read & Win ribbon for reading 3 books for entry to the Champlain Valley Fair, please let the library know as soon as possible. Since the schools in our area start prior to the August 31 "free" admittance day, they would like to give you a pass to the Fair for another day.

Keep up-to-date with all the exciting programs, story times, new books, cds and downloadable audiobooks by visiting the library's website at [waterburypubliclibrary.wordpress.com](http://waterburypubliclibrary.wordpress.com). See you at the library!

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway  
Bolton, VT 05676**

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