District 8
Certcode 0601-0

Town

APPROVED:

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2021

Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2021 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section through upload to the secure FTP site or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID - Mapping Section, 2178 Airport Rd, Unit B, Berlin, VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of BAKERSFIELD

PART I - CHANGES TOTALS - Please fill in and calculate totals.

Previous

in FRANKLIN

County

Scenic

on an oath state that the mileage of highways, according to Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 19, Section 305, added 1985, is as follows:

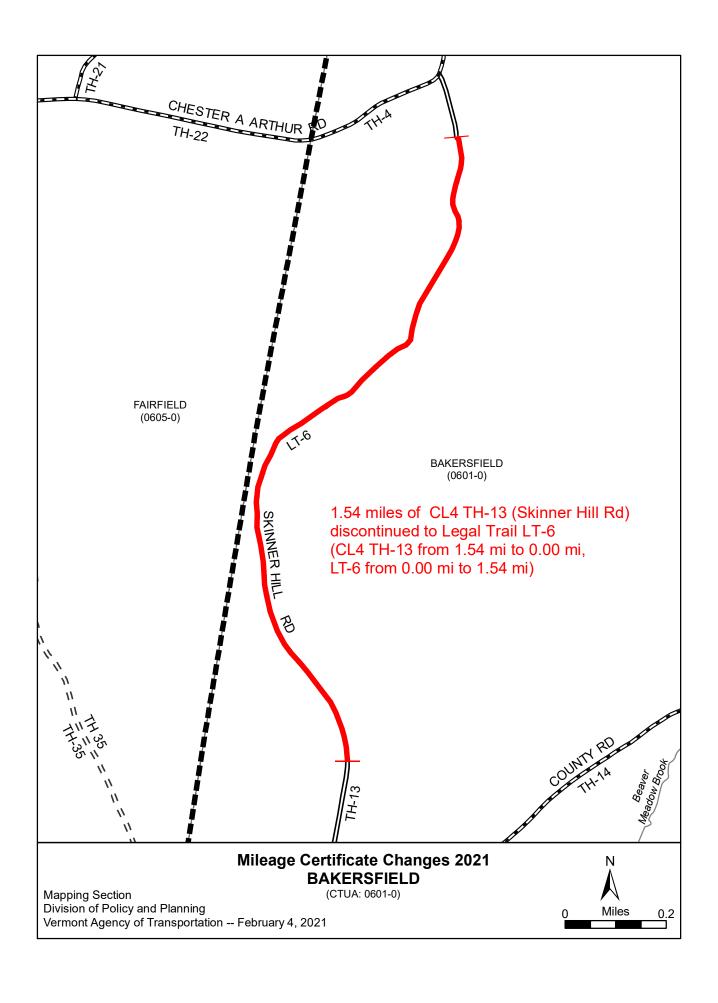
Added

Subtracted

Highway	s Mileag	ze	Mileage	Mileage	Total	Highways
Class 1	C	0.000				0.000
Class 2	9).360				0.000
Class 3	3	31.81				0.000
State Hig	ghway 10).539				0.000
Total	51	1.709				0.000
* Class 1 Lo	nne C	0.000			Contract of many metabolic and many and many of	
* Class 4		9.86		1.54	8.32	0.000
* Legal Tra	il	1.20	1.54		2.74	
PART II - INFO	r Class 1 Lane, Class RMATION AND 1				2021-	Received
1 NEW HIGH	WAVS. Please atta	ch Soloctmon's	"Cortificate	of Completion an	d Onenino"	1
1. NEW HIGH	WAYS: Please attac	ch Selectmen's	"Certificate	of Completion an	d Opening".	FEB 02 2021
	WAYS: Please attac				Po	FEB 0.2 2021 Slicy, Planning & Intermone Development Division
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Representative, Agency of Transportation

DATE:



Town Highway/Legal Trails Addition/Reclassification/Discontinuance Checklist

The following includes a checklist of the documentation to be supplied to the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) when adding / reclassifying / discontinuing highways and trails. The documentation is subject to verification by VTrans.

Check	the box !! if the information is included as part of the documentation submitted.
Image: Control of the	A description of the affected highway or trail Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 305(e)
	A current town highway map with the requested deletions and additions sketched on it Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 305(e)
\checkmark	Minutes of meetings at which the legislative body took action with respect to the changes (include copies of the meeting minutes) Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 305(e)
\checkmark	Evidence of written notice to adjoining landowners (include a copy of the newspaper notice and a copy of the letter sent to adjoining landowners) Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 709
	A copy of any surveys of the affected highway or trail Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 305(e) Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 19, § 704
	For Class 3 or Class 4 town highway additions A Certificate of Completion and Opening While not required by statute, a Certificate of Completion and Opening form is a helpful document for the record.

All records filed with the agency are subject to verification in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 305 (a) and 19 V.S.A. § 305 (e).

Vermont Agency of Transportation Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section 219 North Main Street, Barre, VT 05641 Description - Town Rd #13 - Class N section of Road to be down graded to a legal troil

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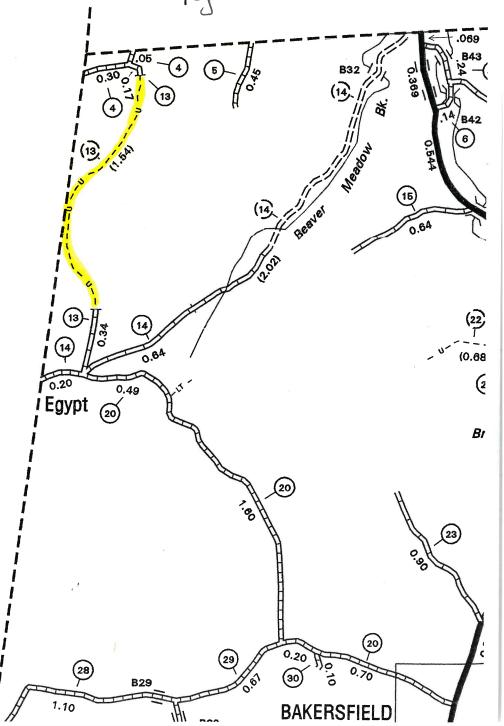
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EST HIGHWAY



CAHILL, GAWNE, MILLER & MANAHAN, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 42 NORTH MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 810 ST. ALBANS, VT 05478-0810 (802) 524-6211

JOSEPH F. CAHILL, JR. MICHAEL S. GAWNE DAVID G. MILLER MEGAN T. MANAHAN BLISS ROBERT H. BROWN (1914-1990)

September 18, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Potential Discontinuance/Reclassification of Skinner Hill Road, Bakersfield, Vermont

Inasmuch as you are either an owner or another person interested in property adjoining Skinner Hill Road in the Town of Bakersfield, County of Franklin and State of Vermont, I am hereby giving you notice of the examination and hearing on the petition to discontinue portions of Skinner Hill Road as a public highway. If you have any questions, please let me know. I am the attorney for the Town of Bakersfield and would be happy to discuss the proposal with you.

While the owners are well aware of the petition - all of them have signed it - the other interested persons may not even know why they might be interested. Therefore, please be further advised:

- 1. Charter One Bank, N.A.; James and Hollie Curtis; Vermaple, LLC; and Shawmut Bank, N.A. are all interested in the property owned by Stephen and Patricia Jones located at Chester Arthur Road.
- 2. Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. is interested in the property owned by Claude Sheridan and June Sheridan located at 138 Skinner Hill Road.
- 3. Judith Peach is interested in the property owned by Douglas Nelson located at 407 Skinner Hill Road.

Yours truly,

MSG:m Enc.

Sent to:

David and Katherine Westcom Stephen and Patricia Jones

James and Hollie Curtis

Shawmut Bank, N.A.

Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. Douglas Nelson

Judith Peach

Phyllis Ruhl and Gary Collins

Charter One Bank, N.A.

Vermaple, LLC

Claude and June Sheridan

TOWN OF BAKERSFIELD NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE OF HIGHWAY SKINNER HILL ROAD

will meet on Tuesky, October 20, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Chester Arthur Road to examine the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road located between Chester Arthur Road and the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road and at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Egypt Road to examine the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road located north of Egypt Road and that the Selectmen will meet on that same date at 6:00 p.m. at the Office of the Town Clerk, 40 East Bakersfield Road in the Town of Bakersfield, County of Franklin and State of Vermont to receive testimony about the proposed discontinuance of said portions of Skinner Hill Road.

Dated at Bakersfield, Vermont, this 14 day of September, 2020.

Igsnua J. Gos

Gary Denton

Samuel W. Cribb

Lance Lawyer

Received for filing:

Katherine Westcom, Town Clerk

lassifieds

FREE Listing \$150 or Less

SOMETIMES ERRORS OCCUR. After placing an ad, it is your responsibility to check your adon the first day of publication for any errors. Refunds are not issued for classified ads, but if notification is given to our department after the first day of publication, we will run your corrected ad for one extra day. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect publication of each ad. Paid advertisement will take priority over free listings.

802.524.9771 ×117 or classifieds@samessenger.

www.samessenger.com fax: 802.52 281 North Main Street, St. Albans VT

9/21/2020

WRITING YOUR CLASSIFIED?

CALL US AND WE WILL HELP WRITE YOUR AD & **DESIGN IT FOR FREE**

Tuesday. Wednesday Thursday...... Noon Friday & Saturday No For display ads or ads req

please allow us extra time.

Employment, Legals, and Merchandise

of intent to: 100 Grand Ave. Swanton VT 05488

> TOWN OF BAKERSFIELD NOTICE OF **PROPOSED** DISCONTINUANCE **OF HIGHWAY**

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today!

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SKINNER HILL ROAD KNOW ALL MEN BY : work THESE PRESENTS that the Selectmen of the Town of Bakersfield will meet on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Chester Arthur Road to examine the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road located between Chester Arthur Road and the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road and at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Egypt Road to examine the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road located north of Egypt Road and that the Selectmen will meet on that same NATION date at 6:00 p.m. at is hav- the Office of the Town for Clerk, 40 East Bakers-

nat are field Road in the Town

on. Call of Bakersfield, County

00am - testimony about the

d letter proposed

Mon- of Franklin and State lay, or of Vermont to receive

Skinner Hill Road. Dated at Bakersfield, Vermont, this 14th day of September, 2020.

Terri Gates Joshua J. Goss Gary Denton Samuel W. Cribb Lance Lawyer



EMERSON TOASTER OVEN, 0.35 Cubic ft. in-

ance of said portions of terior. New in box \$40 OBO. Call 802-448-3660

> KEURIG COFFEE MAK-ER. Model K55 Black. New in box. \$99 OBO. Call 802-448-3660

Canoes/Kayaks

KAYAK, BLUE, IN excellent condition, comes with paddle. Asking \$150. Call 802-393-5219 for more info.

Clothing & Acces-

WINTER CLOTHES, AS-SORTED XL and 2XL sizes, brand new still with tags. Call 802-527-7891 for prices and more info.



above the rest since 1875

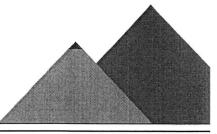
Apply in person at:

A.C. Hathorne Co. 252 Avenue C Williston, VT 05495

802-862-6473



- Full time year round employmen
- Good benefits
- EOE/M/F/VET/Disability employe
- · Pay negotiable with experience



GEMS

Georgia Elementary & Middle School

CUSTODIAL POSITION Full - Time

Georgia Elementary and Middle School is looking to fill a full time Custodial position for the evening shift. If you are interested, please call Tod Granger at

802-849-0713

for more information and an application.



Now Hiring

- JOB FAIR -Tuesday 9/22/20 from 3

Employee Benefits:

Flexible schedules, Paid Vacation, Holiday, & Sic 401K, Scholarship Opportunities, Additional My Reward Savings & More Full time benefits are for permanent fun

Apply Online: www.hannaford.com/about-us/c Call or Email: Jennifer Benoit at 802-524-2157 by email to jenbenoit@hannafor

277 Swanton Road, Highgate Shopp

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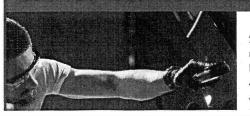
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COME JOIN OUR HANDY TOYOTA SERVICE TECHNICIAN TEAM!



Set yourself apart with advar manufacturer-specific trainii backed by a team that wants and invest in your future. Tec all experience levels are enc

SELECT BOARD'S RETURN DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF SKINNER HILL ROAD

Though a written petition to discontinue portions of Skinner Hill Road was not filed by voters or landowners constituting five percent of the voters of the Town of Bakersfield, David Westcom, Katherine Westcom, Phyllis Ruhl, Gary Collins, Stephen Jones, Patricia Jones, Claude Sheridan, June Sheridan and Douglas Nelson, being all of the landowners over whose property the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road and the Class 3 portion located north of the Class 4 portion are located, attended a meeting of the Select Board of the Town of Bakersfield and asked the Select Board to discontinue those two portions. The Select Board on its own initiative decided to initiate discontinuance proceedings. 19 V.S.A. § 708.

On October 20, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., the Select Board of the Town of Bakersfield met at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Chester Arthur Road to examine the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road; at 5:30 p.m. the Select Board met at the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Egypt Road to examine the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road located north of Egypt Road; and at 6:00 p.m. the Select Board held a hearing at the Office of the Town Clerk of Bakersfield to determine whether the public good, necessity and convenience required the discontinuance of Skinner Hill Road of the entire Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road and that portion of the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road located between the north end of the Class 4 portion and Chester Arthur Road. 19 V.S.A. § 709.

Notice of the meeting was posted at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Bakersfield on September 18, 2020. See attached notice. *Ibid*.

The notice was also published in the St. Albans Messenger on September 21, 2020. See attached tearsheet. *Ibid*.

Notice was also sent by certified mail on September 18, 2020 to the following interested persons: David R. Westcom and Katherine H. Westcom; Phyllis Ruhl and Gary M. Collins (whose letter was returned as "Not Deliverable as Addressed); Stephen J. Jones, Patricia J. Jones, Charter One Bank, N.A., James Curtis, Hollie Curtis, Vermaple, LLC, and Shawmut Bank, N.A.; Claude Sheridan individually, Claude Sheridan, Co-Trustee, June Sheridan, Co-Trustee, and Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Douglas E. Nelson and Judith Peach. Notice was also sent by certified mail on September 21, 2020 to the Planning Commission of the Town of Bakersfield. Ibid. See attached return receipts or certificate of mailing.

Notice was also sent by certified mail on September 21, 2020 to Julie Moore, Agency Secretary of the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, 19 V.S.A. § 775. See attached return receipt.

The following persons were present at the examination: Select Board members Terri Gates, Joshua J. Goss, Gary Denton and Lance Lawyer; Road Commissioner William Newett; Interested Persons Stephen Jones and David Westcom.

The following persons were present at the hearing: Select Board members Terri Gates, Joshua J. Goss, Gary Denton and Lance Lawyer; Road Commissioner William Newett; Town Attorney Michael Gawne; Select Board Secretary Tami Brennan; Interested Persons David Westcom, Katherine Westcom and Douglas Nelson.

David R. Westcom, Katherine H. Westcom and Douglas E. Nelson, being duly sworn, testified.

The examination of Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road and the testimony revealed that the Class 4 portion is not passable by a standard manufactured pleasure car any portion of the year. Trees and brush grow in the middle of the right of way at several locations. At these locations, the traveled path is located outside of the right of way on private land. There are also drainage issues here and there. The Town has done no maintenance on the Class 4 portion for decades, and the passable portions have been maintained

by the landowners whose properties abut the right of way. Until the advent of ATV's and snowmobiles, the Class 4 portion had been used only by the landowners, and not by other members of the public. Since the advent, the Class 4 portion and the traveled path on the landowners' properties have been used, despite objection of the landowners, by people riding ATV's and snowmobiles at all hours of the day and night. Such usage has damaged the roadbed.

The Class 3 portion located north of the Class 4 portion (which portion is currently maintained by the Town of Enosburgh) has been and still is passable under normal conditions all seasons of the year by a standard manufactured pleasure car and provides convenient access to the properties owned by (1) David R. Westcom and Katherine H. Westcom and (2) Stephen J. Jones and Patricia J. Jones, all of whom appeared at the Select Board meeting at which they requested the discontinuance of this portion.

Rebecca Washburn, Director of Lands Administration and Recreation Division of the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, sent the Select Board a letter dated October 16, 2020 in which she stated it was the policy of the Department to encourage municipalities to keep highways for emergency, recreational, forestry, agricultural purposes so as to allow access to year-round and part-time residences, access to fields and forests, access to state-owned parcels, and recreational access. While Ms. Washburn did not exercise the Department's right to designate these portions of Skinner Hill Road as a trail pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 775, the Select Board considered the identified reasons for such designation.

Emergency access to most of the homes on Skinner Hill Road is afforded from the southern Class 3 portion. Emergency access to the Westcom home and the Jones property is afforded from the northern Class 3 portion.

The Class 4 portion is used as access in the sugar operations conducted by Vermaple, LLC. Such portion could also be used in logging operations and agricultural pursuits.

There is currently no state-owned property contiguous to Skinner Hill Road.

Skinner Hill Road could be used to provide recreational opportunities which do not disturb the peace and quiet of the landowners and which do not damage the right of way. Motorized vehicles, all too often ATV's and snowmobiles, create disturbances and damage.

Based on the examination and the hearing, the Select Board of the Town of Bakersfield adjudged that the public good, necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the Town of Bakersfield required that only the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road be designated as a trail. This portion begin at the turn-around otherwise located on the property owned by Douglas E. Nelson¹ and run northerly to turn-around otherwise located on the property owned by David R. Westcom and Katherine H. Westcom², which is approximately 0.17 mile south the intersection of Skinner Hill Road with Chester Arthur Road. Based on the testimony and examination, the Select Board decided to impose the following conditions upon the trail:

- 1. The trail shall be a "pent" trail, i.e. the Select Board hereby gives its written allowance to have a portion of the trail enclosed by the adjoining landowners with unlocked gates or bars at two places, (a) at the southern end of the trail north of the turn-around at such location as the Road Commissioner and Douglas Nelson deem suitable and (b) at the northern end of the trail at such location as the Road Commissioner and the Westcoms deem suitable.
 - 2. The trail shall be closed to all motorized vehicles, specifically including ATV's and

² Likewise, this turn-around is located outside of the survey for Skinner Hill Road. However, the turn-around has become a portion of the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road by dedication and acceptance. The Westcoms and perhaps their predecessors in title permitted the Town to construct and use a turn-around, and the Town did so.

The turn-around is located outside of the survey for Skinner Hill Road. However, the turn-around has become a portion of the Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road by dedication and acceptance. Mr. Nelson and perhaps his predecessors in title permitted the Town to construct and use a turn-around, and the Town did so.

snowmobiles, except with the permission of the Select Board. At this time, the Select Board hereby gives its permission to motorized vehicular access to all owners of land adjoining the trail and to the invitees of said owners, but the Select Board reserves the right to withdraw its permission to said invitees at any time.

The Select Board declined to discontinue or reclassify the northern Class 3 portion of Skinner Hill Road.

Inasmuch as all of the owners of land asked the Select Board to discontinue the usage of the Class 4 portion of Skinner Hill Road, the Select Board did not consider the question of damages, assuming damages could be assessed in the context of a discontinuance or in the designation as a trail. In any event, the Select Board perceived that the decision to change said portions from a highway to a trail enhanced the fair market value of the adjoining properties. 19 V.S.A. § 712

ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY THIS RETURN MAY APPEAL THIS RETURN TO THE VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT, FRANKLIN UNIT, CIVIL DIVISION, WHETHER AS TO THE NECESSITY FOR SUCH DISCONTINUANCE OR AS TO DAMAGES, BY FILING A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE TOWN CLERK OF THE TOWN OF BAKERSFIELD WITHIN THIRTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF FILING OF THIS RETURN WITH THE TOWN CLERK. V.R.C.P. 74.

Dated at Bakersfield, Vermont, this 13-day of Navember 2020.

Ance Lawyer

January Joseph January Janu

Received for filing:

Authorized Westcom, Town Clerk

///24/2020

at 8 o'clock 00 minutes A.D. 20 20

at 8 o'clock 77 181-182

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Select Board Site Inspection and Hearing for Skinner Hill Rd. Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Select Board in attendance: Lance Lawyer, Josh Goss, Gary Denton, Terri Gates

Absent: Sam Cribb

Residents/Guests in attendance for site inspection: Mac Newitt, Steve Jones, David Westcom, Tami Brennan

Residents/Guests in attendance for Hearing: Mac Newitt, David Westcom, Kathy Westcom, Doug Nelson, Tami Brennan, Mike Gawne-Town Attorney

Josh Goss, Gary Denton, David Westcom, Lance Lawyer, Steve Jones, Terri Gates, Tami Brennan and Mac Newitt began to walk the Class IV section of Skinner Hill Rd. from the North end at 5:00pm on Tuesday, Oct. 20. Josh, Gary, Mac, David Westcom and Steve Jones walked the entire length of the road.

Josh, Gary, Lance, Terri, Mac, Kathy Westcom, David Westcom, Doug Nelson, and Tami Brennan met Mike Gawne back at the Town Hall for a hearing regarding a request from Skinner Hill Residents to discontinue the Class IV section of Skinner Hill Rd.

Mike Gawne began the Hearing by summarizing...The Residents got together and came to us as a united front.

Doug Nelson asked Mike Gawne a question about the process to change the designation of a road. Particularly, if it required more that 5% of the town residents needed to agree. Mike said no...if there is not a petition supported by 5% of the voters, the Select Board can act on their own initiative.

Mike said that he had contacted everybody that needed to be contacted:

- -the people who own properties that join or abut the road
- -the people who have an interest in any of the properties, ie. Mortgage, etc.
- -any one affected by an easement...i.e VT Electric Co-op
- -Jamie Curtis Maple LLC regarding sugar rights on Jones property
- -people with road frontage on Skinner Hill Rd.
- -The warning/notice was published in the St. Albans Messenger.
- -The warning/notice was posted at the Bakersfield Town Clerk's office and on the Town website.
- -The Bakersfield Planning Commission was notified.
- -The Vermont Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation was notified.
- -Mike noted that VAST does not need to be notified.
- -Mike held up the 19 certified mail return stubs for the 19 people that he had sent a certified letter regarding the Skinner Hill.

Rebecca Washburn, the Director of Lands Administration and Recreation Division, sent a letter to the Select Board to notify the Select Board that the policy of FPR is to encourage municipalities to keep their highways as public ROW's but that the FPR staff will not be attending the hearing and had no

When Mike Gawne asked for testimonies as to whether removing the road from the town map would benefit the town or the public good. David Westcom stated that Skinner Hill Rd has never served the public other than the 4-wheelers that have become a problem. The landowners on Skinner Hill have always taken care of the road themselves, not the town, for at least for the 35 years that he has lived there.

The road was totally overgrown until Steve carved out the private Rd and put gravel down. He sees no reason for the town to keep it and spend the money to maintain it.

Mike Gawne asked a question about where drivers would be able to turn around when they reach the end of the Southern Class III section of Skinner Hill Rd, if the Class IV section is discontinued. Mac said there was a turn around already there at Doug Nelson's at the end of the Class III section. Mike asked Doug if he was ok with having the turnaround right there and Doug said he wasn't really ok with it but people have been turning around there for 34 years and because of the trucks, the space to turn around has gotten bigger. He said he sees no other place to have it, but he would be happy if the town would replace the gravel that needs to replaced to keep it up. Mike Gawne said that it was the Town's responsibility to replace the gravel, since it's a Class III section of road. Doug said that he has no problem with the Status Quo, but he would like something in writing to record its existence. Lance agreed if the turn around is established on Doug Nelson's property, the town is responsible to maintain it.

Mike said that there were three ways for a road to become a Town road.

- -Petitioned by the community
- -By Deed
- -By implied dedication/acceptance, even though there was no survey or dedication.

David Westcom wanted to make sure that if the road is discontinued, that the easements for Doug and Claude to use the road would remain the same. Mike said that when a road is discontinued, the owner of the property retains the sole means of reasonable access. The owner keeps a private easement, an implied easement. David wanted to make sure that Doug and Claude would have access/easement to use the private road from the north end. Mike said since Doug can access his property from the southern section of Skinner Hill, he would not qualify for an easement by necessity and his right to use the northern section of may disappear.

It was asked that if the road is discontinued, could a statement be placed in a deed, that all residents and their heirs, would have access through the private road from the southern section to the northern section. Mike said it would have to put in all the individual deeds of the landowners, not given from the town, and that it wouldn't have to be a deed, it could be an agreement that is made

southern sections of Skinner Hill Rd that are currently Class III status, will remain Class III road.

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm was made by Josh, seconded by Terri and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Meeting minutes recorded by Tami Brennan.