District Certcode 1212-0

APPROVED:

Representative, Agency of Transportation

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2022

2/9/2022 VTrans Mapping Section

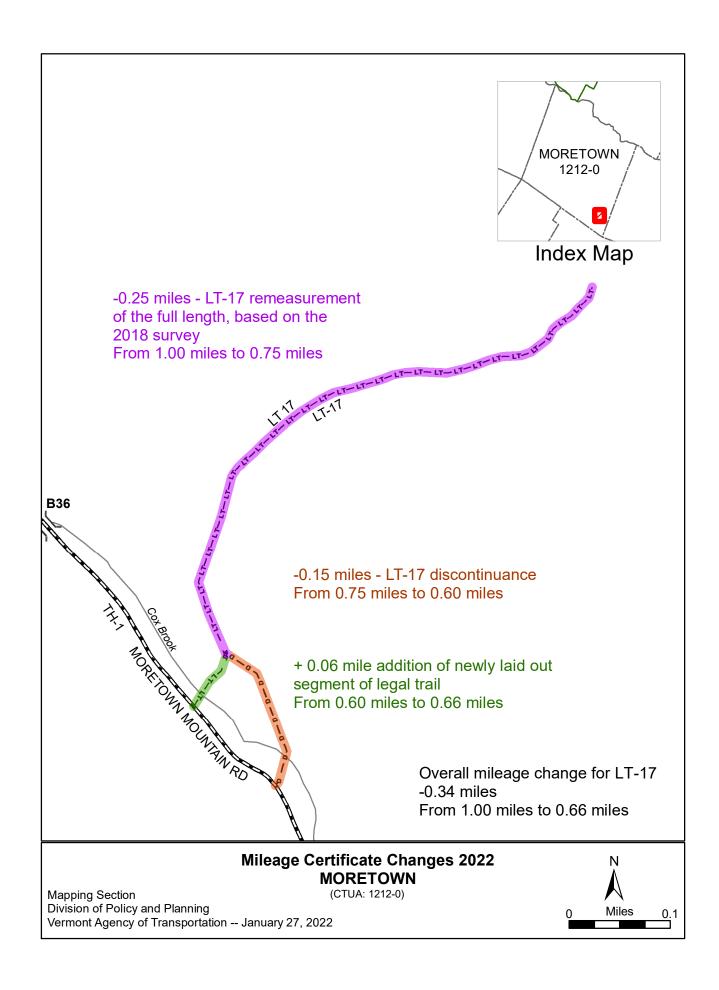
Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2022 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section via email to: aot.mileagecertificates@vermont.gov or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID -Mapping Section, 219 North Main Street, Barre VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of MORETOWN

in WASHINGTON County

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

Town Highways	Previous Mileage	Added Mileage	Subtracted Mileage	Total	Scenic Highways
Class 1	0.000			0.000	0.000
Class 2	10.730			10.730	3.220
Class 3	25.71			25.71	9.370
State Highway	12.287			12.287	0.000
Total	48.727			48.727	12.590
* Class 1 Lane	0.000			0.000	
* Class 4	13.37			14,47 13	3.37 0.320
* Legal Trail	14.81	0.06	0.40	-0.34 14	1.47
* Mileage for Class 1 I	Lane. Class 4. and Les	gal Trail classificatio	ons are NOT include	d in total.	
ECLASSIFIED/REM mi LT-17 (Blodgett Tra CENIC HIGHWAYS	ill) remeasured				
ERE ARE NO CHAN	GES IN MILEAGI	F. Place an X in	the hov and sign !	halow	
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	Cherilyn		Date	Filed: 02 04	1/2022
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CY OF TRANSPO	RIFIGITION APPR	OVAL: Signed		rned to T/C/V Cle	rk.
ROVED:	Johnathan Croft		DATE:	2/23/2022	



Town of Moretown Office of the SELECT BOARD

DRAFT – Notice of unapproved minutes of the 8/17/15 Selectboard meeting

<u>5 pm</u> – Site visit on Calvin & Nancy Blodgett property where thenew access to town trail #49 is being proposed.

<u>6 pm</u> – Public hearing for testimony related to the relocation of town trail #49 access, and discontinuance of the old access

Board members: Michelle Beard, Jason Aronowitz, John Hoogenboom, Tom Martin, Rae Washburn

Guests included: Nancy Blodgett, Calvin Blodgett, Paul Hannon as surveyor hired by Blodgett, Steve Cusick as council for Blodgett, Guy Martin, Joe Martin, Edward Case, Luke Case, Martin Cameron, Martha & Tom Douglass, Travis Blodgett, Brooke Dingledine as council for T. Blodgett, Georgiana Miranda, Dean Moulton, Henry Lewis, Liz Harris, Sarah Nussbaum, Jennifer Tripp-Meade, Don LaRocca, Mimi Clark, and Cheryl Brown as board assistant.

Tom called tonight's meeting to order at 6:10 pm and the hearing began.

TESTIMONY INCLUDED:

Steve Cusick opened the hearing by saying that the proposed new route is a good faith effort by the Blodgett's, and a good way to end this long running dispute of a road going through his garage and apartment and septic. They believe the new access is just as adequate as the old access.

Luke Case said as long as everything is kept on the left side of the fence line, he doesn't see a problem with the access.

Martha Douglass asked for the definition of legal trail. The board didn't have that statute handy.

Guy Martin asked who is going to pay for bringing the road so that a vehicle can cross the brook, so it is the same standard as it was 5 years ago.

Guy went on to state that since 1989 the access has been by Travis Blodgett's current house. There has been no access since Tropical Storm Irene happened in 2011.

Joe Martin indicated that he lived where the Blodgett's live now and there was an existing wooden bridge where the old access is.

Travis Blodgett stated that there are lots of accesses to this trail, but that doesn't mean they are legal accesses. Travis loves the proposed access.

Martin Cameron said if the town builds a bridge across the brook we would need a permit from the State.

Georgiana Miranda read the definition of Trail from VSA Title 19 Section 442 (3), saying after that this is a trail, not a road, so you aren't going to have to worry about a vehicle access. She stated she also understands that Mr. Martin has another access. Mr. Martin disagreed.

Kathleen Skomitz said in 1984 the right of way was where the bridge was. She bought the property with that access and was able to drive to her residence where the Blodgett houses are now. Now she can't get to her property. The proposed access won't give her what she had before. She isn't happy with the proposal.

David Gage said he is happy this is coming to an end.

Nancy Blodgett said this has gone on way too long, saying they have bent over backwards for the town.

Calvin Blodgett said he had been here longer than the Martin's, and the bridge was not on town property. The bridge led to a farm. It wasn't a town road. The town's surveyor said it wasn't the town trail.

Paul Hannon, surveyor said the town is not responsible for maintaining bridges on legal trails. The issue tonight is moving one trail location to the other. Which is less disruptive? One would remove the trail from the Blodgett's yard. Both areas have challenges as they are pretty rugged areas.

Brooke Dingledine came at this time, and asked if there was testimony tonight about the old access.

Tom Martin told Brooke that tonight's testimony is about to close, and that she should have been present for the hearing.

The hearing ended and testimony closed. The Selectboard has 60 days to make a formal decision.

General Public Comment Period:

Liz Harris – Liz said she has been woken up early from G W Tatro trucks in the sand pit. Tatro trucks have been working for the town and using the sand pit as a storage yard. She has no problem with the town road crew doing their winter maintenance early morning/nights, but the noise from Tatro is not acceptable. When asked what she thought the solution might be, she said build a tall berm. A berm would also hide the sand pile and area.

Discussion followed about replacing the shrubs with trees suitable for the environment; and about restricting the contractors hours that use the town's sand pit for staging via a policy, that they can't begin work / start equipment until 7 am. Also discussed was asking the State for guidance relating to screening for the sand pit area. John will investigate pricing for trees to replace the shrubs.

Martha Douglass said a nearby town is having problems with squatters and wonders if Moretown has a squatters ordinance. We do not.

OLD BUSINESS:

Henry Lewis water issue – Henry asked if the town found an answer to his water problem. He said that when ditches were dug deep 10 - 12 years ago he began having water problems on his property. It appears a curtain drain is the only thing that will work.

After site visits it isn't clear whether or not this is indeed a road related problem. It was agreed that the town will do the labor to install a curtain drain if Henry buys the materials. Martin will give Henry a price for the materials and he will decide from there if he will pay for the materials.

Moretown Mountain Road renovation – Rae said the road crew did the drainage work and the paving is done.

Martin said GW Tatro still needs to do the line marking and shoulder work.

Meeting minutes – Mimi Clark came in as a result of the ad placed for a person interested in taking minutes for various town boards and committees.

Mimi explained her work experience, her life in Moretown, and her willingness to serve her community.

The rate of pay for this work is \$15.38 per hr.

John moved to hire Mimi Clark as Moretown's official minute taker. Jason seconded. All were in favor.

For now Mimi will take minutes for the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board and to cover for Cheryl if she is unavailable or on vacation.

Road Crew vacancy – Applications are due August 20th. To date none have been received.

Grow Compost appeal mediation – No date has been set. Once a date is set the board will decide who will attend.

Old town office building – Rae reported the old town office was torn down today. Does the board want to remove the slab? No. The slab will remain for now.

Reports & Communication, Announcements –

ICS – disaster recovery training – Selectboard members will attend ICS training on Wednesday, August 19, 2015. A special meeting will be warned as there may be a quorum. At least one member of the Selectboard must attend the training in order for the town to be eligible for Emergency Management and Homeland Security disaster grants.

Neighborhood Watch – Don LaRocca asked about the status of signage for Neighborhood Watch. Cheryl indicated that she is waiting until the areas for the "Watch" have been organized and someone has been assigned the liaison to authorities before ordering more signage. So far Hathaway Road has signage.

New Business:

Library business – Sarah and Jennifer came in to tell the Selectboard about consultants they have hired via donations for programing. They were asked to come in tonight and explain the programmers work and the expense as it relates to the town budget.

The expense is paid via a donation not town funds and so the Trustees can set the hourly rates of pay/hours instead of following the town pay scale.

Sarah and Jennifer talked about two free sites offered to Moretown Library card holders for access to audiobooks and ebooks; ListenUp Vermont, offered through Green Mountain Library Consortium; and OneClickDigital which is similar to ListenUp Vermont but offers different features. Bluetooth compatibility is available

Blodgett hearing testimony deliberation – Tom moved to enter into deliberation for the Blodgett trail decision. Michelle seconded. All were in favor.

Tom moved out of deliberative session at 8:55; John seconded. All in favor. There was no action taken as the result.

Bids for compaction testing services – Bids were received from Vermont Testing and Knight Consulting Engineers. It was unclear from Vermont Testing's proposal what the total estimate was.

Henry Erickson will be asked to contact Vermont Testing for a maximum price or maximum hours estimated to do the work.

Approval of Minutes:

8/3/15 – John moved; Michelle seconded to approve the minutes of 8/3/15. All were in favor.

8/6/15 – John moved; Michelle seconded to approve the minutes of 8/6/15. All were in favor.

Warrants approved were:

Warrant # 15040 – e check # 1973-1983 / Check # 17083 Warrant # 15041 – Check # 17084-17119

Tom moved to adjourn at 9:05; John seconded. All were in favor.

Town of Moretown Selectboard Minutes 6/4/18

Board Members present: Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Callie Streeter, Jason Aronowitz and Tom Martin

Guest Present: Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Karen Horn, Jon Siegel, Denise Gabaree, Ellie Hllferty, Sandra Reagan.

Michael Brown with FW Forestry representing Timbervest

Addison Kasmarek from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber

Scott Moreau from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber

Nancy Blodgett

Calvin Blodgett

Katie Martin (Valley Reporter)

Dean Moulton

Robert Martin

Vince Rooney

Travis Blodgett

Site Visit: Trail #17 at 5 pm was held. The proposed access for Trail #17 was walked. Tom, John, Callie and Jason were joined by Addison Kasmarek from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber, Scott Moreau from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber, Nancy Blodgett, Calvin Blodgett, Travis Blodgett, Vince Rooney, Dean Moulton and Catrina Brackett.

Public hearing to follow at the Town Office at 6 pm.

Public Hearing for Trail # 17 at Moretown Town office: Called to order at 6:08 pm by Tom Martin.

Guest Attending: Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown.

Michael Brown with FW forestry representing Timber Vest

Addison Kasmarek from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber

Scott Moreau from Green Leaf Forestry representing Montgomery Timber

Nancy Blodgett

Calvin Blodgett

Katie Martin (Valley Reporter)

Dean Moulton

Robert Martin

Vince Rooney

Travis Blodgett

Paul Gillis (Town Attorney) by speaker phone

Attendees of the hearing were sworn in by Paul Gillis. Tom gave history as to why the relocation was being proposed. Infrastructure on the Calvin Blodgett land was found to be built in a portion of the town trail, when a survey was done by American Consulting in 2016. Tom then opened the floor to comment. Scott- spoke about the previous access, and he's not aware of its actual location. Proposed site is at 22% grade and does not have the turning radius for log trucks. He objects to proposed relocation site. Not practical to build a road at the proposed site. Addison-Also objects and spoke about the road having to be re-graded by -18% grade to be passable by log trucks. Scott- also spoke about water quality and Vermont Acceptable Management Practices (AMP) standards pertaining to installing a bridge. Michael- a trail being a legal pubic ROW that could be used with approval of the Selectboard. Vince- spoke about property owners now being landlocked because the proposed location is not practical to build a road. Robert- said the trail used to be class 4 and access to their land. Both Scott and Vince spoke about not receiving notice of the proposed sight until April 2018. Cheryl provided the Board copies of certified mailing signature cards dating back to 2016. The Blodgett family spoke about the placement of the garage and septic which portions of are built in the town trail.

MOTION: John made a motion to end the hearing at 6:48pm, seconded by Rae. All in favor.

Regular Selectboard meeting begins. 6:50pm

General Public Comment: Calvin Blodgett requested a blind drive signage be placed on both sides of his driveway. The board approved. Tom will pass this onto Martin.

John and Karen of the Planning Commission were present to speak to the board concerning the Public Hearing being held on Tuesday Jun 5th for new Subdivision Regulations. They invited the Selectboard members to attend. John will try to make it. Jon spoke about putting the vote on the November Australian ballot. The Selectboard agreed it was a good idea and suggested holding an informational party/gathering closer to the vote to get the word out.

Historical Society: The Library Trustees were unable to attend the meeting concerning the possible move of the Library to the Town Hall. The Historical Society had several questions concerning logistics, timing and status of the move. The Selectboard assured them everything was in the planning process and no decisions as to whether or not the Library would actually move has been made. Tom also spoke about his vision of the Town Hall being more of a community center to include the Library and Historical Society. Another meeting will be set up with the Library Trustees and Historical Society.

Town Administrator Report:

- 1. Reimbursement from State of Vermont submitted for Lover's Lane was \$34,953. Projected job cost \$73,095. Total grant awarded town \$65,786 (90%). Grant balance available to town \$30,833. Grant is 90/10. Martin estimated \$19,258 to finish. Bids open later tonight.
- 2. Fire Department uniforms: Replacement of 8 ruined uniforms was covered in part by accident insurance for the Middlesex gas spill. The Fire Department changed the material to an upgraded Tech Gen71. The Fire Department will reimburse the town \$2469.91 for the upgrade. John spoke about the Fire Department needing to let Cheryl know ahead of time for changes in case a grant funds could have offset the additional cost.

Reports and Communications: Rae spoke about going to Deborah Feldman's home to see the ponding/ditching problem that has been incurring. Martin feels digging out in that location ponding area will help solve the problem and it will be done this summer.

An email was received from Kathryn Friedland who spoke with Catrina about a small creek/ditch on her property that the town had dug out about 7 years ago. She is requesting Rae and/or Martin to make a visit to see what can be done.

An email was received from David Russo requesting to be reappointed to the DRB. **MOTION**: John made a motion to reappoint David Russo to another term on the Development Review Board. Tom seconded the motion. All agreed.

Old Business: Town Hall mold remediation- 3 estimates were requested by supplying the air quality test/recommendations from KD and Assoc from ServePro (nothing received), Puroclean and GW Savage. Estimates received from Puroclean was for \$7993.78 and from GW Savage was \$8602.12. A discussion was had concerning what each company included and did not include. Catrina had previously met with both GW Savage and Puroclean and explained to the board that the GW Savage estimate was their "worst case scenario" in which all of the kitchen cabinets had to be removed. Puroclean only planned to remove up to the stove so if they needed to go further the cost would increase. **MOTION:** John made a motion to accept the quote from GW Savage of \$8602.12. Callie seconded the motion. All agreed.

Cheryl also spoke about the other unexpected cost that have occurred at the Town Hall this year as well. She made a recommendation to the Selectboard to either include the cost when calculating the tax rate or use capital funds.

Minutes from 5/21/18: MOTION- John made a motion to accept the minutes as written of 5/21/18. Rae seconded the motion. All agreed.

New Business:

Bids for Lovers Lane. Two sealed bids for flood washout work to Lovers Lane were submitted and opened by the Selectboard. Dubois bid \$40,810 with no breakdown of cost. Griffin & Griffin's bid was \$54,258 with a break down in materials used. Rae stated he was not involved with the bid process from Dubois. Martins estimate of the work was \$19,258. John asked why

the RFP showing the scope of work contractors were bidding on wasn't available to review. Martin did the bid process and held the meeting with both companies. **MOTION:** John made a motion to throw out the bids. Jason seconded the motion. **DISSCUSSION:** John explained his motion for the reason that the RFP should come from the Selectboard and that the bids were not detailed enough. Tom made the suggestion to not throw out the bids but rather not make a decision until Martin can come to the next meeting to clarify the work requested. **John withdrew his motion, Jason withdrew his second.** Martin will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Grievance hearings- The Board discussed the grievance hearings taking place this week, and concerns with the number of grievances involving the updated tax maps. Selectboard members have received calls since the letters were mailed out. John will try to sit in on hearings this week to get a sense of how things are going.

Social Media: Catrina let the Board know that VLCT had just released a suggested social media policy. Catrina will email this to the board to discuss at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6/18/18, 6pm Town Office

Warrants: PR 18024 e2762 - e2772; AP# 18025 19611-19617; AP# 18026 19618-19644

Documents approved: Proposal from Chucks Heating for annual maintenance was approved. Overload permits from Donald Giroux Trucking and Riggs Distler.

Motion to Adjourn: Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 pm, John seconded the motion. All agreed.

Town of Moretown Selectboard Minutes

11/19/2018

Board Members present: Rae Washburn, Tom Martin, John Hoogenboom and Callie Streeter

Board Members not present: Jason Aronowitz

Guest Present: Catrina Brackett, Cheryl Brown, Katie Martin, Stefan Pratt, Mark Podgwaite and James Herinanowski.

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

General Public Comment: None at this time.

Reports and Communications:

TA Report 11/17/18

- 1. Ward land for sale \$7,500. This land borders the river between White/Cain/Bergey property, and borders the town land on the east. 1.77 ac. The Board will make a decision on at the 12/3/18 meeting.
- 2. I have reviewed WASI financial report and their per capita breakdown report. Moretown receives 8.43% in services according to our population. WASI requested \$5,415. 8.43% of the 2018-2019 budget = \$4,322.
- **3.** Cheney accident the town's insurance personnel and Martin visited the accident site today. As of now, no lawsuit has been filed. If one goes forward the lawyer will meet with the Board.

Catrina: Met with Don Wexler and Clark Amadon concerning the location of the Mad River Byway informational signs. One will be placed in front of the Town Office and the other in front of the Town Hall. The Board gives Don and Clark permission to speak with Martin directly in the spring concerning installation.

John: John will be attending the Mad River Town Leadership meeting on the 29th. There is also an Emerald Ash Borer training that day he will also try to attend. Cheryl noted she did look into the Land Management plan and there are less then 6% Ash trees on Town land. John also attended a meeting with the Moretown Forest Land Group. They discussed options for creating a land trust concerning the Timbervest land of 776 ac. Currently for sale.

Tom: Received a voice message from Kari Dolan concerning her interest in attending Selectboard meetings regularly. She also wanted the Boards opinion about someone being on the Selectboard as well as being a State Representative. Everyone felt it was a great idea. Tom will reach out to her.

-An email was received from Karen Horn stating Deborah Carroll had attended the last Planning Commission meeting and expressed interest in serving. The PC strongly recommends her. **MOTION:** Tom made a motion to appoint Deborah Carroll to the Planning Commission. Seconded by John. All Agreed.

-An email was also received concerning a dangerous job site on Lovers Lane. Employees from Stowe Builders have been parking on the traveled portion of the road. It was thought that this issue had been resolved between the parties last week but Johnathan Lewis a resident of Lovers Lane noted the parking problem is occurring again. Travis Cutler the VP of Stowe Builders will be available to meet with Martin on Tuesday morning to discuss the problem.

-An update was received from Staff Sterling Management concerning the Village sidewalk project.

To: Moretown Selectboard

From: Pat Travers

Subject: Village Sidewalk and Drainage Project Update

It appears as though we are finally hitting the final stretch for the Moretown Village Sidewalk Project and the Drainage System Improvements Project.

Regarding the Sidewalk Project; we now have signed easements agreements in place with all of the abutting property owners from whom easements will be needed. All of the easement agreements have been formally approved by VTrans. The next step in the process is to have the Town Attorney assemble all of the related Property Tax Transfers for the easements. Once the Property Tax Transfers have been completed, the signed easements agreements and Property Tax Transfers will be forwarded to VTrans for final approval.

Regarding the drainage project; we are in a similar position. Only one property owner will be affected with an easements agreement. This will be for running the drainage outfall culvert across her property. John Hoogenboom and I met with this property owner to explain some details regarding the required easements on November 7, 2018, and during this meeting, she indicated that she would sign the drainage easements agreement. I am not sure whether she has signed this agreement, or if she has delivered it to the Town Office yet. Similarly to the Sidewalk Project, the Town Attorney will need to assemble the required Property Tax Transfer for these easements. Once that Property Tax Transfer is executed, then this easements agreement and Property Tax Transfer will be forwarded to VTrans for final review.

-An email was received from Martin concerning vacation time stating: I am sending this E-mail to ask the board if they will consider banking some time for the road crew. We all have significant time left to use this year. We all had planned on using much of this time this month as things historically slow down for us. Obviously, things have been anything but slow for us. In fact, we are working nights, weekends, holidays due to the early snowfall. We all are aware of the policy regarding the use of vacation/sick time, however we had planned on using it up at a time that would be most beneficial to the town (October/November) when we have fewer pressing projects happening. In fact, we had all planned on taking this entire week off. Please consider allowing us to bank some vacation/sick time instead of losing this time only because of our dedication to our jobs. **MOTION:** Rae made a motion to allow the Road Crew to carry over no more then 2 weeks (80 hours) each into 2019. Seconded by John. **DISCUSSION:** Callie stated this should be the case for all employees not just the road crew. Tom spoke of this being a one-time instance and any employee is welcome to make the same request. All agreed.

Fire Department Budget: Fire Chief and Warden Stefan Pratt was present to discuss the budget. He spoke about a grant he applied for and that the department was gifted used SCBA gear from the Springfield Fire Department. He also is requesting the \$250 pay for the Warden position be increased to \$500 to help cover the expenses he is incurring. Stefan also noted his capital budget needs in the next few years would include a tanker/pumper truck. Tom requested Catrina to make a permit book to help Stefan keep track of the burn permit requests. No decisions were made on the budget at this time.

WASI: Mark Podgwaite and James Herinanowski were present to revisit their request for financial support from the Town. They brought new information concerning financials and their budget. The Board would like to see them obtain signatures from registered Moretown voters, for an article at Town Meeting. Later in the meeting after Mark and James left the Board discussed their request again. Rae was concerned it would be seen as a service only benefiting a small portion of the Town and residents would not feel obligated to pay for the service. Tom noted it is a vital service for the Town and perhaps they should add it into the budget for 2019. WASI had requested an amount \$5415 based on per capita rate of \$18.78. Cheryl did the math based on the % of WASIs budget that goes towards serving Moretown as follows.

8.43% (285 people) of the 6746 that WASI serves are Moretown residents. Based on paying 8.43% of the total 2018/2019 budget of \$364,375.87 the Selectboard will add a line item to the 2019 budget for \$4,322.37. Therefore, no petition will be required from WASI for funding.

Blodgett Trail #17 hearing for laying out a new access and discontinuing the old access- amend decision and approve new survey Plat #86.

Guest in Attendance: Michael Tarrant (for Paul Gillis), Scott Moran for Montgomery Timber, Robert Martin, Nancy Blodgett, Calvin Blodgett, Travis Blodgett, Brook Dingledine (esq. for Travis Blodgett) David Gage and Kathleen Skomitz.

Brook made several requests to have more specific labels placed on survey Platt 86 so she could better understand it.

On the advice of Mike Tarrant, the Towns attorney the recording of the decision including these minutes and plat 86 will be referenced when recorded into the land records.

The part of Trail #17 bisecting Calvin and Nancy Blodgett's garage and septic, across to the stone abutment until it reaches 4° corner is being discontinued as is reflected in Plat #86. The distance of the discontinued portion is approximately 800 feet.

MOTION: Tom made a motion to identify the revised survey recorded on 8/24/18 as Plat 86, as the trail to be laid out and showing the location of the former Town Rd ROW/Trail #17. Seconded by John. All agreed.

Review of Subdivision Regulation Draft: JB was not present. No objections from the Board. A hearing will be held on December 17th at 7:00pm.

Old Business: Since Jason was not in attendance no personnel issues will be discussed. Tom does want the Board to be able to give Martin a decision concerning Stefan at the next meeting.

New Business: None

Next Meeting: December 3, 2018 at the Town Office

Minutes: MOTION: John made a motion to accept the minutes from 11/5/18. Seconded my Callie. All agreed.

Warrants: PR 18056 e2904-e2915 & 20041-20046; AP 18057 20047-20066; AP 18058

20067-20092

Documents Approved: None at this time

Motion to Adjourn: Tom made a motion to adjourn at 8:30pm. Rae seconded, all agreed.

TOWN OF MORETOWN SELECTBOARD RE: LAYING OUT A NEW TRAIL and DISCONTINUING A PORTION OF ANOTHER TRAIL, MORETOWN, VERMONT

Pursuant to the provisions of 19 V.S.A. § 708(a), the Selectboard of the Town of Moretown, on its own motion, gave notice, in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 709, that the Selectboard of the Town of Moretown, Vermont would meet at the Calvin Blodgett homestead for the site walk at 5:00 p.m. on June 4 and then recess to the Town Office for the purpose of receiving testimony and hearing all persons interested in the matter of whether the Town of Moretown shall lay out a public trail across lands owned by Calvin Blodgett and the Anna L. Chase Living Trust off the Moretown Mountain Road and discontinue an existing public trail that presently runs from the Moretown Mountain Road across Cox Brook to the Skomitz camp over lands of Calvin Blodgett.

The site walk was completed, and the hearing began at 6:00 p.m. The Board consisted of Tom Martin, Chair; Rae Washburn, John Hoogenboom, Jason Aronowitz, and Callie Streeter. Cheryl Brown, Town Administrator, Catrina Brackett, Board Secretary was also present. Paul Gillies, Esq. appeared by conference phone. Several interested persons testified, including Addison Kasmerek and Scott Moreau, representing Montgomery Timber; Michael Brown, a consulting forester representing Timber Ve. Calvin Blodgett, and Travis Blodgett.

On November 19, 2018, pursuant to :: remand decision of the Vermont Superior Court following the filing of two appeals of this decision, the Selectboard held a recessed hearing and amended its decision by identifying the revised survey of the trail to be laid out and showing the location of the former town road right of way.

Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the Selectboard makes the following

Findings of Fact

- 1. Town Trail 17 is the successor to Town Highway 49, first surveyed and laid out by the Town of Moretown in 1873, and reclassified and renumbered by the Town as a trail in 1987.
- 2. The Selectboard held a hearing on July 16, 2012, at which time the Board decided to confirm the location of the trail according to a survey completed by American Consulting Engineers and Surveyors.
- 3. That decision was appealed to the Vermont Superior Court, Civil Division, and following an extensive exchange of motions and of rulings by the Court, the Town agreed to hold a hearing on a proposal by Calvin Blodgett to relocate T.H. 49 to a place westerly of the present location, on Mr. Blodgett's land, while considering the discontinuance of the location near the Blodgett improvements.
- 4. The site visit revealed that the location chosen by Mr. Blodgett as an alternative route for the town trail was adequate to serve as a trail. The trail crosses Cox Brook and ascends to a junction with the existing Town Trail 17.

14 PG: 659 Doc# 13000829

- 5. The location of the new trail is shown on a survey by American Consulting and Engineering, which is on file at the town office, **recorded August 24, 2018, Plat 86**. This revised survey also shows the sections of Town Trail 17 that are being discontinued, which consist of the trail as it leaves the Moretown Mountain Road, crosses Cox Brook, and extends to the Skomitz camp. That section of Town Trail that runs from the camp and travels up the hill to the intersection with the new portion of trail is retained as a trail. See attached copy of the revised survey.
 - 6. No lands of Travis Blodgett are involved in this change of locations of the trail.

Based on these findings of fact, the Board makes the following

Conclusions of Law

- A. The standard for determining questions on road layout and discontinuance is the public good, necessity, and convenience of the inhabitants. 19 V.S.A § 710.
- B. By that standard, the Moretown Selectboard lays out the new section of Town Trail 17 and discontinues that portion described above, finding that these changes satisfy the standards of public good, necessity, or convenience of the inhabitants.

Representatives of Montgomery Timber raised questions about the use of the new trail for timber access. Towns control all construction within the right-of-way of town highways and trails. 19 V.S.A. § 1111(a)(1). There is an application and a hearing before the board, but that is not the subject of this hearing.

Questions about water quality or ANR or AOT standards for installing a bridge, the degree of bank or trail slope, whether the new trail is even suitable for a bridge or regrading, or other regulatory or statutory requirements, are premature at this hearing. As a matter of law, a town is not obliged to provide landowners access to land-locked property or to provide vehicular access to such property over a trail.

Based on these findings and conclusions, the Board makes the following

Decision

The Moretown Selectboard relocates Town Trail 17 and discontinues a portion of the same, as described on the revised survey, **recorded August 24, 2018, Plat 86.**

Appeal Rights

Persons interested in this decision may appeal it to the Washington Unit of the Civil Division of the Vermont Superior Court within 30 days of the date shown below. V.R.C.P. 74, 75.

Dated this 19th day of November, 2018, at Moretown, Vermont

MORETOWN SELECTBOARD

Cherl Burn, notary

Tom Martin, Chair

John Hoogenboom

Jason Aronowitz

Rae Washburn

Callie Streeter

Attest: A True Record

cc:

Calvin Blodgett

Representatives of Montgomery Timber

Michael Brown

Commissioner, Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Moretown Planning Commission

I, Cherilyn Brown, Town Clerk, Town of Moretown, Vermont, hereby certifies that on October 16, 2018, I caused the within and foregoing notice of hearing to be posted at the Town of Moretown Town Clerk's Office, and caused copies thereof to be mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

(List all owners of lands affected, mortgagees, and owners of rights of way, with full addresses, plus the telephone and electric companies serving the area)

I further certify that I caused the within and foregoing notice to be published in the November 1, 2018 issue of the Barre-Montpelier Times-Argus, a newspaper circulating within the Town of Moretown, Vermont.

Dated at Moretown, Vermont this 20th day of November, 2018.

Cherilyn Brown

Moretown Town Clerk

RECEIVED & RECORDED

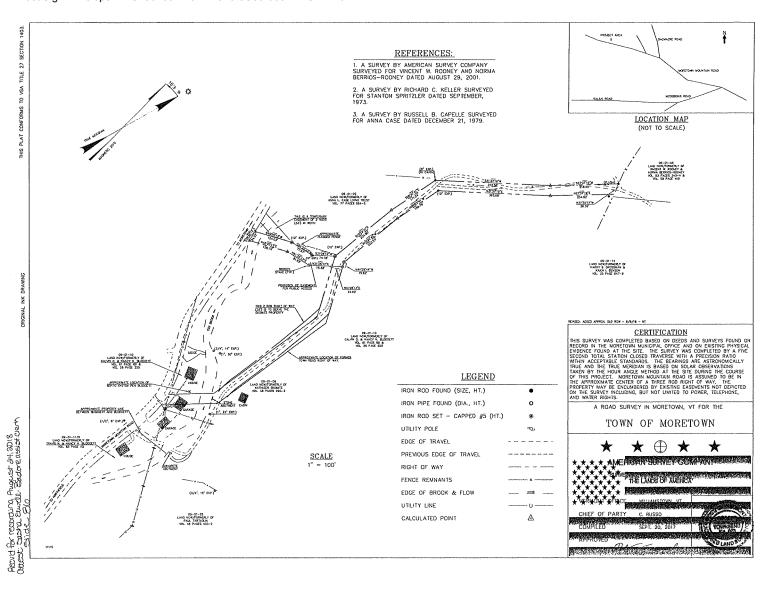
Nov 20,2018 11:00A DOCUMENT TYPE: SELECT BOARD

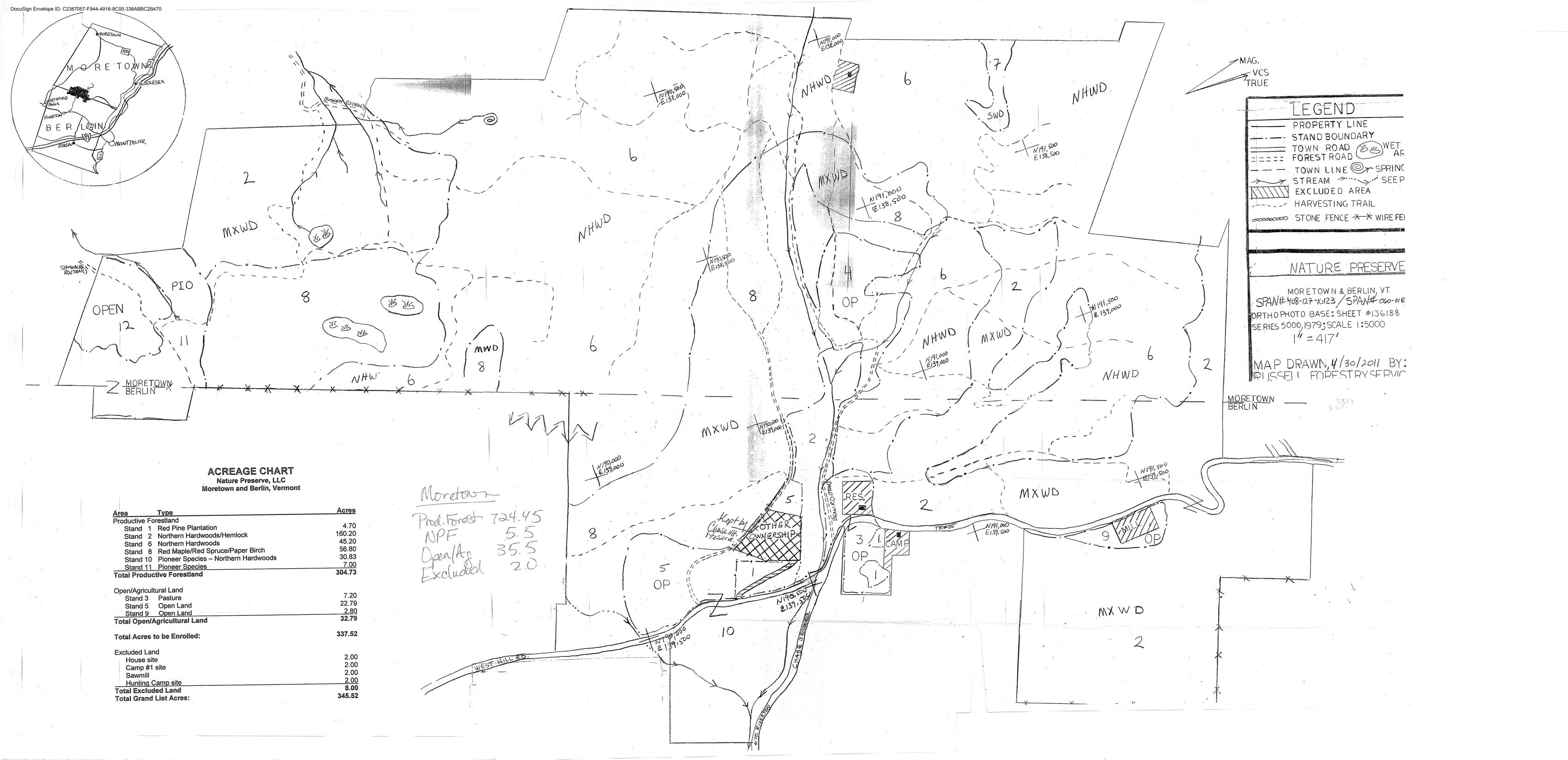
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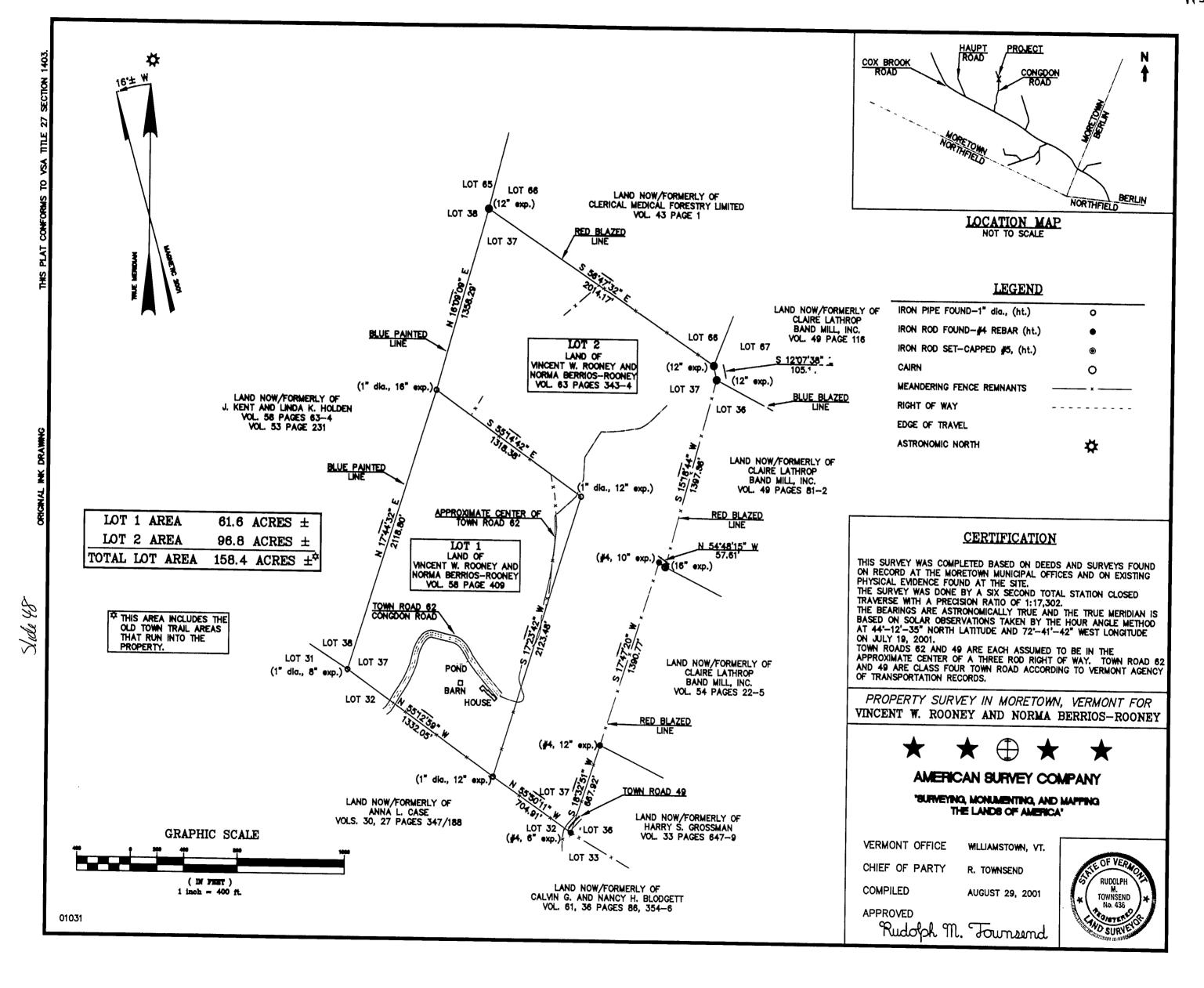
Attest:

CHERILYN BROWN, TOWN CLERK

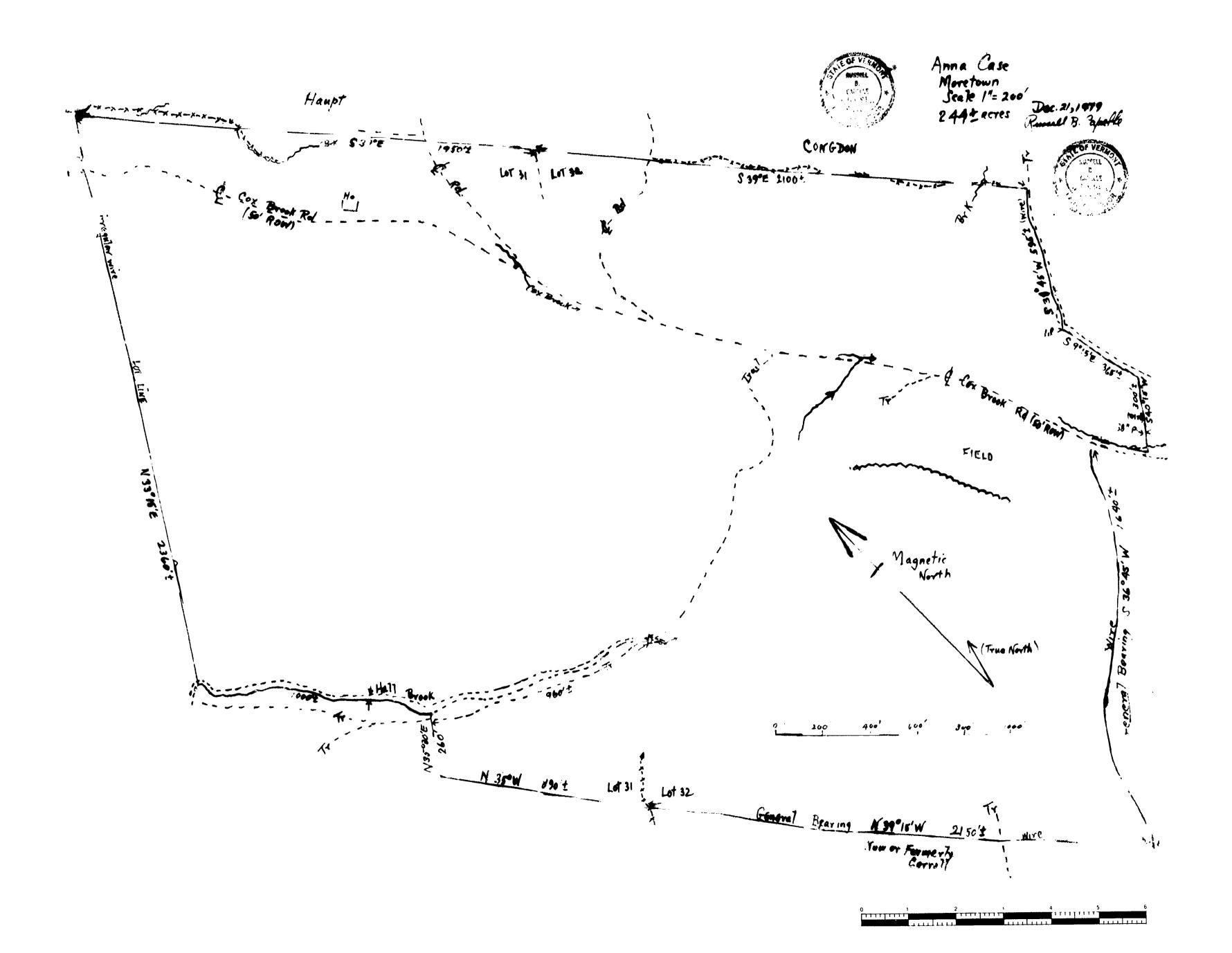
MORETOWN, VT











TR3/57 the line of Sterry bring the locater of the Road Morehour Dic 8,1873 D.C. Holl dervery or The fore string is Rale frech in a Swell building to Mich 1874 James Stewer & Merchantstone & Janes John Colombia ellering of Hugh le Nuellys Rough Commence on Hamme brook Road 2 Rose, Van of Chords Crosse & Hum V 22°1120 Roces, Mine V 57°30'1124 Rock + 18 Sinks Him V 10°30'67 rocks Theme N 38 W12 Avers 23 links to a Get on the gh he the legoline. This is table a freak Road levo I religion to level two of attention buring secrecy bu 2) the center of the road Montour pres 8:1873 ... D. G. Hote Dearing won or alke fee as seemed blook Court lay to Doing sye in about sometimes to for the fle Brown file in Jas Alteran John pluring of a Oleval at Cerp 5200th 4000 min congon I and the Smith trenner-Wiestrick Bringe Mucre N26871 Rosers 5 levels Minus 190W25 north + 19 links, Mice. N4°W12 overles Alleche Min NI W 13 rods + 22 finh, them NTON 10 2006, he - N 30° 6 22 now, +7hick, The - 126612 porce, + 2 think, tathe North live of suit of lot Hand here two rocks will with one fate butter North sice of the brook the line of survey large - center of the rive of those town friend 10.1873 Dattoll dunnyor The a book rathefuel and Establishedly besthe day of your en love wouther In Brown 3 Leliet Justemount) The Lace our I new order of light 1874 Alux Sister Kengsey Tourthish

Road Desc.

- C saw bridge bridge
- NZ6°E Hrods \$ 51:nks (184.80')
- N9° W Z5rods \$ 19 links (425.04')
- N4°W 12 rods & 11 links (205.26)
- N12°W 13 rods & ZZ links (ZZ9.02') -N7°W 10 rods (165') -N30°E ZZ rods & 71:nks (367.62')

- -NZ6E 12 rods & ZII'nKS (Z11.86')
- North line of said lot