District 8

Certcode 0606-0

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHWAY MILEAGE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Received 2/20/2025 VTrans Mapping Section

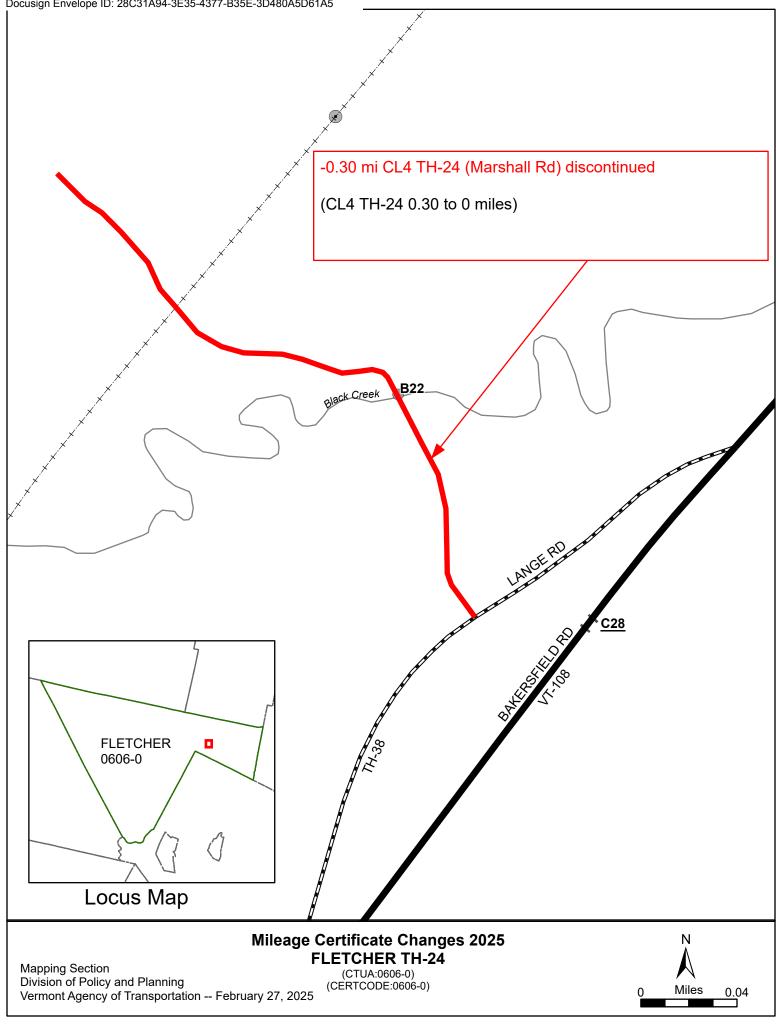
Fill out form, make and file a copy with the Town Clerk, and submit the Mileage Certificate on or before February 20, 2024 to: Vermont Agency of Transportation, Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development, Mapping Section via email to: aot.mileagecertificates@vermont.gov or if necessary via mail to: VTrans PPAID - Mapping Section, 219 North Main Street, Barre VT 05641.

We, the members of the legislative body of FLETCHER

in FRANKLIN 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	Previous	Added	Subtracted		Scenic
Highways	Mileage	Mileage	Mileage	Total	Highways
Class 1	0.000			0.00	0.000
Class 2	12.550			12.55	0.000
Class 3	29.91			29.91	0.000
State Highway	2.332			2.332	0.000
Total	44.792			44.792	0.000
* Class I Lane	0.000			0.00	
* Class 4	8.01		0.3	7.71	0.000
* Legal Trail	0.00			0.00	
* Mileage for Class	I Lane, Class 4, and Leg	al Trail classificat	ions are NOT include	d in total.	
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Reclassification of a Class 4 Town Highway (Marshall Road - Town Highway # 24)

Background

Per the Town of Fletcher General Highway Map (prepared by the Vermont Agency of Transportation on July 20, 2016) Marshall Road (Town Highway 24) begins on Lange Road in Fletcher and extents westward for 0.3 miles. On this same map, Marshall Road is characterized as an "Impassable or Untraveled" "Class 4 Road". Marshall Road has not been maintained by the Town for a number of years, and is currently impassable in part because the bridge over Black Creek has been washed out and has not been replaced. A parcel of land conveyed to the Town of Fletcher by Warranty Deed of Albert Flood dated April 12, 1957 and of record at Vol. 28, Page 8 of the Town of Fletcher Land Records (hereinafter "Flood Lot") is accessed by way of Marshall Road.

Discontinuance Process

The Town Highway discontinuance process followed by the Town is outlined as follows:

On March 18, 2024, George Raine formally requested that Marshall Road, abutting his property, be discontinued.

On April 15, 2024, the Town of Fletcher Select Board moved to initiate Reclassification of a Class 4 Town Highway. This Reclassification is a discontinuance of the entirety of Marshall Road (Town Highway #24) as shown on the Town of Fletcher Highway Map.

Exhibit 1 – Minutes of the April 15, 2024 Select Board meeting.

On June 1, 2024, Mr. Raine submitted to the Select Board a survey entitled "Survey of Marshall Road, Town Highway #24", dated **10/08/3004** prepared by Barnard & Gervais, LLC, a Vermont licensed land surveyor.

Exhibit 7 – *Survey map.*

On June 3, 2024, the Select Board set the date of July 15, 2024 at 6:00pm to inspect Marshall Road (Town Highway #24), with a hearing to be held on July 15, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Fletcher Town Offices.

Exhibit 2 – Minutes of the June 3, 2024 Select Board meeting.

On June 5, 2024, the Notice of Public Hearing on Reclassification of a Class 4 Town Highway (Marshall Road – Town Highway #24) was emailed to and received by both the Chair of the Fletcher Planning Commission and the Commissioner of Forests, Parks, and Recreation for the State of Vermont. The Notice was also posted at the Fletcher Town Offices, Fletcher Elementary School, and Fletcher General Store.

Exhibit 3 – Notice of Public Hearing with Town Clerk's certification.

On June 7, 2024, the Notice of Public Hearing on Reclassification of a Class 4 Town Highway (Marshall Road – Town Highway #24) was published in the St. Albans Messenger.

Exhibit 4 – Legal Notice from St. Albans Messenger.

On June 8, 2024, the Notice of Public Hearing on Reclassification of a Class 4 Town Highway (Marshall Road – Town Highway #24) was sent to persons owning land affected via Certified Mail and was sent via standard mail to persons owning abutting lands affected.

Exhibit 5 – Certified Mail Receipt.

The Fletcher Select Board conducted a site visit for inspection of the proposed Class 4 Town Highway on July 15, 2024 at 6:00pm and held a public hearing on July 15, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Fletcher Town Offices.

Exhibit 6 – *Minutes of the July 15, 2024 Select Board Meeting.*

Decision

During the discontinuance process described herein it was determined the only apparent public use of the Marshall Road is for access to George Raine's property. Therefore, Marshall Road is currently not serving any apparent public good. The lack of a bridge over Black Creek prevents Mr. Raine from accessing his property on the west side of Black Creek with his tractor, or any motorized equipment. Mr. Raine is in the process of getting permits to construct a bridge over Black Creek, but can only do that if the Town discontinues Marshall Road.

WHEREFORE, it being determined that the public good, necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the Town of Fletcher support discontinuance. Marshall Road, a Class IV Town Highway as depicted on the above referenced survey is immediately discontinued as Town Highway. Notwithstanding the discontinuance of Marshall Road as a Class IV Public Road, the Town of Fletcher hereby reserves for itself and its heirs and assigns a right of way and easement for ingress and egress in perpetuity over Marshall Road for the benefit of the Flood Lot. On September 9, 2024 George and Fernande Raine (Grantors) executed an Easement Deed, granting the Town of Fletcher (Grantee) an easement and right of way for ingress and egress over the Grantor's property. This instrument was recorded on September 16, 2024 and is located in the Fletcher Land Records in Volume 100, pages 281-282.

Exhibit 7 – Copy of Easement Deed.

Based on the examination of the premises, the information provided at the public hearing, the Town of Fletcher Select Board determined that the public good, necessity and convenience of the residents of the Town of Fletcher require the Class 4 Town Highway known as Marshall Road (Town Highway #24) to be reclassified.

Dated at Fletcher, Vermont, this 7 day of 000 but, 2024.

TOWN OF FLETCHER SELECT BOARD

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Town of Fletcher – Select Board July 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Marshall Road Site Visit at the intersection of Marshall Road and Lang Road

- 1. Attendees:
 - a. Select Board Members: Matt Gillilan, Jon Bondy, and Bruce Douglas
 - b. Town of Fletcher Residents: George Raine & Tim Wilson
- 2. 6:00 pm Jon Bondy opened the site visit
- 3. George Raine described the route of the road to be discontinued, and his plans to build a bridge across Black Creek so he can access his property
- 4. Everyone walked down the path of the road to Black Creek where the bridge has been washed out, and back to Lang Road.
- 5. 6:20 pm meeting adjourned

Select Board Meeting

- 1. Attendees:
 - a. Select Board Members: Matt Gillilan, Jon Bondy, Rich Bidwell and Bruce Douglas.
 - b. Town of Fletcher Officials: Cory Getty, Zoning Administrator; Karrie Sweet, Town Clerk, Dave Clark, Health Officer; and Craig Bushey, Assistant Road Commissioner.
 - c. Town of Fletcher Residents: George Raine, Lee Meunier, and Jennifer Getty
- 2. Meeting opened at 7:00 pm
- 3. Hearing on Marshall Road
 - a. Board voted unanimously to discontinue Marshall Road
- 4. 143 Fairfield Road (Note: Select Board Member Matt Swartz arrived during this discussion
 - a. Lee Meunier Lee expressed his concern that there have been allegations that his debris pile and land are contaminated. He stated that the State is not telling him that he has to test it, therefore he is not spending money to get it tested.
 - b. There was discussion that it was a very old building that Lee took down, and that there were fuel tanks on the property decades ago. Therefore, it is potentially contaminated. Lee stated that the fuel tanks were gone 28 years ago. He also stated that the building had asbestos siding that he removed before demolishing the building.
 - c. There was discussion about the multiple fires on the property, who started them and the fire department's response to the fires.
 - d. There was discussion of Lee's plans for the property, which are to build a shed to "putter" in. There was discussion regarding where Lee planned to live, with no location forthcoming.
 - e. There was discussion about Lee's request for clean fill. Craig explained that the Town cannot put fill on a potentially contaminated site
 - f. There was discussion regarding setbacks of the property to nearby streams
 - g. Jon offered to do research and report back in two weeks
 - h. Cory Getty asked for permission to measure setback distances on the property
 - i. Lee granted permission to Cory
 - j. Lee left the meeting

Town of Fletcher – Select Board July 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

- k. Dave Clark pointed out that there was a break down in communication between agencies at the State of Vermont regarding permits for work on Lee's property. It appears that Lee still needs a permit for demolition, retroactively.
- 1. There was discussion on how to address the lack of coordination at the State of Vermont.
- m. Dave stated that the Town can issue a health order, but the recipient has to be given the notice of intent of a health order based on evidence.
- n. It was decided that we get a legal opinion on the Town's options.
- o. Dave left the meeting
- 5. Tax Rates
 - a. Non-homestead education tax rate was increased from 1.1095 to 1.3521
 - b. Education tax rates are set by the State of Vermont
 - c. Municipal tax rate was increased from 0.5357 to 0.5783
- 6. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
 - a. There was review of previous expenditures and discussion of options for spending the remaining amount. Options included: \$50K for tractor and mower attachment, \$40K for loader payment, and \$10K for one-ton plow.
- 7. Cameras
 - a. The three bids were discussed. The decision was made to go with the low bidder (Big Brother), install cameras at the garage first and use lessons learned from that to determine what would be best for the Town Office.
 - i. Ask Big Brother to confirm what he can do higher resolution
 - ii. We want to be able to read license plates at night a
 - iii. Then adapt for town garage
- 8. Zoom Meeting Recording
 - a. Retention of the Zoom Meeting Recording was discussed. The Select Board agreed to retain for 12 months, on a rolling basis, with Aimee Tinker and Jeremy Frederick to implement
 - b. Distribution of automated transcripts from Zoom meetings was discussed it was agreed to include a disclaimer that the transcript was generated by a program and may contain errors.
- 9. Town Office Main Entrance Door
 - a. Replacement of this door was discussed. Aimee is looking for sources of grant money to do this. Board will decide in once the grant issue is resolved
- 10. Snowplow for one ton
 - a. This potential purchase was discussed with Craig Bushey
 - b. Jon moved to purchase plow for approximately \$8K
 - i. Matt No
 - ii. Rich Yes
 - iii. Matt S undecided
 - iv. Bruce yes
 - v. Jon yes
 - c. Motion carries we will get the snowplow for the one ton
- 11. Road crew emails cell phone and texts were discussed with Craig Bushey.

Town of Fletcher – Select Board July 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

- a. Jon moved that we terminate contract on phone, since we are not using it. Motion passed. People will be instructed to call the Town Garage to leave a message. The outgoing message from the Town Garage will include cell phone numbers to be called in case of emergency. The Town will not be reimbursing people who use their phones for the Town.
- 12. Use of excavator was discussed. Craig reported that its use started last week moved the machine three times. Very efficient and was useful after the storm last week
- 13. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Rich stated that he will sit down with Aimee next Wednesday to better understand the reason for the delays in publishing the minutes and sort out how it can be addressed.
 - b. Jon stated that minutes need to be posted 5 days after each meeting.
 - c. Jennifer stated that initial draft minutes can be skeletal before 5 days and she asked for meetings minutes to be posted in a timely fashion.
- 14. Road Report
 - a. Matt G reported that storm damage was not bad, and there was nothing that needs to be reported to FEMA
 - b. Roadside mowing was discussed. It was agreed that the quality of the mowing needs to be improved.
 - c. Paving is supposed to happen on Wednesday Fairfield Road by Rugg Road, Mayotte Road and Slattery Road. This will be a shim and an overlay.
 - d. Jon pointed out that we will need to make a plan, in January, about how to use the funds that are freed after the paving loan is paid off
 - e. Matt G Discussed issue of purchasing a new loader since current loader is wearing out. He has a sample RFP from VLCT. He can prepare an RFP and send to four vendors and will include age and hours of current loader so that they can determine the trade-in value.
 - i. It was agreed by the Selectboard to get the RFP so we can ideally acquire a new loader before winter. We are considering contributing \$40K of ARPA money to keep loader payments in line with the current capital plan.
 - f. Metal dumpster location at Town Garage was discussed. Craig stated that it had been moved back to original location. A neighbor is worrying about it contaminating their property. Select Board agreed with plan to move dumpster so it is behind sand pile and out of driving area.

15. Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30.

Bruce Douglas

Jon Bond

Matt Dellee

Matt Gillilan

Present:

Members: Jon Bondy, Bruce Douglas (via Zoom), Matt Gillilan, Matt Swartz *Guests*: Craig Bushey (Ass't Road Commissioner), Cory Getty (Zoning Administrator), Jennifer Getty, Karrie Sweet (Town Clerk/Treasurer), Aimee Tinker (Ass't Town Clerk/Treasurer & Select Board Clerk)

1) Call to Order

Jon called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Public Comment

Karrie shared that Ed Brannagan came into the office today to say that he doesn't like the 50mph speed limit on Cambridge Road and feels it should be lower. He wanted to know if there was anything that could be done to change it.

Matt G. said that that he had heard from a couple other people just after the signs were installed who also did not like it but he'd also spoken with other people who agreed with the 50mph. Since it is a bit of a process to change speed limits again, there would need to be enough people interested in a change to bring it to the Board.

3. Regular Board Business

Road Report

Craig said he, Matt and Aimee met with NRPC last week to discuss locations for this year and next year's Grants-in-Aid projects.

The Road Crew has been busy keeping up with grading and hauling gravel as needed.

Jennifer asked about when roadside mowing might begin. Matt G said only one operator has reached out and there aren't many who still do this service. He said he'd like to try to get the main roads done by July 4th. Jon asked if there were any places in town that would benefit from early attention due to hard sightlines. Matt G said none came to mind right off but he would give it some thought.

Jon asked about the 5K grader repair. Craig said it was to replace yoke seals and shafts that needed replacement due to wear. Jon asked how far we were into the life of the grader. Matt G felt we were about $1/3^{rd}$ of the way.

Matt G spoke about this year's plan for paving. We will be looking to cover the area of Fairfield Road from about Sunset Drive to just past Slattery Road. Jon asked if this area was done as part of large grinding/paving project in 2017. Matt said yes - we are now at the point where we need to redo some spots.

Marshall Rd.

Bruce shared that the site survey has been completed. We are at the point where we can warn the meeting (30 day notice) and also plan the date/time of the site visit. Jon said we usually do the site visit just before the meeting and suggest July 15th at 5:30pm. Bruce said it would be best to propose the date/time to George Raine first to make sure it works for him before officially warning the meeting. Bruce will do this. Once the date/time is approved, Aimee will craft the warning and post in the paper and around town as necessary.

Craig's Excavator & Hauling Proposal

Jon asked who was researching comparable quotes for excavator rental. Matt G said it was him. He got info from two other vendors and their prices are comparable, considering that Craig also has trailer to haul the excavator and he can be flexible with dates. A rental company would charge extra for a trailer and also has tight deadlines on pick up and return of equipment.

Jon said the other part of Craig's proposal was to haul material in his own truck. Craig could be acting as a 4th road crew member. Jon made a motion to approve the following: Contract with Craig for the use of his excavator at \$1250/week (machine and trailer) and to hire Craig on an as-needed basis for trucking at \$70/hr with the Town providing fuel.

Discussion: Matt S asked what Matt G, as Road Commissioner, thinks about this proposal. He feels it's important to be objective since Craig is currently the Assistant Road Commissioner. Matt G feels it's a good comparable offer.

The Board unanimously approved Jon's motion. Jon asked Craig to come up with a schedule of work for the next month. Matt G asked if can Craig could hold off on invoicing until July 1 when the new budget starts. Criag said this would be fine.

Road Report Cont.

Craig said the Road Crew began their 4-day work week last week and it seemed to be working well so far. The week's plans are laid out on the white board in the office, so Craig's role is more limited.

Jon asked how we will know if this change is successful. Craig said we can take photos and track the loads of fill being hauled away. Jon asked if we would be ditching entire roads at a time. Craig said not necessarily – they will hit the hot spots all over town as needed. If we hired this task out to a contractor, this is where the cost would increase due to all the mobilizations. Bruce said that hitting all of the trouble spots on a large stretch of road mileage means you've essentially caused the whole section of road to properly drain even though you didn't ditch it in its entirety.

Matt G asked if we could hit any *non-hydrologically connected* segments first as we have to use budget funds for that and Alan Cary won't be able to do the grant-project segments until later in summer. Craig said we could do that.

Matt G asked if we had adequate signage to put out during ditching. Craig said we are set.

ATV Response Letter

Jon said that although Jennifer had said informally that a response wasn't necessary, the Board agreed to craft a response anyway.

The Board discussed and edited the response letter that Bruce drafted.

Jennifer said the letter was not written by her alone - there were two others, so she can only speak about her opinions and thoughts. She feels the letter should've prompted a good discussion and it did not.

Jon asked, putting all letters aside, what are the most productive next steps. Jennifer said they'd just got the answers from the Town attorney so they'd need to set a meeting to discuss them.

Jon asked if Jennifer felt there was a need, at this point, to even send the letter. Jen said no as it wouldn't be productive to the group going forward. Bruce feels it's important to continue with a response to answer the question of Bruce's delay tactics.

Craig asked what would be the next steps. Jon felt all of the answers/facts should be turned into a document and then a proposal needs to be drafted for the voters to vote on. He asked if the committee could agree enough to work on this. Jennifer said she wasn't sure. Jon offered to objectively work with Jennifer and the committee to accomplish this task if they chose to accept the help.

Matt S said the more eyes on the document (proposal) would mean more clarity in the text so people would better understand what they were voting on. Jon said the final draft of the proposal would be sent to the Town attorney for review. He said the details of the proposal are very important as they may affect how people vote (ex. time of day/season, residents only, sticker, ag use, etc.)

Bruce asked, since only the Board can actually create and enact an ordinance, would the public vote essentially be a straw vote? Jon said that was correct. Any public vote would be non-binding but the results would guide the Board to enact/not enact said ordinance.

**The Board went into a discussion of a potential ordinance.

Jon asked if the Board could get back to the original topic of the letter. Matt S said the Board has previously received letters on other topics which have not been responded to. He feels if the Board responds to this one, they should give it more time in order to be refined further. Matt G feels the Board should respond as it was sent to them. Jon asked that fellow Board members reach out to Bruce with edits and the Board will revisit the topic at the next meeting.

Traffic Enforcement

Since Rich was working on this and he was not present, this topic will be tabled until the next meeting.

Broadband Update

Aimee shared that the 10th NBRC reimbursement was processed last week and the funds were sent to MCF. At this time, we are awaiting further invoices from MCF for submission, but the project should be in its final stages.

Fire at Lee Meunier's Property

Jon noted there were lots of questions and comments on FB regarding the fire. He asked if the Board felt these should be addressed. After discussion, it was decided that these individuals were welcome to bring their concerns to the Board at a meeting.

Cory shared that he is prepared to tell Lee he is close to meeting his time limit (150 days in calendar year) for camper stay. If he surpasses this limit, he will be issued a Zoning Violation. The issue then becomes, if he cannot pay the fine, the Town could put a lien on the property, but it would still need to be cleaned up. There is no real constructive proposal.

Aimee asked if David Clark (Health Officer) had been in touch with the Board. He ha dnot, so she shared what David had said about the potential for the Fletcher Board of Health (him and the Select Board) to declare the property a public health hazard. Jon will invite David to the next meeting so this can be discussed further.

Other Business

Aimee shared that the Town has switched haulers for trash/recycling. We will now have Myers who can provide larger-volume dumpsters rather than the smaller toters. This will also be a significant cost savings.

Craig also said that a gate is being installed at Town Garage to prevent the increase in unnecessary traffic during off-hours. The metals dumpster and small public sand pile will be relocated so public can still access after hours.

4) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Jon Bondy, Chair

Matt Gillilan

Bruce Douglas

Matt Swartz