

**CERTIFICATE OF MASS DISCONTINUANCE OF TOWN HIGHWAYS**

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2010

Transportation District \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out form, make and file copy with the Town Clerk, and mail ORIGINAL to:  
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Planning, Outreach and Community Affairs Division,  
One National Life Drive, Montpelier, VT 05633.

We, the members of the legislative body of Plainfield in Washington County  
on an oath state that the mass discontinuance of highways not on the official town highway map was performed  
according to Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 19, Section 305 (h), as follows:

**CHECKLIST**

The public informational hearing was warned in two public locations  Yes (copy of warning attached)  
in town plus the town clerk's office 30 days prior to the hearing.

The warning and a transmittal memo were mailed return receipt requested  
more than 30 days before the informational hearing to each of the following:

- the municipal planning commission  Yes (copy attached)  Not Applicable
- the conservation commission in the municipality  Yes (copy attached)  Not Applicable
- the legislative body of each abutting municipality  Yes (copy attached)
- the regional planning commission  Yes (copy attached)
- the commissioner of forest, parks and recreation  Yes (copy attached)
- the secretary of transportation  Yes (copy attached)

The public informational hearing was held on the following date. June 14 / June 28, 2010

The action was taken at a warned meeting.  Yes (copy of warning attached)

Effective date of Mass Discontinuance of town highways not on the  
official town highway map (include a copy of the meeting minutes). June 28, 2010

**SIGNATURES - PLEASE SIGN.**

Selectboard members/  
Aldermen/ Trustees Signatures:

[Handwritten Signatures]

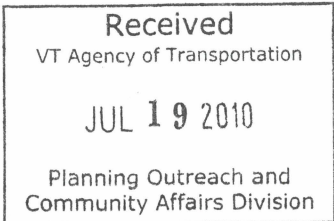
T/C/V Clerk Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date Filed: June 28, 2010

Please sign ORIGINAL and return it for Transportation signature.

**AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF MASS DISCONTINUANCE CERTIFICATE**

Signed copy will be returned to T/C/V Clerk.

RECORDED BY: [Handwritten Signature] DATE: 7/19/2010  
Representative, Agency of Transportation



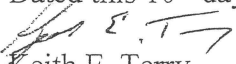
**WARNING**  
**Town of Plainfield**  
**Monday, June 14, 2010, 7pm**  
**Plainfield Town Hall**

The Plainfield Selectboard will hold a hearing to consider a mass discontinuance of all town highways that are not otherwise clearly observable by physical evidence of their use as a highway or trail and that are not included as such on the sworn certificate of the description and measurement of town highways filed with the town clerk on February 10, 2010, pursuant to 19 VSA §305(h).

This public informational hearing will be held on June 14, 2010 at 7pm at the Plainfield Town Hall, 18 High Street (Route 2) in Plainfield.

A town highway map prepared by the Vermont Agency of Transportation is available to the public at the Plainfield Town Clerk's office during regular business hours.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2010

  
Keith E. Terry

Selectboard Chair

  
Gary Graves

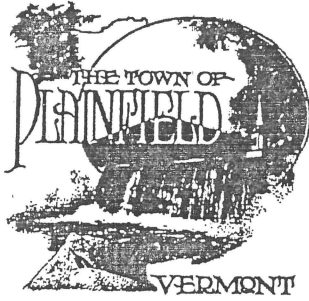
Selectboard Member

David Strong

Selectboard Member

Received and recorded May 12, 2010 at eight o'clock am. Attest: Linda B. Wells, Town Clerk.

Continued to June 28, 2010 7pm - Town Hall



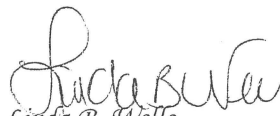
May 12, 2010

Town of Plainfield  
Office of Town Clerk/Treasurer  
PO Box 217  
Plainfield, VT 05667  
802-454-8461-Telephone  
802-454-8467-Fax

Central VT Regional Planning  
Jason Gibbs, Commissioner of Forests, Parks & Recreation  
David Dill, Secretary of Transportation

Plainfield Conservation Commission  
Plainfield Planning Commission  
Selectboard of the Town of Barre  
Selectboard of the Town of East Montpelier  
Selectboard of the Town of Groton  
Selectboard of the Town of Marshfield  
Selectboard of the Town of Orange

Enclosed is the warning notice for a public informational hearing for the Plainfield Selectboard to consider a mass discontinuance of town highways considered pursuant to Title 19 VSA § 305 (h) on Monday, June 14, 2010 at 7pm at the Plainfield Town Hall.

  
Linda B. Wells  
Town Clerk

Plainfield Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, June 28, 2010  
7:00 PM  
Municipal Building

7:00 PM Called to order: SB Attendance Chair Keith Terry, Gary Graves, David Strong, Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells, entered 7:17 PM Road Foreman Mike Nolan Video Recorder Keith Swann and Minutes Recorder Jeanne Lamica

Flowers were given to the Jeanne Lamica, Administrative Assistant from Mr. Galen Sweet. I thank Mr. Sweet for his kindness and of course enjoy receiving the beautiful flowers!

7:00 PM Public Hearing: Continuation of Ancient Roads Hearing from June 14, 2010 Other citizens present at the hearing were Jan Waterman of the Plainfield Conservation Commission and Andy Robinson.

Per discussion two weeks ago it was recommended by Alex Thayer from the Ancient Roads committee that all the corridors and roads that do not appear on the town map be discontinued except for Robert Lane. Chair Terry moved resolved that, with the exception of Robert Lane, the Selectboard of the Town of Plainfield approves a mass discontinuation of all roads and corridors not appearing, as of July 1, 2010, on the official Town Highway Map. Selectman Graves seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

Selectman Graves gave a brief history of Robert Lane commenting that it was formerly known as Hill Street. One resident had made an appeal as to whether Robert Lane was a Town road or Private road. After acquiring legal counsel the resident later took away the appeal and as a result it was never put on the Town map or the 911 map. Selectboard asked Clerk Wells to contact the person who creates the Town Map to ensure Robert Lane is placed back on the map.

Approved June 30, 2010

Keith E. Terry, Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Gary Graves \_\_\_\_\_

Plainfield Selectboard Meeting  
Monday, June 14, 2010  
7:00 PM  
Municipal Building

7:00 PM Called to Order SB Attendance: Chair Keith Terry, Gary Graves and David Strong; Town Clerk/Treasurer Linda Wells entered 7:09 PM Road Foreman Mike Nolan, Video Recorder Keith Swann, Minutes Recorder Jeanne Lamica, citizens Charles Cogbill and Alex Thayer and entered 8:28 PM Alice Merrill

7:00 PM Public Hearing – Ancient Roads. Alex Thayer spoke on behalf of the Ancient Roads committee that included the late Dick Thomas and Alex Thayer who volunteered to take Coordinator Laurie Veach's place. Ms. Thayer explained ancient roads are roads that are no longer discernible on the ground.

Selectman Strong asked if the committee had found if any ancient roads had been improperly abandoned. Ms. Thayer answered few discontinuances were found.

Selectman Graves asked if there was a list of discontinued roads that they could look over. There is not an actual list of abandoned or discontinued roads only what is recorded in town records from property title transfers and surveyor's measurements and marks. Ms. Thayer explained that the committee just copied from the Town Records and transferred to spreadsheets. She will print the notes the committee took and bring them to the Town Clerk's office.

Charles Cogbill asked if the ancient road research information could be used to enhance the history of the town. He said it would be nice to preserve the work done by the committee and put it in format of road books to be kept at the Town Clerk's office. Mr. Cogbill knows of many towns that keep road books of all noted changes to roads. He also asked if any maps were created by the committee. Ms. Thayer answered the committee did not create any maps and whatever maps exist are kept at the Town Clerk's office.

Mr. Cogbill was concerned about four roads created by developers for Martin Meadows. Several parts do not exist and/or have changed their courses. Who owns the land these roads are on? If these roads are not classified then they do not need to be on the town map rather these roads in question can be recorded as easements for the property owners.

Selectmen Graves and Terry mentioned that Robert Lane was considered a road but never put on the current highway Map. Robert Lane was upgraded and this should have been filed with the state annual mileage report. Clerk Wells will check past records to check if it was filed. Selectboard wants Robert Lane on the Town map before they vote on this year's town map.

Chair Terry moved to continue hearing for Ancient Roads until June 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Meeting Room. Selectman Strong seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

7:42 PM Road Foreman Report: Sweeping is getting done. A sweeper unit was rented instead of hiring a sweeper service.

Chair Terry asked Foreman Nolan if he had any concerns on access permit applications for East Hill and Fowler Roads. Foreman Nolan said permits are acceptable, however, both permits need culverts in place. Selectman Graves moved to approve access permits for David Rice and Alan Goldsmith on East Hill Road and for Aldo Gray on Fowler Road with a second from Selectman Strong. Motion carried 3-0.

Foreman Nolan asked if the right-of-way access letters from landowners had been received allowing box culverts to be put in on Lower Road. Clerk Wells confirmed they were received and Foreman Nolan will notify the contractor to install the box culverts.

Bancroft Pond: Foreman Nolan reported that beaver baffles were installed by Cory Cheever and the water has gone down about 6 inches. Cheever will return next week to check on them.

7:48 PM Clerk Wells submitted several policies for the Selectboard to review as they are up for renewal. Clerk Wells reported the Municipal Building handicap ramp is coming apart and the gutter above the stoop needs to be replaced to avoid ice build up before winter.

The Town received \$648.00 from the VLCT health and wellness incentive program and some employees received incentive checks.

7:52 PM Chair Terry stated the past 3 selectboard meetings lasted about 3 hours rather than the usual one to two hours. Initially the administrative assistant for the Selectboard was hired at \$50.00 per selectboard meeting based on one to two hour meetings. Because of the longer meeting hours and increased typing hours, Chair Terry moved to compensate the administrative assistant the equivalent of one extra meeting. Selectman Strong seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

7:55 PM Selectman Strong moved to approve deed for a lot at Plainfield Cemetery for Lillian Kay Hudson in consideration of \$300.00 with a second from Selectman Graves. Motion carried 3-0.

7:58 PM Selectman Graves moved to accept the minutes for May 24, 2010 with changes. Selectman Strong seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

8:05 PM Selectman Graves moved to accept Moving Light Dance Company's summer rental schedule in the amount of \$805.00 with a second from Selectman Strong. Motion carried 3-0.

State of Vermont  
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation  
103 South Main Street, 10 South  
Waterbury, VT 05671-0601  
[www.vtfpr.org](http://www.vtfpr.org)

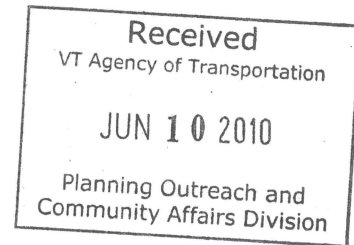
[fax] 802-244-1481  
[tdd] 800-253-0191

Agency of Natural Resources

802.241.3693  
ANR Lands Division

June 7, 2010

Town of Plainfield Selectboard  
c/o Linda B Wells, Town Clerk  
P O Box 217  
Plainfield, Vermont 05667



Dear Board Members:

We are in receipt of the notice pursuant to the requirements of Title 19 V.S.A. that you propose to discontinue all town highways that are not otherwise clearly observable by physical evidence of their use as a highway or trail and no included as such on the sworn certificate of the description and measurement of town highways filed on or about February 10, 2010 in the Town of Plainfield. The Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation has reviewed the proposal and finds that this will not affect any existing trail corridors and therefore, has no objection to the proposed discontinuations. For your information, it has been the policy of this Department to encourage towns to continue ownership of highway rights-of-way where they are of sufficient length or location to be of value to recreational users. Such existing rights-of-way can be valuable recreation resources for our growing population.

With the passage of H. 83 in the 1991 Legislature, the laws regarding Class 4 roads and trails give much more strength to towns in their ability to preserve these rights-of-way. Title 19 V.S.A. 711 states in part:

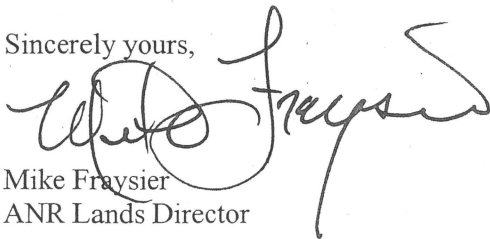
"...the selectmen may order that the petitioner bear the cost of upgrading a class 4 town highway to the class 3 town highway standards established in 19 V.S.A. 302(a)  
(3)(B). Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a town to maintain a class 4 highway or to upgrade a highway from class 4 to class 3."

Enclosed is a copy of the "Town Policy on Class 4 Roads and Trails," issued by the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council. In addition, you will find a copy of the Department's policy on road discontinuance. You may want to consider a similar policy in Plainfield. Having such a policy will help to ensure that you will not be required to maintain Class 4 roads or trails or upgrade them to Class 3.

This Department will not be represented at your meeting on June 14, 2010 but we ask that this letter and attachments be entered into the proceedings. We also request that local trail organizations such as snowmobile clubs be notified of the proposed discontinuance.

Thank you for contacting us on this matter. We always appreciate the opportunity to comment on these important recreation resources.

Sincerely yours,



Mike Fraysier  
ANR Lands Director

Enclosures

Cc: Trails Coordinator, VAST; FPR District Trails Coordinator, Diana Frederick; Planning Office, AOT

