

# SUMMARY OF ROAD VIEWING

Site visit TH#47 Chiste Road December 8, 2018

Call to order: 1:30pm

Present: Helyn Strom-Henriksen, Joseph Berard and Norman Wilber, Ernie Bolognani

Two of the Selectboard members along with the DPW Superintendent, Norman Wilber viewed the section of TH#47 approximately .09 hundredths of a mile. They discussed the road width and turn around area as well as the road usage to try to determine if it is within the best interest of the Town to change or discontinue the classification of this road.

Adjourned: 1:50 pm

Submitted by Norman Wilber, DPW Superintendent

## Chiste Road Hearing December 8, 2018

Call to Order at 2 pm

Present: Helyn Strom-Henriksen, Joseph Berard, Norman Wilber, Karen Boisvert, Ernie Bolognani

Selectboard Chair Helyn Strom- Henriksen gave a brief history of why we are present here today. The State of Vermont sent a letter to the Town stating that Howe Pond Road was not up to State Standards and to either bring it up to the standards or reclassify. The Selectboard asked DPW Superintendent Norman Wilber if there were any other roads that he felt should be reclassified or discontinued at this time to do them all at once. A site visit was performed at 3 pm on December 8, 2018.

Erni Bolognani:

Mr. Bolognani stated that the water line ran through his property. He stated that the road runs into a trail that goes to the Whitingham Town line. He feels that the Town of Whitingham should have been contacted. Mr. Bolognani asked why other roads such as the road to the Christiansons up past the dump and Lamaire Drive were not being considered. Norman told him that there is a pump station at the end of Lamaire Drive that the Town has to have access to daily and that there would be other roads that will be looked into for the future and that today was just a start to looking at the roads. Mr. Bolognani asked the board to reconsider discontinuing the road for another couple of years while is still alive.

Mr. Ted Hopkins presented the board with a packet laying out concerns for all roads being discussed at todays hearings. Specific to Chiste Road he states "Thoughts on Chiste Road: Before taking any action the Selectboard should ensure there is a clear permanent right of way for the Towns water lines that may traverse the portion of Chiste Road to be discontinued. If not the Town may be 'shooting itself in the foot' by discontinuing its only or easy access."

Karen Boisvert read a letter sent by the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation.



State of Vermont  
Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation  
Lands Administration and Recreation Division  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3801  
<http://fpr.vermont.gov>

*Agency of Natural Resources*

December 5, 2018

Town of Readsboro Selectboard  
c/o Amber Holland, Town Clerk  
Town Office  
P.O. Box 187  
Readsboro, VT 05350

**RE: Proposed discontinuance of portions of Town Highway #47 (Chiste Road)**

Dear Board Members,

On November 19, 2018, the Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation (FPR) received the petition to reclassify portions of Town Highway #47 (Chiste Road) in the Town of Readsboro. Per 19 V.S.A. §775, municipalities must notify the Commissioner of FPR when a petition to discontinue a highway is filed. It is the policy of FPR to encourage municipalities to keep highways as public rights-of-way for emergency, recreational, forestry, agricultural, and other purposes. These roads provide numerous benefits, including:

- Access to year-round and part-time residence and camps;
- Access to agricultural fields, forests, and sugaring operations;
- Access to state-owned parcels for recreational opportunities, for hunting and fishing, forest management and other forest products;
- Recreational access for activities like hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, horseback riding, and ATV and 4-wheel use

FPR's Lands Administration staff and District staff in our Rutland office have reviewed the petition and are not opposed to the proposed road discontinuance. FPR staff will not be participating in the public hearing and site visit occurring on December 8, 2018. We respectfully ask that this letter be recorded as part of the official proceedings on this matter. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Washburn".

Rebecca Washburn  
*Director, Lands Administration and Recreation Division*



Motion to close hearing at 2:10 pm by Helyn Strom-Henriksen, seconded by Joseph Berard. So voted.