East Montpelier Road Policy Upgrading Class Four Town Roads to Class Three Roads

- 1) The Selectboard shall initiate proceedings to reclassify a town highway if it receives a petition signed by voters and/or landowners in East Montpelier, whose number is at least five percent of the registered voters (19 VSA §708). The Selectboard may also initiate proceedings to reclassify a Class Four town road. Upon receipt of the petition or decision by the Selectboard to initiate proceedings, the Selectboard will promptly appoint a time and date, both for examining the premises and hearing the persons interested, and give 30 days notice to the petitioners, and to persons owning lands through which the highway may pass or abut, of the time when it will inspect the site and receive testimony as per 19 VSA §709.
- 2) Within 60 days following the examination of the road and the hearing of interested persons, the Selectboard will report its findings as per 19 VSA §711.
- 3) The Selectboard may require that landowners with frontage on the affected road pay costs associated with the construction or upgrade of the road to the standards in this policy.
- 4) The Selectboard will consider the likelihood of additional property tax revenue generated by the upgrade of the road to offset the additional cost of road maintenance in its decision regarding an upgrade to Class Three road classification.
- 5) The Selectboard's acceptance of a road as a Class 3 town highway shall be issued contingent on the following actions by the applicant or developer:
 - a) posting of any required bond or other surety prior to starting construction;
 - b) completion of the construction according to the specifications listed in this policy;
 - c) demonstration that the development of property along the road will generate a minimum level of municipal tax revenue equal to or greater than 120% of the estimated road maintenance costs annualized over a ten year period; and,
 - d) receipt by the Town of all required right-of-way deeds.

6) Specifications:

- a) The road shall be built or upgraded to conform to the Town of East Montpelier Road and Bridge Standards and the VTrans A76 standards for a Class 3 Road.
- b) Traveled way and shoulder widths shall be commensurate with traffic volume and use. For guidance, reference the latest edition of AASHTO's "A policy on geometric design of highways and streets.
- c) Slopes shall be graded to reduce erosion to a minimum.
- d) No grade shall exceed twelve percent; the Selectboard shall determine whether or not grades over seven percent must be paved.

- 7) During construction of the upgrade of a Class 4 town highway, the East Montpelier Road Foreman shall from time to time inspect the new road. The Road Foreman may call on VTrans personnel or others to assist in the inspection. The Road Foreman may stop construction of the road if it is not being built to specification.
- 8) A final inspection by the East Montpelier Road Foreman is required to certify that the road construction is completed according to standards. No final inspection will be conducted by the Town between November 1st and April 15th of the following year.

Adopted by the East Montpelier Selectboa	rd this <u>5</u> t	h day of Nov	rember, 2012
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