

**TOWN OF GLOVER, VERMONT
SPECIAL SELECT BOARD MEETING
GLOVER TOWN HALL
JULY 14, 2010**

Officers Present: Jason Choquette-Select Board Chair, Tara Nelson-Selectperson/Board Clerk, Bucky Shelton-Selectman, Nick Ecker-Racz-Moderator

Guests Present: About 35-40 members of the public

1. Nick called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. stating the purpose of the meeting was to discuss parking problems in West Glover related to the Parker Pie restaurant.
2. Cavan Meese, founder of Parker Pie, said he is happy to have the meeting.
3. Bucky spoke about the issue of having vehicles parked along County Road and Stevens Road. It creates a safety issue and a liability to the town.
4. Brian Carroll, who lives on Stevens Road, said he can tolerate the parking there, but parking is a problem. He suggested adding parking to County Road and adding a shoulder, as well as reducing the speed limit. Keone Maher said he would donate the fill material for shoulders.
5. Sara Stevens lives across from the Parker Pie. She said is glad the business is doing well, but traffic and parking is a problem. She has seen the fire truck almost stop due to cars being parked in the road. She also said noise is extreme and if one of her children needed an ambulance, it needs to be able to get to her house.
6. Tara said she spoke to the town attorney and the town's insurance carrier regarding the town's liability. Both the attorney and insurance carrier advised the town that parking in the road opens the town up to liability issues.
7. Allen Mathews, Glover Fire Chief, and Adam Heuslein, Ambulance Chief, said there needs to be two lane traffic. There was recently an accident the fire department was responding to and the fire truck had to come to a stop along County Road because of the parking along the road side.
8. Jason and Bucky said there was room for probably 12 spaces along County Road, but they didn't know if the town right of way was wide enough for this. The slope on the lower side of the road creates a problem, so it wouldn't work there. Martial Major questioned the cost benefit of adding only 12 spaces.
9. Becky Tenney, the town constable, said there are about 35 current parking spaces. She estimates Parker Pie needs 70-90 spaces. Cavan said the new building will have capacity of 180 people.

10. Tara asked if there was a parking plan before the expansion/addition. If there was a parking plan, did it fall through? Cavan said they used to have enough parking for the small dining room. They took a section of the yard to add more parking. They have added on to the restaurant to increase seating capacity. The new building is sound proof. The plan was to work with the town to make more parking. They would be willing to lease property from a land owner.
11. After more discussion about parking, Tara read the town attorney's advice. According to 19 V.S.A. Section 310, it is an obligation of the town to keep the town roads in a "safe condition with reference to such accidents as might fairly be expected to happen thereon". The town attorney also advised the select board that in no uncertain terms the roads need to be kept open so that emergency vehicles can pass through. This is a safety issue and one that opens the town up to the potential for great liability.
12. Matt Eldridge suggested a parking study.
13. Brian Carroll asked if the town should look toward the future.
14. Dawn Powers lives next to Parker Pie and owns the field behind the Parker Pie. She has dealt with loud music until 1:00 a.m., picking up beer bottles on her property, people smoking pot in her field, and opening her door to see someone urinating.
15. Keone Maher referred to the town plan, which addresses parking. It says parking at stores in West Glover and Glover is a problem". Tara said this is true; however the town really needs to follow the advice of the attorney and not allow parking along the road. Keone said the town doesn't have to follow the attorney's advice.
16. Martial Major said everyone is spinning their wheels until someone figures out how many spaces are needed. He also said progress is businesses that pay good wages and benefits.
17. Ben Trevits said he sympathizes with Dawn Powers' issues. Most of the customers are families. He apologizes for the litter, urinating and other illegal activities. He is looking at policing for large events.
18. Anne Eldridge, a Parker Pie employee, said she makes about twice the minimum wage and she is willing to keep an eye on the parking lot activities, like making sure there are no beer bottles out there.
19. Peggy Day Gibson asked about the old leach field, which is town property. Jason said it is for sale, and we have asked the listers for their advice on a value. The board was approached last year by an individual who would like to purchase it, but the property has not been officially put up for public sale yet.

20. Sara Stevens asked if anyone had an idea how many more spaces are needed. Ben Trevits said 90% of the time they would need 50 spaces. There are a couple of exceptions, such as July 4th weekend. Sara also said policing would help. The select board is looking into law enforcement options for Glover and West Glover.
21. John Rodgers suggested looking at widening the shoulders on County Road or Stevens Road. Richard Powers said he has a background in law enforcement. Any widening would need to meet state specifications. There would need to be a 3:1 slope. He also suggested a complete traffic study, as he has seen cars speeding at 50-60 mph and 4-wheelers at 70 mph.
22. Becky Tenney, town constable, said she is concerned about the ambulance and fire trucks getting through. She also said cars in general don't seem to follow speed limits. She asked what the capacity was in the new building. Keone Maher said the capacity was 48 upstairs and 48 downstairs. Becky said she there were 98 people upstairs at the open house.
23. Stephan Cantor said West Glover and Glover is a great place for families. Kids have grown up and come back. This business started five years ago and now supports many families.
24. Hans Wein lives on Parker Road and he said him and his wife both work at Parker Pie and it is the only reason they live here.
25. Liz Nelson asked if space could be leased from the church for parking.
26. Scott Stone would like to see DUIs enforced.
27. Martial Major asked what the price of progress was. He is a neighbor to Parker Pie and said to him the noise is the price of progress.
28. Tara asked when the new addition would open. After Cavan said "last year", and "we don't know", he figured maybe in a month. The select board wondered if the tent would come down after the addition opens. They could add a few more parking spaces. Cavan said the tent goes up and comes down depending on if they need it. Also, they do not want to give up their back yard for parking, as children play there.
29. Doug Safford of Red Sky Trading said Glover and West Glover are "now on the map". He asked what we can do to make it better.
30. Dawn Powers asked people to put themselves where she is and "wear each other's shoes".
31. Rebecca Young said Parker Pie is a value to the community and to look at parking on Stevens Road or the church.

32. Nick Ecker-Racz said the business never would have opened with out a parking plan if the town had zoning.
33. Howie Cantor said he hopes everyone will open communication and urges the board to look at this. Meg Gibson feels Parker Pie needs to be embraced and asked people to have faith that things will work out.
34. Bucky summarized the meeting by stating items that can be looked at: the church lot, speed limits, police coverage, and Stevens Road, although the select board is being hammered with the liability issue. He also said Parker Pie needs to work things out with their neighbors. The biggest concern is safety.
35. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Nelson, Board Clerk

Jason Choquette, Select Board Chair

Tara Nelson, Selectperson

Bucky Shelton, Selectman