

**TOWN OF HIRAM
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2019
7:30 PM
AT THE HIRAM TOWN OFFICE
Public encouraged to attend**

PURPOSE: To discuss Allard Circle. The public has used the "circle" for the past 30-50 years without any official town vote in the past to accept it as a "town way". The Hiram Town Office, Sacopee Rescue Units, South Hiram Fire Department and Postal Boxes for several people are located on Allard Circle. It has been brought to the officers attention by the new property owner of 9 Allard Circle, that he owns a portion of the "way" that is being used by the public and wishes to have the public cease using it since it was never officially voted to be accepted by the town nor was permission given by the property owner to use. See the map below to better show the property lines and where the issue lies.

Therefore, we need to come to the public and ask your opinion on what you feel would be the best solution for all in this matter and how to have the municipal officers proceed with this issue. There are several choices or avenues we can take:

1. The town take the position that it has acquired an "prescriptive use" over that portion of Allard Circle which crosses over the land of 9 Allard Circle, based upon its use for 20 years or more, and the use of town funds for summer and winter maintenance. The Town would need to seek a declaration from the courts at the added expense to the Town.
2. The Town take that portion of Allard Circle as crosses over the land of 9 Allard Circle by eminent domain. This too requires court proceedings, with additional expense to the Town, and possible damages paid to current owner of 9 Allard Circle.
3. Hold a town vote of the townspeople to discontinue that portion of Allard Circle which crosses over the land of 9 Allard Circle (as depicted by the hatchmarks on the drawing below).

We want to hear from the public on this matter to help us decide on which process would be the wish of the people that use Allard Circle frequently.

