

# Milan RT.110B Hearing Draws a Crowd

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MILAN – The Milan Selectmen held a public hearing to hear from the public regarding the continued use of Rt. 110B as part of the local trail system. Rt. 110B was opened for two years to give time to the local ATV club to build trails that would allow riders to access services in Milan and West Milan.



**Milan Selectmen Randy Fortin, Bud Chapman and Peter Nolet**

At the time the permit was granted, the Milan Trail Huggers Club had two major projects on their schedule. The first project called the Head Pond Connector Trail would create a shorter route between Jericho Mt. State Park in Berlin and the Millsfield trail system.

This project was completed a few weeks ago and is scheduled to open next summer. Using the new Head Pond Connector Trail, riders can travel between the two trail systems in as little as 9 miles vs. the current 22 miles by road or 38 miles by trail.

Unfortunately the second trail project has been put on hold due to the withdrawal of 2 key landowner permissions. This 6-mile long trail called the Boom House Connector Trail would have connected Milan Village with the Millsfield trail system.

Without the Boom House Connector trail, the only way to connect Milan Village to West Milan is by traveling up Rt. 110B.



### **Milan residents and other riders from surrounding towns arrive for the public hearing**

Concerned residents started a petition in August that was presented to the Selectmen in September. This petition to keep Rt. 110B open was signed by 157 residents.

The Selectmen scheduled a public hearing and the overwhelming majority of people in attendance were in favor of keeping Rt. 110B open. The Selectmen will vote on sending a letter

to the NH Bureau of trails at their next meeting but they are expected to support the idea of keeping the road open for ATV traffic.

What is less sure is if the state will grant another permit. There were some safety concerns raised in 2015, but the state decided to go ahead with the opening given that it was a temporary permit.

Assuming all the paperwork is filed on time, the State will be doing their evaluation of Rt. 110B in January and making their decision before the spring.