

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes May 1, 2017

7:00 pm Meeting called to order by Board Chair, John Quinlan. Also in attendance were Selectmen John Esposito and Kim Roberge.

During public time, Harold (Bill) Croteau, owner of the General Store property, came before the Board to say that when the Town paved Temple St. 4 years ago, they left the road 3" higher than his parking lot. Standing water has eroded the parking lot pavement and he wants the Town to remediate this situation.

Esposito said that the parking lot at the store has always been a mess.

Quinlan said that the Board would speak with the DPW Director to see what might be done.

7:05 pm Police Chief Furlong was on hand to discuss the verbal complaint regarding too many unregistered cars on Weston Hill Rd. According to the State RSA's, it is not legal for a private residence to have more than 2 unregistered vehicles of any kind on a property. In order for the PD to act on the situation, there must be either 1) a written complaint (which the PD must furnish to the property owner), or 2) a written complaint from the Selectmen which should include all properties in the area (also furnished to the property owners). If the situation is not remedied, the owners will be guilty of running a non-licensed junk yard. The PD would issue a violation for each day in non-compliance. It can be pursued civilly, in which case the penalty is \$50.00 per day of non-compliance.

Roberge asked Furlong if he had begun looking into alternatives to MACC Base in case Milford makes it impossible to stay with them in the current configuration.

Furlong said that he had begun, but he had nothing to share with the Board at this time.

7:15 pm Quinlan addressed the Conservation Commission and explained that the Selectmen want all the factions of the Town to be more collaborative as we seem somewhat disjointed right now. We want to develop an agenda for the coming year. Conservation seems very involved all of a sudden.

Joanne Draghetti, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, said that the Commission is very busy and has been right along; you just don't always see what goes on behind the scenes. At our May meeting we will be firming up plans for Carleton Pond/Park, looking at budget and seeing what the new numbers will be. We need to figure out what can be put off till next year.

Quinlan asked how long ago the estimate was done, and was told 2013.

Quinlan asked if the plan had evolved since then, and was told that the plan has not changed.

Draghetti reminded the Board of the landscaping and path around the Park that is in the engineering plan, and said that they may be asking the Board for their support in the form of a warrant article next year, although they would like to be able to finish the project without asking the taxpayers for more money.

Quinlan asked when they anticipate beginning the project.

Draghetti said that they will know after the meeting next week, but want to start this fall.

Draghetti went on to discuss the duties of the Commission, the open positions and the need for continuity.

Roberge stated that the Commission must try to acclimate the volunteers to get people to stay with it.

Draghetti said that the Commission has sponsored trail days, done educational outreach about invasive species trying to get more people involved. A lot of people hike the Purgatory Watershed; I have even asked some of those people for help on the trails, to no avail. We would also like to have all of the Town owned properties surveyed.

Roberge said that having the Town properties surveyed is a good long-term goal.

Quinlan offered that we are in the process of finding boundaries on a couple of properties owned by the Town in back of Marden Way.

There may be a timber violation that has taken place on one of these properties in particular.

Draghetti believes that, depending on what is found, it may have been a criminal act. A forester needs to be hired to estimate board feet and stumpage values.

Shelly Brooks, also of the Conservation Commission, offered that some of the members walked the perimeter of the cut with a GPS and superimposed that over the Town map. Brooks agreed to send their findings to Brown in the office.

8:10 pm

Board reviewed Minutes of 4/24/17 as amended. Two in favor, one abstained.

Board reviewed and signed checks and manifest

Board reviewed and signed permission for Town Clean Up Day on May 6th from 1 to 5pm.

Board reviewed and signed letter to DOT re: reducing speed limit on Amherst Rd.

Board reviewed and signed contract from Robert Todd Land Use to find the boundaries of two Town owned properties behind Marden Way and Levesque Lane.

Board was not quite ready to adopt the Anti-Fraud Policy as Quinlan was absent last week.

Board discussed a Request from the Town Clerk to be able to take credit/debit cards. Board agreed to open an account with TD Bank for Town Clerk activity only that the credit card payments (and all other forms of activity) will be deposited. The customer will no longer have to write 2 checks (one to the Town, one to the State). You will write one check to the Town, and the Town will transfer the money to the State. There is no cost for this change in procedure.

Board discussed the State ratifying the election results only from the snow postponed voting day. They recommended that any Town voting in reference to a bond issue should have a public hearing to ratify results. Since we only had a couple changes to the Zoning Regulations, there is no need to hold a public hearing.

Esposito let the Board know that he had spoken with Chip Lyon. Lyon was asking permission to have an organization come to Lamson Farm and hold an "Old Time Baseball Game". The Selectman have to approve of any gathering that will attract 250 or more people. The organization estimates an attendance of approximately 500. Esposito motioned, Roberge seconded to allow an "Old Time Baseball Game" to be held at Lamson Farm. All in favor. There will be more information to come.

Lyon also wanted the Board to know that the Firemen's Association want to hold a raffle. The prize will probably be tickets to a Red Sox game and lunch with one of the players. Brown said that if they will go door to door, they will need a Hawkers and Peddlers license.

Esposito asked Lyon about the Cell Tower on his property, the lease and the amount we should expect to realize from the rent of the bell tower to Verizon Wireless. The one thing Lyon added was to make sure that if Verizon allows another carrier to come onto the tower, the Town will benefit too.

Quinlan asked the Board members what they thought of the proposal by the Boy Scout of the War Memorial project. Roberge said that it is sti in the preliminary stage, but she approves of the plan. Esposito agreed.

Esposito wondered why the Highway Overtime line was already maxed out, and what will have to be done in the fall if there is a need for overtime. Board decided to speak with the Highway Director next week to see how he is approving time/overtime.

Roberge advised the Board that one member of the Historic District Commission was planning to meet with a homeowner to discuss what could be done on the exterior of a home he just purchased. Roberge let the member know that any meeting needs to be with the whole Commission, and that one member cannot speak for the Commission. On that note, Roberge motioned, seconded by Esposito, to appoint Joanne Kitchel to the Historic District Commission with a 2020 term. All in favor.

9:25 pm As there was no further business before the Board, Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie M. Brown