

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes June 1, 2020

7:05 PM Meeting called to order by Selectboard Chairman, John Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

Esposito led the meeting in a moment of silence.

Public Hearing for trimming trees on scenic roads: Old Milford, Old Wilton, Wilton, Purgatory and Upton. Esposito introduced Corey Keeffe from Eversource.

Keeffe explained that they will be trimming and would also like to cut the dead/dying trees that are marked with blue ribbon. There are also one on Brook Rd and one on Old Amherst that had been marked and weren't gotten to last year.

Esposito said that the public hearing last year addressed those two, so go ahead and remove them. He asked Keeffe to take a look at Old Amherst again; there are a few that have been marked and should come down.

Spencer Lovette asked how the trimming will compare to the trimming on Joselin Road in Milford.

Keeffe said that it will not be the same at all. Only limbs 4" or less will be cut 15' above the lines and 8' to the left and right of the lines.

Linda Knippers asked about her 2 100' pines that were identified last year. Will they be done this year?

Keeffe said that the trimming is set for August and the hazardous trees will be done before that.

Lovette asked who owns the wood that is taken down.

Keeffe said that the homeowner owns the wood, but if they want us to remove it, most times we will.

Lovette asked if any trimming will be done on Town land and was told yes.

Knippers asked if she will get any advanced notice that they are coming for her trees.

Keeffe said that she could email him, and he would make a note to have someone get in touch with her.

Esposito closed the Public hearing.

Board agreed to the Eversource plan to trim/cut trees.

Roberge joined the meeting and said that she hadn't gotten an invitation.

Bonnie Angulas let her know that ZOOM had a big update, and that some things got screwed up.

Board reviewed the minutes of 5/18/20. Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to accept the minutes as printed. Berry; yes, Esposito; yes, Roberge; yes.

Highway Director, Ben Crosby, let the Board know that opening the recycling for cardboard went a little bumpy; the cardboard didn't get stacked properly – the load will be light because it wasn't packed down. Also he saw a few things in the aluminum that shouldn't have been there, but were in too far to reach.

Esposito said that we are to continue with cardboard and aluminum recycling. Plastic should go into the trash. Only the opaque milk jugs are recyclable anyway – all plastic should go into the regular trash. We know that people want to recycle all the plastic, but no one is taking the colored plastics, and when we put it into the trash it goes to the incinerator and helps make electricity.

Roberge said that we need to find a way to fit another container for the clear plastic. I understand that we have to trash the colored plastic, but the residents want to recycle as much as possible.

Esposito repeated that right now, we can only take the opaque milk jugs. He will find out more at the SRLD meeting on Thursday night.

Esposito also said that the COVID-19 measures taken will increase our assessment about \$3000 so far.

Berry agreed that people have been saving their recycling, including glass, paper and mixed paper.

Esposito said that the newspaper bin can no longer include magazines. We need to start the bin fresh with only newspapers. Glass they do not know what to do with yet.

Roberge said that the problem is that people are not throwing these things in the trash; they are holding onto them, waiting to recycle.

Berry said that the more we try to recycle, the more it will cost us in manhours. The operators are too busy moving people to monitor it.

Roberge said that it took so long for people to buy into recycling; that it will save the planet.

Berry said that both times he went to the transfer station in the last two weeks there were people breaking down their cardboard boxes at the station. That needs to be done at home. People would pay more to be able to recycle. We need to think about putting more man power down there; the guys we have now are too busy to police what is going where.

Rich Masters said that, if we can get FEMA to reimburse us, why not? Also, there is a company in Nashua: "Recycling Associates" that works with towns. New Boston and Wilton use them, have you looked at other places?

Esposito said that Dennis Slocomb does shop around for the best price.

Crosby said that he has a couple people in mind if we go that way.

Crosby also stated that Steve Dudley asked if he could park a trailer at the transfer station for bikes that people are getting rid of. He will fix them up and donate them.

Roberge said that, if a kid in Town wants a bike, she wants them to have the opportunity.

Esposito said that we will revisit this after COVID-19 is over.

Masters said that the Stay-at-Home order has been extended another 2 weeks. He asked about doing home visits for health inspections. He said that the FD has been holding off. It was decided that he consult with Chief Furlong, our Emergency Management Director.

Crosby said that he went on a walk through for the library access road. Cindy Raspiller will put me in touch with the engineers. The road will have to go in before they start on the site work. They will get a full set of plans from the engineers.

Roberge asked if Joe English will be graded soon, and what about paving Sean Drive.

Crosby said that he will be out on Salisbury, then I can schedule the paving and reclaiming for Sean Drive, Salisbury Rd and Beech Hill.

Roberge asked if he was able to confirm that he doesn't need a public hearing to pave on a scenic road.

Crosby said that a public hearing is only needed for cutting trees.

Esposito asked if there was any update on MACC.

Roberge said no – not even any draft minutes of Milford's meeting yet. Their agenda said "looking into outside customers".

Esposito said he is concerned about costs to upgrade. We need to get ourselves lined up with another communication center.

Roberge said that we know MACC needs to upgrade and it will be spread out over 3 towns. What upfront costs will there be to go with another town? The MACC BOG is looking at the agreement again. Milford's Board had a very heated discussion over this and will have another work session.

Esposito feels we need to look at the lot-term. Amherst is willing to talk to us.

Esposito asked about a 3rd estimate for the Town Hall roof.

Brown said she was going to have Roberge ask her husband if he know of a good roofer in the area.

Roberge asked if there were any more leaks. She said that Martin Lacasse saw some while winding the clock.

Crosby said that there are 2 spots that looked recent.

Roberge asked if there were any in the ceiling of the museum.

Berry said no, just in the bell tower.

Roberge asked about the legal opinion about the lived-in trailer and the cease and desist issued.

Brown said that Town Counsel suggested we buy the book "The guide to effective enforcement" from NHMA and then call him with specific questions.

Roberge suggested the electronic version, Board decided on the printed version.

Bonnie Angulas said that she would try to find it cheaper for us through library channels.

Brown then asked about the shields that the Board authorized Belinda Yeaton to purchase for the Town.

Esposito said that he has emailed her about shields he saw at The County Store and has had no response. Masters said that Lowes and Home Depot will cut the plexiglass right there for you.

Roberge said that the Stay-at-Home order has been extended 2 weeks. It seems like we are heading toward a soft opening. Either way, we should be moving forward on this. There should be some kind of barrier there.

Masters suggested hanging the plexiglass from the ceiling with an 8" gap to the counter for the exchange of paperwork. He says that the shield does not have to go all the way to the ceiling.

Crosby let the Board know that Bob Sawyer will be out until at least June 17th when he has an MRI of his knee.

The doctor thinks he may have torn his meniscus when he hurt his knee. He may be going out on Workers Compensation.

8:20 PM As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to adjourn.

Berry; yes, Roberge; yes, Esposito; yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Brown