

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes July 6, 2020

**7:00 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.

The Board reviewed the minutes of June 22, 2020. Berry motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of June 22, 2020 as written. Berry; yes, Roberge; yes, Esposito; yes.

Esposito spoke of a letter received from the Lamson Farm Commission cancelling Lamson Farm Day this fall 2020 due to Covid 19.

Chief Furlong sent an email about contacting Amherst relative to the possibility of contracting dispatching services through them. Roberge feels it is a good idea for Chief Furlong to have discussion with Amherst's Town Administrator and Police Chief. Esposito feels that the Fire Dept. and the DPW should be included in these conversations. Berry feels Chief Furlong should first meet with just the Town Administrator and Police Chief before pulling in other department heads. Berry commended Chief Furlong for all his hard work and effort as Emergency Management Director.

Esposito brought up glass recycling. The SRLD has stated that when we do start accepting glass, we can only accept clear glass bottles and jars. If we get rejected by the plant in Keene due to other glass items being included, there will be fines. We should look for another place to recycle our glass. It's going to end up costing us to recycle glass. Roberge feels that when we do actually start accepting glass, we need to have David Brooks publish in the newsletter the specific type of glass we will accept in order to avoid penalties. Esposito suggested that we ask residents to crush aluminum cans. We get paid by weight, not volume. If the cans could be crushed, it would be much more efficient. Roberge brought up the parking space markers painted at the Transfer Station; things seem to be moving smoothly. The Board discussed the cardboard container and the difficulty in getting the cardboard to the back of the container. The overflow is an issue. Esposito discussed the possibility of getting a compactor for the cardboard.

Ben Crosby discussed the summer work schedule for the Highway Department. The crew has been working four 10-hour days Monday – Thursday. Crosby would like to go back to a five day schedule the week of Labor Day. Their last 10- hour day will be on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. He said the summer schedule worked well and he'd consider doing again next year. The Board discussed the reevaluation of an employee due to his mechanical ability. Esposito feels he is an excellent mechanic and has done a lot of extra work for the Town. The amount of money he has saved the town over the course of time warrants an increase in pay. Esposito proposed an increase. Berry also feels that he should be compensated for the extra mechanical work he does for the town. This was discussed last winter and needs to be addressed. We can afford to do it now and should not wait for the next budget season to let it be known that we appreciate his services. Roberge asked what percentage of an increase that would be. She concurs with Berry from a standpoint of the value of the abilities and the maintaining & training involved. Roberge motioned to approve the increase for this employee seconded by Berry. All in favor.

The Board discussed two donation checks received. The first is from Norman and Rose Norcross of Salisbury Road. They donated to the Mont Vernon Highway Department for the extension of paving the road at Salisbury Road and Beech Hill Road. This would go into the General Fund as unanticipated income. Roberge motioned to accept the donation seconded by Berry. Esposito emphasized that this resident made this donation of his own free volition. The second donation was from Joseph Carleton, Jr. given to the Town of Mont Vernon because of the excellent service of the MVPD. The police have been attentive, responsive and polite in all their dealings with them. They understand the reasons why individuals cannot directly reward the police; they expressed their wish that these funds be used to provide amenities to the Town's police officers which would not normally be included in the police budget. Roberge motioned to accept this donation, seconded by Berry. All in favor.

Berry discussed the calcium chloride solution treatment put on Trow Rd. Crosby has done Trow Rd., upper Purgatory Rd., Upton Rd., Cemetery Rd. and plans to do Secomb Rd. and the Blood Rd. extension tomorrow. He feels the solution is working well. Roberge asked if there is an update on the tree issue on Brook Rd. Crosby said they are waiting on the court process. Crosby brought up the drainage problem on Kittredge Road. #15 has a flooding problem. There is an excessive amount of water flowing onto his property. Crosby will work on our right-of-way to mitigate any further damage. There is also an issue at #18. Crosby will meet with the home owner next week. Crosby brought the Board up to date on an injured employee. The employee will be going out for surgery at the end of the month which will put him out on short term disability.

**8:15 PM** As there was no further business before the Board, Berry motioned, seconded by Roberge to adjourn. Berry, yes; Roberge, yes; Esposito, yes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Cleary