

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes August 7, 2017

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

Board reviewed the minutes that were tabled from July 10, and July 24th's minutes.

Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of July 10, 2017 as written. All in favor.

Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of July 24, 2017 as written. All in favor.

Board reviewed and signed the representation letter to Vachon & Clukay, the Town's Independent Auditor.

7:10 pm Planning Board Chairman, Bill McKinney, came before the Board to give an update of the Old Mill Estates Sub-Division. Regarding the agreement that the covenants include the Home Owners Association being responsible for all catch basins in the sub-division; two of the basins are in the Town's Right of Way. McKinney explained that it becomes a sticky mess to have the HOA maintain something in the Town ROW. He stated that the Highway Department already maintains 16 catch basins in Town, and these two could easily be added to their routine. They will not require any special or additional equipment, and the cost would be minimal.

Esposito agreed, but mentioned that our responsibility would not start until AFTER the roads are accepted by the Town. He would also like the article to allow the Selectmen to accept Riley Road and Crosby Drive on the 2018 Warrant.

McKinney said that the Covenants and Deeds should include that the HOA must maintain everything that is not in the Town's ROW, and if the maintenance is not done, the Town has the right to get it done at the HOA's expense. Board agreed.

Roberge stated that the Old Mill Estates people came to the Planning Board meeting without being put on the agenda. We were lucky to have Joan explain that protocol dictates that they ask to be on the agenda.

They were heard anyway, and all but one item have been resolved. They want to install a concrete cistern tank, instead of the poly tank that the plans call for. They were instructed to resolve that with the Fire Chief.

Roberge then asked McKinney to put his Future Use of Town Buildings hat on. She asked if the back boundaries Laurie Brown sent to CP Williams were sufficient for them to move forward.

McKinney said that they were, and that they will have our study packet done late-August.

Roberge remarked that the RFP provides for a great deal of information that the Board has not seen yet, are they prepared to include all that in the packet?

McKinney explained that some of that was scaled back at contract signing. The Committee plans a presentation for department heads first, and then they will prepare for a town-wide presentation. There is still a great deal to accomplish as far as grants etc.

Esposito asked if there has to be an approved plan before you can apply for grants and was told that you do.

Quinlan said that the Board will need time to digest this report. We are not going to have a sufficient amount of time to put together a plan before the Town Meeting in March of 2018.

Roberge agreed, but said that there may be some things in a phasing plan that we should consider before budgets.

When McKinney said that the next meeting of the Committee is the third Thursday in September, it was decided to have a joint meeting with the Selectmen before mid-month.

7:30 pm Richard Desroches of S. Main St. came before the Board to ask about an ordinance prohibiting large trucks from using their engine brakes going down Mont Vernon hill. He understands that Rte 13 is a State road and that the Selectmen would have to initiate contact with the State. He said that Dublin has already enacted such an ordinance. There was discussion regarding the weight loads of the gravel and timber trucks that use Rte 13, and if it was necessary for safety, for them to use their engine brakes. As no one knew the answer to that, the Board would not support the ordinance without extensive research. Desroches volunteered to speak with the Town of Dublin to see how they got their ordinance through, and Brown was asked to speak with NHDOT regarding the safety issues. Desroches also spoke about traffic who pass said trucks on the double yellow lines coming up the hill.

7:45 pm Chief Furlong came before the Board to ask for their conditional approval to hire a part-time officer. The Board reviewed the officers resume and cover letter. Roberge asked if it presents any problems that this officer is a Town resident. Furlong said that the whole country is moving toward "Community Policing" and that his familiarity with the Town and its' residents will be a plus rather than a detriment. He has already been through the part-time academy and training. He will only need his Field Officer Training here, and will be ready to go solo in 4 to 8 weeks. He would start as soon as his background check is final, and pay rate is reduced while training. Board gave their approval to hire this officer conditional on the results of his background check.

Furlong also reported on his meeting with Amherst's Police Chief Reams regarding dispatch services. Reams believes he would need to add another full-time dispatcher to accommodate Mont Vernon.

Reams requested we write a letter to the Town Administrator or Board of Selectmen saying that the Board is exploring moving the Town's dispatch services to the Town of Amherst, and that the two Chiefs of Police have been in contact with each other discussing the needs of Mont Vernon. After Amherst gets that letter, they will come up with a figure for the Mont Vernon contribution.

The New Boston Chief told him they are paying somewhere around half what we are currently paying to Goffstown.

8:05 pm Board again discussed the logging trucks fully loaded and pulling a tandem that are coming in to Town via Lyndeborough's Purgatory Road onto our Salisbury Road then going up Beech Hill Road to get to State Route #13. This has posed a very real safety issue on

Salisbury, and a maintenance issue on both roads.

Board asked Brown to find out which is easier to effect: a "No through Trucking" ordinance or weight limits on both roads. Board would also like to know what weight limit would be appropriate.

8:15 pm Roberge:

1. Committed to working with Paul Wydra to come up with a new web site that we all will like.
2. Discussed the lack of communication coming from our Health Officer. She wonders if we will need to find a replacement. It is decided to give it till next meeting to see if any contact is made.
3. Historic District Commission has a new application and will be trying to set the hearing for August 23. Having trouble confirming a quorum as people are probably on vacation and not returning calls.
4. Had a discussion with Highway Director, Mike Ypya, regarding some paving that needs to be done at the school. He will try to co-ordinate the SAU paving with the Town paving to get it done sooner.
5. The area at the edge of the Francestown Turnpike looks nice now that it has been mowed.

There was then a short discussion about the flowers and flower beds in Town that the Garden and Beautification Committee is responsible for. It seems like nothing has been done to these areas this year. There were some plants in the watering trough, but even those are dead now. The only area that seems to be taken care of is the gazebo. Brown is asked to have the Committee make some time to at least clean up the beds at the fire station and ball field. Quinlan wants to discuss the landscape maintenance around the school in general, and would like to have a joint meeting with the School Board in September. The school has been looking pretty bad this year.

Roberge said that the school has been made aware of the issue.

Esposito asked Roberge if the people clearing the lot on Old Amherst Road have come in for a driveway permit yet and was told that they have not. The next time Esposito happens to see someone on the lot, he will let the office know and they will send the PD down with a permit to fill out.

9:00 pm Roberge motioned, seconded by Esposito to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie M. Brown