

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes August 26, 2019

**7:00 PM** Meeting called to order by Selectboard Chairman, John Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

Highway Director, Ben Crosby came before the Board to discuss an offer made by Liberty International. Liberty made a mistake in ordering our new International Dump Truck and it came in red instead of orange. Because re-ordering would take another 7 – 9 months, they would like to offer us a \$2,500.00 discount and to take the old 2014 cab and chassis off our hands for \$12,500 for a total of \$15,000.00.

Esposito asked if Crosby thought that the offer was the best we could do.

Crosby said yes, because we may only get a couple thousand for the 2014 cab and chassis at auction.

Roberge asked if this means we are accepting the red truck and was told yes.

Berry motioned to accept the offer by Liberty International for \$2,500 discount for the red truck and \$12,500 for the cab and chassis of the 2014 truck. Roberge seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Crosby has been looking into disposal of batteries (right now the transfer station does not accept batteries). He found a company that will pay us for car batteries and take others for free.

Esposito asked if it will require anything special on our part.

Crosby said that we have to store them under cover and stacked properly.

Roberge asked if some transfer stations accept batteries and others don't.

Crosby said yes; it is up to the Towns.

Esposito stated that the SRLD will pay to get the electrical hook up for the new compactor.

Crosby said that there is a town light on a public service pole in back of the compactor that the grandfather clause has run out on, meaning we will have to pay to have our light on their pole. The consensus is that we can do without that particular light.

Berry asked where Crosby stood on getting the stairs to the compactor rebuilt.

Crosby said that he was waiting for another quote to come in, seeing as he only has one for \$3000.

Esposito remarked that the weather is changing; we need to get it done.

Crosby said that the reclaiming of Levesque Lane went very well and paving should be done by Wednesday.

Roberge said that the line painting the DPW did looks great – people are commenting.

Crosby agreed and said that the new crosswalk signs are a good visual.

Esposito mentioned that the bushes at the corner of Purgatory and Rte 13 are really overgrown.

Crosby said that he will be checking in with the new owner of the property to get them trimmed.

Roberge asked if Brown could find out if we can paint the sidewalk curb ramps as they are rusting and staining the surrounding sidewalk and street.

**7:25 PM** Board reviewed minutes of 8/19/19. Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to accept the minutes of August 19, 2019 as amended. All in favor.

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Berry asked if we had heard from the homeowner on Purgatory Road that was sent a Junk Yard letter.

Brown said that she had called in to the office and was told to either send a letter or email to the Selectmen or come in to a meeting and let them know what her plan was to clean up the debris in her front yard.

Brown let the Board know that Crosby wants to advertise the open Truck Driver Position on "Indeed".

Board feels that putting it in the NHMA publication and on our website first is the best way to go. All agreed that publishing in the newspaper is not likely to produce any interest as we saw in prior publishings.

Berry let the Board know that the three truckloads of loam is still sitting on the cul-de-sac on Rangeway Road.

He feels we should send a letter requesting them to move it by the end of September.

Roberge said that the loam should be moved ASAP or we will send them a bill for the cost of removal by the DPW.

Brown let the Board know that there was a phone complaint regarding the DPW hitting a mailbox and post in February that had not been replaced yet. Brown let Crosby know, and the post and box were replaced last week.

Roberge asked if we should be looking at a mailbox ordinance something like New Boston has.

Brown read another letter from residents of Roberge Drive in Amherst asking if the Board had received their first letter of complaint. They had sent in a noise complaint of incessant gun fire, and explosions of unknown origin.

The Board would like to know from the Chief of Police how many complaints he has received regarding this property and will take that into account when discussing whether a noise ordinance makes sense in Town.

Brown will acknowledge their letter and speak with the Chief.

Discussion over the "Junk Yard" properties ensued. It was decided that the Board would go out to the properties and physically see what has and has not been done to remedy these junk yards. At the next meeting it will be decided how to proceed with court action.

**8:10 PM** Esposito brought up last week's discussion about publishing meetings and minutes of the Building Renovation Committee, and Roberge's feeling that it is not necessary if the committee is not a standing committee.

Berry said that under the Right-to-Know law, every committee must publish meetings and minutes and asked Roberge why there was so much push-back.

Roberge said that she wants to make sure we are enforcing this across the board; Fire Wards, Patriotic Committee, Beautification, Lamson Farm, Recreation – every committee, commission and board. Eileen Naber wanted better use of the Town Calendar and it should be all inclusive.

Esposito feels that all meetings should also be on the Town Calendar.

Roberge suggested sending out a letter to all involved.

Berry agreed that a letter should go out to all of the Chairmen.

Esposito asked who took the minutes for the BRC.

Roberge answered; Bill McKinney took one set, I took 3.

Berry said that draft minutes can be posted.

Roberge stated that we can post the draft minutes for all committees.

Esposito asked Brown to put Tree Lighting and Lamson Farm Day on the Calendar.

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Esposito remarked that he doesn't think the Town Hall will be ready to go before the voters in March.

Roberge said that we should not make that determination in August.

Esposito said we should have a plan including the Library, and asked how far down the road will we know if we will get any grant money.

Berry explained that they are matching grants for the most part.

Roberge asked why the Selectmen's Office doesn't do the scheduling for the Fire Station Community Room.

Esposito said that the Fire Department has functions in there and it is just easier for the Fire Chief to do it.

Roberge said that the Recreation Committee contacted the Fire Department because the School had moved all of their furniture into the MPR in order to wax the classroom floors. The concert series needed a place to hold one of their concerts due to inclement weather. The Fire Department moves the apparatus for pancake breakfasts and fireman's balls, why couldn't the concert series use the apparatus bay?

Esposito explained that it is not as simple as driving the fire trucks outside; there is a considerable amount of gear and supplies that would need to be planned for. This is not something they could pull together with two hours' notice. The MPR is a much better venue anyway.

Steve Trombley is done at the cemetery. The gravel and loam were more money than expected, now there is no money for grass seed. Also, we were told that as soon as he was done at the cemetery, he was going to work on the pond. He hasn't done anything with the drainage yet.

Roberge asked about the light.

Berry said that the light hasn't been done yet either. Because of the installation of that light, the Conservation Commission will be coming to us with a plan to replace the 1947 incandescent street lights with led. This will use approximately one half the electricity that we currently use for those lights.

**8:35 PM** As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to adjourn.

All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laurie Brown