

Selectmen's minutes of meeting June 1, 2015

Members present: Alice Boyd, Jeffrey Gray, John Skrip, Lisa Blackmer
Steve Haraysko, Dolores Harasyko

Called to order by Chair Alice Boyd at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Jeff Gray opened the only bid received for New Hartford Road. The bid is from Lane Construction for \$1,230,814.04 with the alternate of \$1,371,754.84. Alice stated that since we do not have enough in the budget we will not be awarding the bid. We have \$975,000 available for the project.

Steve provided highway department updates. He provided a written report and reviewed it, see attached document.

John Skrip would like to go along with a grading project. He is pleased with the report but would like a little more detail. Terri Ignace complained about the dust from the street sweeping. Donna Newman inquired about beavers and the condition of Cronk Rd. Steve will be bringing in gravel for Cronk Rd. John Burrows asked about the pot holes on New Hartford Rd. since we cannot start the New Hartford Rd project. Steve said he will fill the worst holes. Alice explained the hazard mitigation grant and asked Steve to come up with a project that fits the criteria of the grant. John asked about the process of pot hole patching. Alice said this is a good subject for the Selectmen's workshop. Terri Ignace asked about how much cold patch was used. Steve responded and explained that until the blacktop plants open this is the only product available. Nina Carr asked for a description of the hazard mitigation grant. Alice responded that it is a very specific grant to prevent future continued damage.

Steve presented Chapter 90 reimbursement paperwork. Paperwork reviewed and signed.

Barbara Cormier asked about the policy in place regarding the public coming into the Town Hall and yelling at town employees. She witnessed such an occurrence this week. Lisa responded that there are policies in place and will follow up on them.

Alice presented the new selectmen weekly report. She reviewed events taking place at the SARC. They are starting to put together goals for the Selectboard. Athena Healthcare has withdrawn their proposal for the new nursing home. Reviewed a letter for bridge work starting by Mass DOT on a Route 8 bridge. John visited with the highway dept, he did some road reviews.

Nina Carr expressed her frustration with not being placed on the agenda. She contacted Teresa whom passed the information onto Lisa regarding issues at the Community Center trash pickup and maintenance of the playground equipment. Alice responded that there was a lack of communication and that these issues would be addressed. Discussed the SARC sign that is at the top of Route 57 on town property. Dolores provided the history on that sign. SARC came before the board of Selectmen seeking permission to place the sign on town property. Permission was given with the understanding that SARC would remove the sign during the winter months and that the town is not liable for any damage to the sign.

Nina Carr in to request permission to park on town property on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 2 p.m. There is going to be a celebration of Sid Pinsky's life on that date, permission given.

Discussed the Highway Capital Equipment Committee. Alice reviewed what their duties will be. The first charge is the immediate need for a new vehicle to be determined within 30 days. The second charge is to determine the long range equipment needs. Jeff addressed the research he and Patrick did. The truck is essential to the highway department. Jeff is concerned that every time a capital expenditure is needed we will need to form a committee and hold things up. Kathy Jacobs responded that they presented an initiative regarding this. David Hubbard suggested taking a step back and thoroughly examine all large expenses.

Motion by John, second by Jeff, passed unanimously to re appoint Clare English to the Conservation Commission.

Discussed the annual appointment of Town Council. Alice explained the bylaw regarding the appointment of town council. This past year we have used 2 firms. Alice would like to use Kopelman and Paige. They specialize in municipal law only. She has had great success with them in the past. Motion by Jeff, second by John, passed unanimously to appoint Kopelman and Paige effective July 1, 2015.

Dolores reviewed the open meeting law.

Alice discussed the process of the Selectmen's work sessions. The meetings will be posted and open to the public but the public will not have input. There will not be any voting during these sessions.

Discussed the summer schedule for Selectmens meetings. We will meet weekly until July. We will meet on July 13 and 27 and on August 10 and 24, then back to weekly meetings.

Lisa provided the town administrators report. Copy attached.

Warrants reviewed and signed
Minutes reviewed and signed
Mail reviewed

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Alice Boyd

Jeffrey Gray

John Skrip