

Selectmen's minutes of meeting May 9, 2016

Members present: Alice Boyd, Jeff Gray, John Skrip, Bob O'Brien,
Dolores Harasyko

Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Bob provided highway dept. updates. They only have one big truck and two pickup trucks operating. Followed up with bridge inspections, the bridge by Silverbrook isn't as bad as originally thought.

Finished taking apart the old truck for parts. Mowing continues. Hoping to start grading soon. Bob would like to restore the end of Viets Rd. in order to replace a culvert on that road. Alice complained about a large pothole on Town Hill Rd. Bob would like to chip seal the entire road, he has an estimate of \$62,000. Discussed New Hartford Rd. He would like to chip seal it, Jeff does not agree. He explained that the original bid and contract were approved for black top. Barbara Cormier asked about work on Route 183. He is going to start pothole patching. Jeff explained we did have a 5 year plan in place that's gone by the wayside. John reminded Bob he has not provided written weekly reports. Bob is recommending Ralph Leavenworth for the highway dept. job. Motion by Jeff, second by John, passed unanimously to hire Ralph Leavenworth. He has 90 days from today to obtain his CDL, hydraulics and 4G mowing licenses.

Treasurer Teresa DellaGiustina in to present Bill Perry's resignation. He gave a 2 week notice and will using vacation time. Teresa pointed out that we only have one highway dept. employee that can operate with a CDL. Bill Perry was the only employee with the 4G license.

Discussed Spectacle Pond/DCR meeting. There is going to be a meeting on May 13 at 11:00a.m. at Spectacle Pond to review hiking trails, beach access and boat ramps. Mary Turek suggested camping spots.

John is following up on equipment inventory.

Reviewed MGL pertaining to earned sick time. Alice obtained a ruling from Kopelman & Paige that states municipalities are exempt unless the town voted on it.

Selectmen's updates

Alice heard today that Kinder Morgan has won on every count in the court. Even on the article 97.

Broadband update, two new staffers have been assigned. MBI has been very unorganized and in-effective. The governor has assigned 2 new staffers, one of which will be assigned to this area.

John met with the Energy Committee, they have sent out a dozen letters regarding solar energy.

Discussed the electronics collection. John will continue to research.

Jeff has been checking in with the transfer station and bulky waste issues.

Future agenda items: recycling issues, equipment inventory, Ron Pachulski asked to have iron culverts removed from the cemetery, Bob agreed to dispose of them. Next week is the annual town election, Dolores will not be present at the selectmen's meeting as she is working the election.

Discussed the stabilization account, there is just over \$1,000,000, free cash is around \$500,000.

Mary Turek asked about employees being called on off hours, she suggested adding a clause in the employee handbook.

Reviewed mail

Kathy Burrows asked Bob O'Brien about a very large hole by the West New Boston Cemetery between the fence and the road. She would like something done to make it safe. Bob will look into it and possibly place a grate over it.

Kathy asked for an update on the logging at the cemetery. Bob Tarasuk is working with Ben Campetti on it.

Kathy reviewed her conversations with Karen Allen, she would like to film on June 14 & 15 at the North Beech Plain Rd. Cemetery. Karen is concerned about the logging going on across the street from the cemetery. Per Bob the logging should be cleaned up within the next month. Kathy asked about permit fees, we do not have any for filming. John Skrip is concerned about filming the names on the headstones. Alice said they don't need permission from the selectmen as long as they follow state laws.

Warrants reviewed and signed
Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Alice Boyd

Jeff Gray

John Skrip