

## Selectmen's minutes of meeting May 4, 2015

Members present: Patrick Barrett, Jeffrey Gray, Lisa Blackmer, Steve Harasyko, Dolores Harasyko

Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Steve provided highway department updates. They are attending a class on May 6 regarding airbrakes. He will also be attending a meeting in Boston on May 12, 2015 with a large group of road superintendents to discuss their concerns regarding Chapter 90 funding. Discussed the additional Chapter 90 pothole funding. Steve presented options regarding the purchase of a hotbox for hauling blacktop. They currently have to travel at least an hour and a half to pickup the hot mix and with more plants closing they will have to travel even further. By the time they get back the hot mix has cooled making it difficult to work with. He would also like to purchase a conveyor for spreading the hot mix evenly. Both pieces would cost \$21,300. He has gotten pre approval from Mass DOT for this. Both selectmen agreed with Steve's plan.

Steve asked about the Berkshire Group Purchasing program. There is nothing in place as of this date for FY16. He needs this for gas, diesel, crack sealing, line painting, heating oil, guardrails, culverts, etc. He has left many messages with them with no response. We need this in place before July 1, 2015 or we will need to bid everything out. The Selectmen asked Lisa to follow up on this.

Patrick asked about the progress of grading. Steve responded that they are grading.

Lisa reviewed the Senior Tax Workoff program. We have removed the income specs. The Selectmen still want the program to benefit the residents in most need of the tax credit. Dolores suggested mailing the revised policy to all households with seniors.

Patrick received a copy of the Clearing House Review from Thelma Esteves regarding the pipeline. Lisa is aware of this report. She has reviewed the report and has been attending meetings regarding this. She has brought up a serious concern of the pipeline bringing heavy equipment over some of our roads.

Lisa provided her weekly progress report. She has been attending meetings on the pipeline regarding workshops for homeowners. There will be meetings for elected officials on how to deal with the public. Following up on Wired West. No response from Happy Banga. Working on the New Hartford Rd. bid. Questions on calcium, it was not included in the bid. Steve responded that it is necessary to help harden the base.

Followed up with Athena. They have made a change in the EMT proposal. May 18, 2015 is the 90<sup>th</sup> day for Athena to move forward.

Discussed the House budget. She has been rallying to approve a change regarding prevailing wages. She will be out May 12 for a MMA meeting.

Bogart Muller would like to have the playground equipment cleaned at the library. Lisa will follow up on this.

Patrick asked about the Memorial Day Parade budget. He received a call from Ralph Morrison that it was incorrect. Dolores presented the budget as it was submitted and Ralph did reduce it by \$500.

Lisa has been working on using prison inmates that are ready for release to work in town. They are low risk. Mary Turek does not agree. She feels they would be casing the town. She wants it stopped and does not feel we need this in our town. Lisa said they would be working in the cemetery. Mary is very passionate about stopping this program. This was brought up at a Cemetery Committee meeting. Jeff feels this is a bad idea. Bogart does not want work taken away from him.

Walter Linkovich is concerned that there is a lot of gravel in his lawn. Jeff said it is a problem from Walter's plowing of his own driveway. Walter responded that he doesn't plow that far. Jeff will follow up with this.

Mail reviewed  
Warrants reviewed and signed

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

---

Patrick Barrett

---

Jeffrey Gray