

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 14, 2012

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Susan Hansel, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending: Dennis Dellagrecia, Russ Thomas, Mary Dellagrecia, David Johnson, Karen Tolman, Barry Tolman, Kathy Blaudschun

The meeting was opened promptly at 6:00 PM by chair David Upton.

David thanked Susan, Edie, Teri, and Martha Collins for their work and for the refreshments for the open house on Saturday November 10th.

Next, property owner David Johnson came before the Board to discuss an abatement application which had been denied. (Map 1 Lot 007-003) He questioned several assessing practices that he feels may not be consistent in their application. Bundling property, land evaluation versus market value, and inconsistency in assessment of similar nearby properties were all areas he mentioned. He provided a spreadsheet of properties he considered comparable to his.

He also gave a brief review of a previous lawsuit against the Town which he won.

He indicated ownership of a nearby, land locked property which is not contiguous to the property in question. That issue was previously addressed in his court case.

Mr. Johnson, responding to a question from Maury, stated his belief that his property should be valued around \$50,000 instead of \$100,000.

He requested that the Board review this case and provide him with an answer before Christmas.

David Upton asked if Mr. Johnson had taken this to the BTLA.

Mr. Johnson stated that he had not and because of his previous experience would never go to the BTLA again.

David Upton noted that the BTLA is the typical first step. He then indicated that the Board would take this matter up with the assessor.

Next, Karen Tolman came forward to review the first data gathered in the traffic study. This initial data came from Tolman Pond Road.

The volume of traffic was much higher than expected while speeds were fairly low with only one vehicle indicated with excessive speed.

The study will continue with summer traffic for comparison before an official, enforceable, speed limit is considered.

Next, Edie reported that the keying of the Town Hall /Library and Town office is complete and distribution of keys has begun.

The search for a new Health Officer was the next topic of discussion.

There was some consideration of having two people for this position. One person would cover health issues and one would cover facilities such as housing conditions, septic, etc.

Linda Singer and Dave Hazelwood have been contacted and asked to consider this post.

David reported that Donna Kidd offered to assist Edie at the Town Office as a volunteer on special projects.

David made a motion to appoint Donna to this volunteer position with Thanks.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David reported on his research of the Tree cutting issue.

In the past the landowner had little concern of liability for dangerous tree situations. After the ice storm that changed. It is no longer considered just an "act of God" there is now some degree of liability to the landowner.

David read aloud and reviewed the "Notification of need to cut" form. He noted that even in urgent cases the landowner should be notified.

Maury reported that Mike plans to begin cutting on Nubanusit Road at the Dellagrecas' with permission.

David suggested that PSNH also be notified if their wires are in danger so that they will be responsible for the removal.

The audience offered wording suggestions and concerns over what will justify a danger.

After a brief discussion the form was tabled until further work can be done on the wording.

David read a memo that had been prepared to go to all Boards and Committees regarding the preparation for the Town Report. It was urged that all reports be submitted in the format and time frame that the Board has requested. Appointments need to be set up with Edith Notman for photos of each group depicting their role in service to the Town.

Maury made a motion to approve the memo as presented.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Richie Pratt reported that the State responded to the request for painting lines on the Nelson Road by saying that they have no money for the project.

Richie indicated that some donations have been offered to paint the lines but there is still a shortfall of approximately \$750.00.

Everyone was clearly upset that the State will not meet its responsibility in this matter.

The fact remained that the danger exists, donations have been pledged, and time is running out with the weather to get this done before winter.

With that in mind Maury made a motion to approve the spending of not more than \$750.00 in Town funds toward the painting of the lines on the Nelson Road.

David seconded the motion with protest against the State.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Susan brought up the Granite Lake Boat Landing. She suggested that the meeting be set up with the Granite Lake Association soon to discuss the issue and get their thoughts before moving forward.

David suggested that due to a moderate agenda that a full Selectmen's meeting could be scheduled every other week and a work session meeting be held during an afternoon to do paperwork, budget work, and work on the Town report when there is no full meeting scheduled. Several thoughts went back and forth.

It was decided that the Board will meet Tuesday November 20th at 3:00 PM for paperwork and general business.

Then, Monday November 26th at 5:00 PM for a Budget meeting and Wednesday November 28th at 6:00 PM.

Brief audience comment was then allowed.

Karen Tolman offered a brief history of previous methods of bundling property that they had encountered on waterfront land that they own.

Russ Thomas suggested that perhaps a Health Officer could be appointed and a subordinate (or Deputy) also be appointed.

Edie presented the final accounting of the Town Office Project to be submitted to Tom Newcombe for a transfer from the Town Buildings Capital Reserve account. (\$61,573.00)
David made a motion to approve the request for the transfer of funds.
Discussion followed concerning the cost of architectural fees for this project.
It was noted that the contractor stayed exactly on budget with his original bid as well as the authorized add-ons.
Susan seconded the motion.
The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Susan questioned the amount of hours paid to Elaine Giacomo as presented by Teri Upton for work as ballot clerk.

Edie reported that the DRA questioned a veteran's exemption that could not be verified as a qualifying exemption and has been changed until supporting documents can be produced.

Susan made a motion to approve the manifest as presented.
David seconded the motion.
The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Edie explained an abatement which is required to go to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector in the amount of \$868.00 on the Ingalls property.
A bill was generated because this had been owned by Ingalls as of April 1st but the Town later took the property by tax deed. This amount will be logged against the property as a cost to be recovered should the land ever be sold in the future.
David made a motion to approve the abatement as presented as the Town now owns the property.
Maury seconded the motion.
The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David noted that he may have entered incorrect increases in the Police Budget for traffic control. The increase should be \$4000.00. The budget will have a review before it is finalized to go into the Warrant.

Edie reported that no word has come back yet from Tim Ruehr in response to the letter sent to him asking that the Town be allowed to join with the SAU 29 Health Insurance Risk pool.

With nothing further, Maury made a motion to adjourn.
David seconded the motion.
The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.
Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

November 14, 2012

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins

Susan Hansel