

SELECTMEN'S MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1986

Present: Rachel C Reinstein, John J. Jones and Keith Boatright.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Building permits were signed for New England Timber Realty Trust, James Clark and Daniel Sullivan.

A permit, issued in June, was located for the porch on the Barr property.

Chris Joseph, Police Chief, gave his weekly report. The department had a busy week with accidents, locating a fugitive from Maine YDC, and late night call outs for the Maplehurst as well as domestic problems.

Gary Gagnon has accepted the position of patrolman and will be sworn in on the 15th. He will be done, with his family, tomorrow house hunting.

Cameron Brown may have located a place to live in Antrim.

apartments and houses are in short supply in the Town.

Bob Varnum, Road Agent, gave his report. The first day of school was greeted with a problem showing on the bridge on Summer St. All school bus drivers have been notified not to go up Summer St. until problem is corrected. The road crew worked on the bridge in order to keep it open to passenger cars only. A culvert has been ordered, but it will take six weeks for delivery. Bob wants the bridge off limits for busses as well as trucks for the six weeks.

Mr. Edmunds, Lazar and Croteau will get together to make some agreement with the land and canal behind their property. Lloyd Henderson spoke to Mr. Lazar last week, he wishes to purchase some property, fill in the canal and form a separate lot. Bob pointed out he must relieve the flow of water before he fills in the canal.

John Jones asked if it were possible for the Town to acquire some flood damage money as other Towns in the area have. The last two storms have washed out roads and caused problems to bridges in the Town. Lloyd suggested one of the Selectmen call the Governors office. He has a trouble shooter on hand to answer how to go about acquiring funds.

Bob did not think to go after any funds at the time, his main concern was to get the roads back in shape as quickly as possible for the tax payers.

Virginia and Nate Grant as well as Dan Grant met with the Selectmen asking what "Plan B" was. At the last meeting with Dan Grant, Keith Boatright suggested if Dan's plans were turned down by the BOA again, he should return for plan B. It was explained this was not meant the Board of Selectmen had a plan B for him, but rather, he would have to produce another one.

One of the reasons for the BOA refusal was stated to be, the land would not support the business. Dan Grant did not see this as being so since he has been in business about two years. He also felt discriminated against since he mentioned other businesses in the 202 district as having been granted either permits or variances.

BOA also did not know why selectmen sent him back to them since he had made no change since his first hearing. Selectmen spoke to Dan about the plans he had presented to them, asking for a temporary permit or variance, as he did not want to continue working out of his home. He had told selectmen he would move the business to one of the other properties he was in the process of buying. His appeal to the BOA was not for a temporary variance. BOA asked Lloyd Henderson if they could grant a temporary variance. Upon hearing they could Dan was asked if three months would be enough, he answered no, then was asked if six months would be enough. Dan explained to the Selectmen he could not

possibly do what was required in this time frame. Mr. Nate Grant believed they were being given the run around. He asked that someone make a decision and get on with it. If necessary they will take the boards to court and end it. If this is to happen, Mr. N. Grant would like to have done with it. Mrs. Virginia Grant objected to having decisions made for Dan Grant differ from others. Mr. Dan Grant mentioned the changing of the wording of the minutes by the BOA. He did not see where the members of the board should be allowed to add or subtract words of the minutes.

Mr. Dan Grant mentioned it was just the other night he realized the Selectmen could not have a plan B for him since they had told him there was nothing they could do for him, they are powerless. He had to gain approval from the BOA for a variance.

Lloyd Henderson said the fact he had not asked for a temporary variance may have prevented a more favorable decision, nor did he make an offer to combine the two lots and give a time as to when he could be expected to move the business back to the other property. Dan saw two to two and a half years to make the change, but did not say this to the BOA.

Mrs. V. Grant mentioned variance can be acquired by the wealthy. None of Mr. Dan Grants' neighbors complained about his business.

Although the Selectmen appoint the BOA members, they have no control.

L.Cate reported trees have been cut in front of her property by Keene Tree Service. This was done at the direction of Public Service. After part of the trees were cut, it was realized the trees were on Town property. Public Service order the cut stopped. Being too late, the tree service finished the cut leaving a question as to who would clean up the trees. Bob Varnum, nor the Selectmen had been made aware of Public Service intent. Bob did not see where he nor his men would have time to get up there this week. Since the cut was ordered by Public Service, they should have to clean this up. Bob offered to check to see if the trees were maple, and if so he may be able to get his men to clean up after work hours on the condition they can use the wood. Bob will also check to see where the dead tree is located on Elm and 202.

Mr. & Mrs. Schaefer are concerned over the possible closing of Loverns Mill Bridge. Every year the State checks out the bridge and the Town has posted it 6 ton limit. When Mr. & Mrs. Schaefer purchased the property years ago they asked if this six ton limit would cause a problem with them having deliveries made and selectmen at the time did not see this being a problem. They have found that deliver trucks will not always come across the bridge. Questioned if they were in need of fire equipment, would the trucks come across. Selectmen were sure emergency vehicles would and could go across the bridge. Rymes will not deliver propane to property owners on the other side of the bridge.

Bob pointed out his trucks go over the bridge.

When asked if a truck went over the bridge and went through would the truck driver be responsible. It was agreed this would be the case.

Bob agreed there is a problem, he intends to put a warrant article in next years report requesting funds to replace this bridge. In the meantime, he has posted it to passenger cars only. State has requested the bridge be closed. The State does not seem to be aware of the homes involved. There are several homes over the bridge. Bob had intended to do some support work to that bridge, but the amount of water has prevented him doing the intended work. Once the water goes down he will go up and put in some supports. He hopes to do the work this week or next. Bob cautioned, although he will put in supports, this will not change the load limit.

Selectmen agreed to accept the land from Mr. Don Knapton. Lloyd asked if they would want to consider the Conservation Commission. Selectmen talked with the road agent over the possibility of gravel being on the property. With the shortage of gravel this would be a great help.

Rachel Reinstein suggested calling Paul Wilson of Bennington to look over the town buildings and see if he would be interested in being called in the event the town is in need of assistance. This would include problems in the morning with the oil burner.

Town beach phone and electric are to be cancelled this week.

Dave Penny and Mary Allen, BOA members offered their interpretation on some of the zoning regulations. This was in an effort to have the selectmen know what rulings can be expected in regard to homes on 202 being converted into business offices.

A report has been received that construction is going on at the Pheasant Run Trust property. A building permit was refused due to septic. Present system is for three bedroom home which the house is. Addition of two more bedrooms will require the septic being checked to see if it would carry the additional rooms. Builder Inspector is to be sent to check if construction is going on without proper approval.

A question from Mr. Nye on Pierce Lake to see if he could remove his present house and rebuild at the same location with an addition of eight feet on the side was raised. Present house is 30 feet from the high water mark. Selectmen agreed if he removes the house he would need a variance in order to replace it in the present location. He can extend the eight feet on the present house if he does not move closer to the water than the present house. This information will be given to Mr. Nye when he calls.

John Jones asked Bob Varnum if the road crew has ample first aid equipment and required hard hats. Bob will check to make sure although he thinks they are supplied with all they should need.

Bellows Nichols will be called to check what is holding up Applejacks' final payment.

Booths are to go up this week-end for election on Tuesday, meals are to be set up as well as sandwiches ordered. Cards are to go out to inspectors.

Meeting adjourned 9:50

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