

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, September 22, 2014 started at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the public safety building. Present were Selectman Bussiere, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Malloy, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Dick Georgantas - Liberty Truck – Mr. Georgantas noted that he had been having a conversation with Administrator Scruton regarding swapping land between the town and Liberty Truck. Liberty Truck proceeded in doing some minor engineering, wetland delineation, test pits, site assessments on a proposed piece of land. They have no specific plan use of that property as their original “partner” backed out. A different operation may be looked at. Selectman Bussiere noted that he is all for economic development and would like to see the property back on the tax rolls. The property Liberty Truck is interested in is isolated by the Pierce Brook. Selectman Gaudiello would like to see more discussion regarding the swap. The piece of property that the town would be swapping to Liberty Truck has a lot more assessed value than the piece that the town would be acquiring. The swap would add frontage for the town on Pierce Road. It was noted that the Board would like to see Liberty help with road access to our back property. It looks like a good arrangement for both parties but not until there is proposed development.

Charlie Moreno and John Wallace were present to discuss a proposed timber cut on the Tamposi property to lay out nine wildlife clearings. This would be on approximately 150 acres located by the town line of Lee and Barrington off of Route 125. The wildlife clearings will create habitat for the near-endangered New England cottontail and other wildlife species. There needs to be a road constructed for access. The town will eventually be reimbursed from grants and timber revenue. Road construction would start in October and the harvesting of timber from November to February. Selectman Bussiere was concerned about a parking area off Route 125 for six to eight cars and access with a secured gate. Selectman Bussiere moved to support the recommendation of the Conservation Commission to spend up to \$35,000 for road construction, road project management and wildlife/forestry project management, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Communications Envisioning Committee – Paul Mausteller and members of the committee were present. Mr. Mausteller reported on the following ideas and goals of the committee: reviewing the town's website, obtaining grants, reviewing the franchise agreement with Metrocast, developing rules and guidelines (with the Board's oversight) for the public access channel with use of the station and cameras. Mr. Mausteller felt there should be amendments and changes to the franchise agreement. Selectman Malloy noted his experience when his committee reviewed a prior cable contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Walker supported the parking lot onto the Tamposi property from Route 125 but suggested that it be close to the street and have more trees cut by the road so that there is good visibility to the lot from Route 125

REVIEW OF MINUTES – September 8th and 10th, 2014 – the minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. The Board accepted the recommendations from the tax collector regarding which properties should be deeded for non-payment of taxes and which properties would have deed waivers. The properties with deed waivers are properties that have one of the following: federal lien, a small balance, unique circumstances, welfare lien, payment plans or are actively for sale.
2. Administrator Scruton noted several items that will be brought up for discussion in the 2015 budget i.e. new town hall, road paving, retaining current service level, maintenance plan for buildings, staffing, reclaim and pave public safety building parking lot, capital reserve projects. Selectman Gaudiello noted that she would like to keep on track with the paving timetable. Administrator Scruton stated that there is a possibility for setting up a contingency fund for winter maintenance so money won't have to come out of other parts of the highway budget to support winter maintenance. Selectman Gaudiello would like the department heads to present a budget for their needs and not just level funded.
3. Administrator Scruton noted receipt of a letter from property owners requesting a refund of three years taxes based on being erroneously assessed for property that they didn't own. The request will be reviewed by the town's attorney.
4. Administrator Scruton reported that a property owner on Long Shore Drive, who is involved with a code enforcement issue, was ordered by the Court to clean up the property or there would be a \$2,000 fine. If the property is not cleaned up by the deadline the property owner can go to jail for contempt. Administrator Scruton asked the Board if they wanted the building inspector to proceed if the fine and deadline is not met. The Board supported the building inspector with his actions to go forward.
5. The fire radio tower at the old town office needs to be relocated at a cost of \$40,000. The tower will be relocated near the library building and will be 70' higher than the one at the former town office. Selectman Bussiere moved to fund the relocation from the Capital Reserve Account, request the money from the trustees of the trust funds and make application for any grants that are available, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
6. Selectman Gaudiello moved to authorize Administrator Scruton to enter into a contract for \$750 a month at Atlantic Storage for storage of town records that are coming from the old town hall, seconded by Selectman Hatch. Selectman Bussiere abstained from the vote. The motion passed.
7. An audit was completed on the playground. It was determined that a number of changes and improvements need to be made. Wear and tear and age were cited as contributing to the problem.
8. Halloween trick or treat will be on Thursday, October 30th from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m..

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: Intent to Cuts for Jeffery and Pierce, vendor manifests dated 9-11 and 9-16, and payroll manifests dated 9-7 (2) and 9-14.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Hatch recently attended a Library Trustees meeting and the Trustees are looking at another piece of property for the library. She recently attended a ZBA meeting – the appeal was denied and the variance was approved.

Selectman Bussiere attended the Economic Envisioning Committee meeting put on by the State of NH Business Relocation and Expansion Assistance Recruiter. Both Selectman Bussiere and Chairman Clark stated that the meeting was very informative with a lot of new ideas. Marcia Gasses recommended this speaker to the Communications Envisioning Committee.

Selectman Hatch moved to go into non-public session at 8:20 p.m. per RSA 91 A: 3 II c for reputation, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call, Bussiere – aye, Hatch – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Malloy – aye, Clark – aye. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Hatch moved to come out of non-public session at 8:40 p.m. and to seal the minutes, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.