

SELECTMEN MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2017

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, July 24, 2017 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Ayer, Selectman Bailey, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Knapp, Chairman O'Brien and Clerk McNeil. Administrator Scruton was absent.

Chairman O'Brien welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman O'Brien thanked the department heads who did a phenomenal job during and after the microburst on July 20th that did damage to parts of Barrington. All the town departments worked together to get the town roads back open as soon as possible and get the electricity back on. Selectman Ayer also supported Chairman O'Brien's comments.

APPOINTMENTS

Introduction of Erik Baker – There was a scheduling conflict and Officer Baker will be introduced at another Selectmen's meeting.

Peter Cook – Backhoe Bids – Mr. Cook stated that Case came down with a backhoe to demo but it was only left for a few hours. Their backhoe cost \$115,600 minus the trade of \$22,000 would bring to final cost to \$93,600. John Deere left a demo for 3-1/2 days. Their backhoe cost \$123,800, minus the trade of \$21,000 would bring the final cost to \$102,800. The highway crew felt the John Deere was more comfortable and easier to handle. Mr. Cook recommends the purchase of the John Deere. Selectman Ayer stated that knows backhoes and supports the John Deere purchase and it would be more compatible with what the crew was used to. Selectman Knapp asked about maintenance costs. Mr. Cook stated they are about the same along with the warranty. John Deere can remotely link up with town equipment to know if something is wrong and will be available to fix it immediately. Selectman Bailey supported the purchase of the John Deere backhoe, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Chief Walker – non-public – this will be moved to another meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Griffin Hotz is starting to work on his Freedom Award through Trail Life USA which is similar to the Eagle Scout Award with Boy Scouts. His leadership project is to work with the American Legion at various cemeteries to neaten up the cemeteries document who is buried, place a sign at the locations to make the cemeteries more accessible to citizens. This project will serve the veterans who have passed and the Legionnaires charged with preserving their memory. He requests permission from the Board to proceed with this project. Selectman Hatch supports this project. Cemetery Trustee, Rick Walker, stated that Mr. Hotz must make an effort to find the heirs to the burial ground and get their permission to do the work. If he is unable to find any heirs he would come back to the Board for permission and then place a public notice in the newspaper of his project. Chairman O'Brien appreciates the hard work he has taken on with the Board's support.

Rick Walker was giving the Board a heads up that the Cemetery Trustees may need to free up money from their capital reserve account to pay for clean-up work at the cemetery as a result of the storm. There are number of trees that need to be taken down and some that have fallen that need to be cleaned up. Also, some head stones were damaged. They will try to do the work within their operating budget.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – July 10, 2017 – Selectman Hatch moved to accept the minutes of July 10, 2017 with one change, seconded by Selectman Bailey. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: One Intent to Cut, abatements #17 & #19, one land use change tax warrant in the amount of \$6,250, payroll manifests dated 07/16/2017 and 07/09/2017 that was signed in the office, vendor manifests dated 7/19/2017 and 7/12/2017 that was signed in the office.

OLD BUSINESS

Ayers Lake "Boat Launch" – Matt Towne spoke for the Ayers Lake Association Commission. Their proposal is to minimize the risk of milfoil by restricting boat size to a 4' beam or less. Mr. Towne felt the Board should have a concern with

property taxes if milfoil is found in the lake. A letter was presented to the Board from Amy Smagula, an Exotic Species Program Coordinator with NHDES. Ms. Smagula noted the risks of milfoil and the negative “impact on recreational, biological, ecological and economic values associated with waterbodies and can sometimes pose health and safety risks to humans”. A correction was noted from the previous meeting that Ayers Lake Campground is not an open launch. It is for use by the guests of the campground and the boats are checked by Tom Bedford before they enter the water. Selectman Knapp recommended signage where the boats enter Ayers Lake. Kayaks and canoes have flat bottoms and have less risk for carrying milfoil. The larger boats have a greater risk going from lake to lake and spreading the milfoil. Swains Lake occasionally has a monitor at the public launch. Would the Ayers Lake Association consider doing the same? They already do a lot to monitor and maintain the quality of the water. This property is used as a boat launch when it isn’t designated as a public boat launch. If the State owns the lake wouldn’t they help to keep the milfoil out of the lake? Selectman Ayer feels that he doesn’t have all of the information yet to make a decision. If milfoil is found it will become a town problem. Most towns that have a milfoil problem in their lakes have a line item in their budgets to eradicate milfoil. Selectman O’Brien does not want to restrict access for Barrington residents. Chairman O’Brien said that he is not ready to make a decision until she speaks with Amy Smagula. Selectman Bailey felt that the Board should check with legal counsel regarding a “hand” launch area, the safety issues and parking issues.

Selectman Bailey noted that the department heads have questions regarding the new chart of account numbers.

Selectman Bailey asked about the status of the glass and debris on the Goodwill property trails. Signs have been ordered for a parking area and brush is to be cut by Route 9. Selectman Bailey would like an update from Conservation Commission.

Selectman Bailey asked for an update on the repairs at the Playground.

Selectman Bailey asked for an update on the volunteer’s barbecue as the volunteers would like to bring family members. The number of volunteers keeps growing and it was asked would the town pitch in for the extra costs for family members? Sam Boduch, Chairman of the Library Trustees stated that they have a

lot of volunteers with their three different Boards. Chairman O'Brien wanted to compare the cost of Peter Cook hosting his Christmas party and Highway Department open house. Mr. Cook stated that he pays for all of the food out of his pocket for both the Christmas party and open house.

NEW BUSINESS

Transfer Station Hours – Selectman Knapp is requesting that the transfer station change their hours to 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday. This would benefit the entire community so people could go to the transfer station after work and not on Saturday. Peter Cook stated that has never gotten a complaint about the hours. The Board should look at this proposed change as there is a lot more to it than just changing hours. Selectman Knapp suggested adjusting the pay accordingly as the employees are technically working second shift. It was suggested that anyone who is unable to come when the transfer station is open could hire a private trash pick-up service. The issue to stay under old business.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Ayer noted that the last Conservation Commission meeting was cancelled.

Selectman Bailey attended the recent Library Trustees meeting where they discuss the summer programs and discussed the artwork at the corner of Route 9 and 125.

Selectman Hatch said that the Recreation Commission meeting was cancelled as they did not have a quorum.

Selectman Knapp attended the recent School Board meeting. The new Superintendent, Daniel Moulas, has started working. The School Board noted that the tuition line had a surplus along with special education, their audit is being conducted this week, and UNH is doing a forestry plan for the school site. The new technology director was introduced, and an update was given on the construction of the parking lot at the elementary school.

Chairman O'Brien missed the last Planning Board meeting but attended the recent School Board meeting. Chairman O'Brien commented on the U14 Babe Ruth girl's softball team that is playing in Florida.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief Walker was approached by the local Lions Club who will be doing free vision screening in the school along with pre-school children. They would like to use the public safety building for the pre-school vision screening. Selectman Knapp asked about HIPPA control. Selectman Bailey moved authorizes the use of the public safety building for the pre-school vision screening, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Chairman O'Brien moved to authorize Rick Walker and the Cemetery Trustees to spend to up \$3,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for the storm damage work at the cemetery if needed, seconded by Selectman Bailey. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Peter Cook thanked Chief Walker, the Police Department, Suzanne McNeil, and Marcia Gasses for their help during the "microburst". Erin Paradis was in Emergency Management mode doing an assessment of the town.

Mike Erricola, a resident of Small Road, asked how far the town right-of-way goes into Ayers Lake. It was noted that the State owns to the high water mark. Camp Fireside owns most of the cove "the meadows" off of Daniel Cater Road.

Dan Cassidy, a volunteer coordinator for the "weed watchers", stated that the likely infestation of milfoil will be at the "boat launch". The milfoil would eventually impact the beach area owned by Camp Fireside.

Carolyn McElroy stated there are signs to say check your boat for milfoil. She grew up on a lake that got milfoil. The property value of their property went down 20%.

Michael Cavanaugh stated that people come to the lake and use canoes, paddleboards and kayaks and he gets compliments on how clean the lake is and fishermen note how healthy the fish are. People come watch the sunset on Ayers Lake.

Selectman Ayer moved to go into non-public session at 8:28 p.m. per RSA 91-A:3, II © and (e) for discussion of land and personnel, seconded by Selectman Knapp.

Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Bailey – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

Selectman Ayer moved to come out of non-public session at 8:55 p.m., seconded by Selectman Knapp. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Bailey – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.