

**Town of Brookfield
267 Wentworth Road
Brookfield, NH 03872**

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
August 11, 2009**

Attendance: Chairman Clifton Camp, Craig Evans and Ernie Brown
Staff: Ed Nason CEO, Pam Frazier Assessor Clerk, Lynn Watts Welfare Director, Janet Murfey Planning Board Chair, Doug Vanderpool Forest Fire Warden & Jennifer Sonricker Admin. Assistant
Special Guest: Cynthia Copeland, Executive Director SRPC
Public in attendance: 3
Reporter: Heather Terragni

The meeting was called to order by Clifton Camp at 6:30 p.m. Doug led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from July 28th, 2009 meeting reviewed. Minutes amended as follows: On page 2, first paragraph of Road Agent report; include the following "Concerns were raised regarding Moose Mountain Road pedestrians and horses".

MOTION: Craig moved to accept the minutes from July 28, 2009 meeting as amended, seconded by Ernie. A vote was taken, all in favor. Motion Carries.

Public

Comments: None

SRPC – Cynthia Copeland, Executive Director to speak about issues that will affect Brookfield over the next year: Clifton introduced Cynthia Copeland. Ms., Copeland provided an update on upcoming regional fall activities.

- Southeast Watershed Alliance (SWA). Ms. Copeland encouraged the Selectmen to partake in this Alliance. One goal of the Alliance is to protect coastal water resources; pollutants into estuary are on the rise; water into these estuaries is sourced from our area. SRPC is looking for a town representative and possible alternate to be appointed to serve on this Alliance. The first meeting is being held either September 29th or 30th. We can let them know we want to be a member and come forward with an appointment at a later date.
- The Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation: Public Hearings are being held September – October; the public hearings provide an avenue for town officials to bring concerns/issues to the DOT and Executive Councilors. Ms. Copeland strongly encouraged the Selectmen to participate and voice concerns. The commission is preparing for the next 20 years and looking at projects for 10-year plan.
- Regional Housing Needs, Assessment for Strafford Region: Presentation by Bruce Mayberry at Middleton Town Hall on September 24th, purpose to address regional housing needs. Planning board members and others encouraged to attend.
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS): Beginning late August, early September, will allow organizations to apply for EDA funding.
- ARRA funding: Part of economic stimulus package, clean water act and water quality funding. Money has been set aside to work with area Planning Boards regarding sedimentation, storm water, water quality and habitat issues.
- Census 2010: Final preparation will begin fall 2009; information is available on the census website regarding deadlines and answers to questions people may have.
- Law Lecture Series: Three lectures being held in Exeter; October 14, 21 & 28, provides valuable information for boards. Three lectures being held are: Constitutional Law in Land Use Regulation, Five Variance Criteria and What to do when they stop building.

Janet Murfey discussed SRPC appointment from Planning Board, currently there is no one appointed, she explained the Planning Board will discuss at the next meeting. The typical process is for the Planning Board to nominate a resident as appointment to SRPC board, this nomination is then approved by the Selectmen.

Ms. Copeland concluded her presentation.

Report of Town Officials:

Treasurer Marilou was unable to attend this evenings meetings; she provided the Selectmen with checks to sign earlier in the day.

Planning Board

Janet reported on their last meeting. Agendas have been re-organized. The board discussed rules of procedure regarding maintaining public documents. There will be no meeting on July 24th as members are busy with subcommittee meetings.

Road Agent

Ed provided an update. Pleasant Valley Road has been ground and he is working with the Walpole's regarding the turnaround, things are going good. The Lyford project will begin shortly; there should enough money to complete both projects. Lyford project will include cutting back pavement at Tuttle's driveway and removing part of the hill to smooth out the transition between paved and dirt section of the road. Ed explained the Town has purchased a micro-blaster for breaking apart rocks and cement. This initiated a discussion regarding explosives and how they should be stored. Clifton encouraged all explosives related to the micro-blaster to be stored in a locked and secured fire cabinet. Salt shed update provided. Three people have inquired about picking up bid sheets; the deadline to submit bids is two weeks from tonight. Clearing for the salt shed has begun.

Agricultural Commission

Janet provided brief update regarding Farm Day held on August 8th, she had a lot of people visit her barn and she understood that Dave Towle had many people visit his train. Pam spoke on behalf of Frank, Frank indicated there was a good turnout. The morning heritage breakfast sold out. Clifton thanked Heather for all the publicity regarding the several events being held this day.

Heritage Commission

Craig provided an update on Old Home Day held on August 8th; the guest book had 50 signatures; not all attendees signed in, there was a steady flow of people. There was a lot of interest in the school house. Ham and Bean supper was a great success, the dinner sold out; attendees were treated to great music. Both groups who performed are interested in coming back. The commission is looking into holding a "Mill Series" in the fall or spring. Craig thanked everyone who helped out. A suggestion was made to hold the lecture right before dinner. Clifton thanked the Heritage Commission for organizing Old Home Day. Winners of the blueberry pie contest were announced; 1st place was Angus McDonald, she won a Brookfield History Book, the runner up was Deborah Manning, she won a Brookfield/Wakefield history book.

Old Business

Gravel Monitor: At the last meeting a suggestion was made to return gravel monitor duties to Ed Nason, no decision was made at this meeting because Clifton wanted to call DRA and speak with Mary Pinkham Langer to discuss possible conflict of interest regarding Ed Nason as gravel monitor and sandpit owner. She did not feel this was a conflict especially given there are only two gravel pits, she sees no unfair advantage. Clifton commented on reference to rumor of joke at DRA regarding Brookfield's gravel monitor owning a gravel pit. Mrs. Langer commented that such a statement had not been made.

MOTION: Ernie moved to nominate Ed Nason as town gravel monitor, seconded by Craig. A vote was taken, all in favor. Motion Carries.

New Business

Town Firewood – Lynn Watts, Town Welfare Officer: After earlier suggestion to have cord wood resulting from clearing for salt barn be provided to families receiving welfare or fuel assistance Lynn Watts, Town Welfare Officer was invited to this evening meeting to discuss options. Ed explained he expects to accumulate between 8-10 cords of wood, there is a cost for having the wood dropped but the cutting and splitting of the wood will be done for free. Criteria for who qualifies to receive wood discussed; should just those receiving fuel assistance qualify? Another topic discussed was whether the recipient needed to burn wood or could they receive the wood and then sell it. Lynn provided her input; her experience shows that the level of need is

greatest January-March; this is usually after all fuel assistance has been dispersed. Lynn would like to hold off disbursements until need is at its greatest. A suggestion was made to raffle off a cord of wood and donate the proceeds to the Wakefield Food Pantry, the Selectmen all agree to raffle 1 cord of firewood, with the proceeds benefiting the food pantry. The details of the raffle were discussed; the thought is to have the food pantry handle the raffle. The Selectmen asked Pam to coordinate this with the food pantry. The Selectmen also agreed to have the remaining wood distributed at Lynn's discretion; when wood needs to be distributed the Selectmen asked to be notified and they will arrange delivery. Clifton asked Lynn to make a flyer regarding the wood and post, she was asked to include her contact information on the flyer.

Forest Fire Warden report; Inspection of Fire Safety: At the request of the Joint Loss Management Committee (JLMC) Doug Vanderpool, Town Forest Fire Warden was asked to inspect the Town Buildings for fire safety violations. He provided a written report to the Selectmen, Clifton read the report. A few issues were discovered:

- Fire extinguishers in Town House have no inspection tags on them. Fire extinguishers need to be qualified and tagged to ensure they will function properly. Doug has arranged to have all extinguishers qualified on Monday.
- Paint was being stored in the furnace room, the paint has been removed.

Doug suggested a class be scheduled for all employees on how to use the fire extinguishers. Clifton asked Doug to call the Wakefield Fire Department and see if they would give a class. Doug reported the town forest fire truck was used on Saturday to water down the ground at Brookfield Corner Farm for a horse show; this exercise was good practice for Brad and him.

Ernie explained that positive things are resulting from the establishment of the JLMC; one requirement is for the town to have first aid kits; there were none. There are now first aid kits in the kitchens of both buildings.

Town Mail

Clifton read August 10, 2009 letter from Ron Fountain, RE: Signage and stop lines on Clark & Lyford Road. Ron questions the effectiveness of stop lines and suggests a small speed bump be installed on Clark Road, just before the intersection as an attempt to slow traffic down entering the intersection. He requests a copy of his letter be attached to the minutes of this evenings meeting. There were discussions regarding the high rate of speed vehicles travel on the road, many over shooting the stop sign. A suggestion was for Ron to contact the Wakefield PD when he witnesses speeding vehicles; the goal is not to catch the individual speeding but raise awareness to the issue. Ed will speak with PD and request traffic counters be put on the road; the counters record speed in addition to number of vehicles. Clifton also suggests having the speed box put out as a deterrent; Ed will suggest this to the PD. Discussion continued regarding the speed bump. The legality of such was questioned. It was decided that the signage and stop lines should be installed first, if these options do not work other options, including speed bumps, will be discussed. Another suggestion was made to have the mounds of the road shaved down on the State portion of Lyford Road; Ed will speak to local DOT regarding this.

Doug suggests the Town make a donation to the Nason Fund.

Requests for Donations discussed as several requests from area organizations have been arriving. Craig explained how the Town of Madison handles this; all organizations must submit a petition warrant article to go before the voters to decide what to fund. Clifton will put on the agenda for next meeting.

No new business before the board meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Sonricker
Administrative Assistant

Attachments (1)

Attachment

Selectman BROWN

Once a potential problem is recognized, we are legally and morally obliged to correct or mitigate it. At the last BOS meeting it was decided to add signage and paint white stripes on Clark Road in an effort to slow down traffic entering the intersection of Clark and Lyford Roads. The effectiveness of this is questionable, especially ~~permanent~~ markings during winter months, when they would be most needed. I would suggest that a small speed bump be installed on the north side of Clark Road just before the intersection. Road agent Nason may (or may not) object to this, as he may feel it could be inconvenient for plowing. I think that we could abide a little inconvenience if it might save someone from serious injury or worse.

Pavement

The school bus will soon travel Lyford Road again. A driver, no matter how well trained, will instinctively swerve to avoid a collision. At this intersection where so many cars do not stop or at best come to a so-called "rolling stop", a collision will sooner or later take place. The natural avoidance measure would take a bus up onto the mounds in front of Ciccaroni's property. It could become airborne or tip over. On July 6 a large semi trailer truck came barreling down Lyford Road at a speed in excess of forty MPH. This was not an isolated incident.

On a related subject, at the July 14 BOS meeting, while discussing truck traffic on the posted portion of Lyford Road, Nason said that he questions the validity of the road being posted. He is unsure what we are trying to protect, but feels this is a topic for another time. If and when the traffic posting of Lyford Road is to be considered for any change, we who live on that road will require a public hearing.

Ron Fountain 8/10/09
Ron Fountain

For the Record: I request that this letter be permanently attached to the minutes of the 8/11/09 meeting.