

Town of Canterbury
Board of Selectmen
February 28 2011

Selectmen Present: Bob Steenson
Briggs Lockwood
Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

The Selectmen signed:

- Accounts Payable Manifest
- Payroll Manifest
- Welfare Manifest
- Employee 2010 Wage Schedule
- 4 Intent to Cut – Tax Map 264 Lot 2
Tax Map 259 Lot 3
- Veteran's Credit Application – Tax Map 223 Lot 13
- Application for Current Use – Tax Map 209 Lots 12 & 13
Tax Map 259 Lot 13
Tax Map 150 Lot 4
- Elderly Exemption Application – Tax Map 107 Lot 2
- TD Bank Signature card – for Town Clerks sweep account

Bob reported that he has received an updated list of delinquent tax payers. Bob will draft a letter to them.

A general discussion was held on a personnel matter. The Board will ask Roger to follow up.

Scott, Chris & Carl Blackstone of Gold Star and Conservation Commission Chair, Jen Taylor and Agricultural Commission Chair, Wayne Mann attended the meeting.

Scott explained that he met with Jen and Wayne on an earlier date. Scott presented the board with data that lists farmlands being leased at a rate of from \$25 to \$36 dollars per acre.

Ken stated that at a previous meeting, Scott had talked about the economic times being an influence on his business and asked if Scott thought that a rate of \$36 per acre would keep the business open? Scott replied yes, if that rate includes rent and taxes.

Bob explained that at the present time there is a significant amount of lease payments in arrears. In 2010, the Selectmen agreed to cut the lease payment in half, and still have seen no payments.

Bob would require that any new agreement be paid in advance. Ken felt that before a new agreement can be made the Town may need to look at other options.

Jen reported that she and Galen Beale walked the property with Chris. At a Conservation Commission meeting, concerns were expressed about the irrigation equipment; it could be a liability to the Town. Jen suggested that a price discovery be done.

Bob suggested that they re-visit this issue on the first Selectmen's meeting in April. Bob asked if the Blackstone's were attempting to re-write the lease to more accurately reflect land prices and would the new lease be for a shorter period. Scott said that they would first need to get the price per acre. Bob asked if the lease amount that is in arrears be included in the new lease. Scott suggested that they could give the Town the irrigation equipment or possibly a land swap. Bob stated that he would be strongly against taking the irrigation equipment.

Wayne stated that he will contact Farm Credit East for pricing per acre.

The Selectmen thanked the Blackstone's for coming in. The Board will further discuss this issue.

Ty Miller and PSNH Representatives Laurel Brown, Brian Bosse, Dr. Lisa Shapiro, Sue Blothenberg attended the meeting to discuss the Northern Pass. Lisa Carlson, Brenda Murray and Nancy Roy were also in attendance.

Sue thanked the Board for giving them the time to meet with them.

Sue explained that Northern Pass Transmission LLC is in partnership with Hydro Quebec. This proposal would bring an economic benefit to New Hampshire customers by bringing competitive pricing to New England along with local job opportunities.

Laurel explained that the Northern Pass would bring lasting tax revenues to NH communities. The investment is 1.1 billion dollars with the creation of 1200 jobs over a 3 year period.

The proposed structures would be wooden, 45 to 90 feet tall, and approximately 800 feet apart. The power coming from the Canadian Border would be a DC line to Franklin to a converter station. The Franklin station would convert the power from DC to AC and would continue to Deerfield. Deerfield would house another substation that would transmit power into the network.

There is a 40 to 45 mile area in North UMBERLAND to the Canadian Border that would need a new R-O-W. This area still needs to be addressed. The preferred route would be to stay within the existing R-O-W up to that point.

A brief discussion was held on an alternate route for the power lines. They are working with FAA for the area by the Concord Airport. They are optimistic that the FAA will work with them and they will be able to use the existing R-O-W.

Brian explained there would be a number of permits that would need to be obtained. The Department of Energy will be applying for the permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, Forest Society, FAA, FERC and a Presidential Permit. The plans are to have the permits in place by 2012 with construction taking place from 2013 to 2015.

Bob asked if there would be any local control. Laurel explained that there would be Municipal consultation if there are issues or concerns that have not been met.

Ty asked if there would be an agreement to purchase power. There will be a 40 year contract, earmarked for PSNH customers.

Dr. Lisa Shapiro discussed the preliminary estimate of property values. The project would be taxed on the original cost. Canterbury would receive approximately \$500,000 in tax revenue. Utilities are taxed on original cost and not on assessed value. Depending on the cost calculations the taxable value is set between 25 – 40 million. Canterbury could receive about \$500,000 in taxes the first year.

The Board thanked them for the information and for attending.

Doug Russwick and Sam Papps attended the meeting.

Sam explained that he recently completed a project of Morrill Road history. He researched the residents of Morrill Road and compiled a project that is in written and slide show format. A

copy has been donated to the Historical Society.

Sam and Doug would like to create a new collection of Canterbury photographs. They would like to collect photographs of all of Canterbury's present day dwellings with the owners in front. Once the photos have been collected, they can be stored for future historians.

The Selectmen thought it was a great idea and expressed their support for this project.

Ken reported that he met with CNHRPC regarding the State of NH Department of Transportation 10-year plan for road maintenance. Ken is waiting for asphalt pricing to complete the proposal to DOT.

The Board reviewed proposals for the roof replacement of the Sam Lake House. Proposals were submitted by Brian Hutchinson and Nat Witschonke, Nat submitted the lowest bid. Bob made a motion to accept Nat Witschonke's proposal to replace the roof and to proceed with the work when the weather permits. Briggs seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen reviewed the Emergency Procedures for Canterbury Housing submitted by the Trustees. Bob will be in contact with Trustee Mel Burrows.

Ken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 PM. Briggs seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting will be held on March 7, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the Meeting House.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout
Administrative Assistant