

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
SELECTBOARD MEETING
JUNE 16, 2010**

Selectboard Present: Brenda Ferland (Chair); Steven Neill, Doug Ring

Staff Present: David Edkins – Administrative Assistant
Keith Weed – Highway Superintendent
Edward Smith – Police Chief
Regina Borden – Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Brenda Ferland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. She advised that meetings are tape recorded and asked anyone wishing to speak to identify themselves for the record.

PUBLIC HEARING - SUMMER STREET TRAFFIC PATTERN MODIFICATION:

Mrs. Ferland called the Public Hearing to order at 7:03 PM. This Public Hearing is to hear public comment on a proposed modification to the traffic pattern at the Summer Street and Main Street intersection which would result in the creation of a dead end street. Police Chief Ed Smith brought this plan before the Board. He explained the proposed plan on the Tax Map that was displayed. This has been an on-going issue for a long time. Residents have been concerned with the traffic moving around the delivery trucks, speeding traffic, lack of handicapped parking near the Town Hall. He felt that jersey barricades could be put up just beyond the Town Hall; it would essentially create a dead end for Summer Street thereby alleviating these issues. It would be a one-way rotary around the Baraly building and would add two handicapped parking spaces by the Town Hall. This is an option; with jersey barricades it would be a temporary fix; it can be assessed for a period of time. There will be a designated walkway on the north side.

A resident questioned if the parking lot behind Ralph's Supermarket will be closed off. Mr. Pelkey owns that lot; he might have to close that off and make changes if this plan happens. He does not want vehicles cutting through his lot. Mr. Neill asked if there was a "Do Not Enter" sign by the church so his driveway would only be an exit would that solve his concern. Mr. Pelkey said his tenants use both directions; it is something to think about but he doesn't want a public thru-way.

Ernie Parsons lives on Summer Street; he is opposed to this plan. He doesn't want to be land-locked if there is an emergency like a fire. The glass company receives deliveries once or twice a week, the truck parks on the street, unloads with a forklift and exits on Summer Street. It will also make it more difficult to plow in the winter. He feels the street should be left as is.

Karen Haag-Marsh likes the idea because it will cut back on the speeders and she won't have to weave around trucks but her concerns mirror Mr. Parsons'. There will be no way a large delivery truck making a delivery even to the residents will be able to turn around. What will it do to property values? The jersey barriers will turn this quaint, historic Village into looking like a city street that was blocked off to control crime; it doesn't look great. Rather than jersey barriers she would rather see a six-foot strip of landscaped land.

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Phil Shaw said this goes from the silly to being absurd. There was a traffic pattern there that worked well. Two things perpetuated this change. He asked when the Selectboard is going to put it back the way it was. Mrs. Ferland noted that citizens brought it before the Selectboard. This Public Hearing is to hear comments from the residents.

Aare Ilves was representing the Anglican Church of the Good Shepard. They find this proposal for barriers to be inconvenient. They have added two parking spaces in front of the church; one is designated as handicapped. They are opposed to barriers.

Judy Baraly is representing her tenants in the building that is surrounded by this proposed plan. There are two parking spaces on the north side. They have historically cooperated with Ralph's Supermarket and the Town on the other side.

Nancy Parsons brought this complaint to Mr. Neill's attention. The street was one-way at one time with parking on both sides of the roadway. It is almost impossible to pass on that road in the winter with the snow-banks; her concern is the width of that street.

Mr. Pelkey has two driveways on Summer Street; he is not in favor of this change or the barricades. It will create problems for his tenants and for him. As Mr. Ilves stated the handicapped space has been addressed. As for speeding there isn't more of a problem on Summer Street than other Town streets. There are apartment houses on that street; people are moving in-and-out and that involves moving trucks. The Selectboard should look at another solution.

Gary Stoddard, Ralph's Supermarket, would be opposed to the barriers and losing the access. Since 2000 his truck traffic went down from 20+ per week to about 11 as the result of consolidation. Some trucks now make deliveries twice a week rather than five times; they are usually there in the mornings when the traffic flow is slower and do not stay longer than three hours.

John Pellerin is a tenant of Dan Pelkey. A small percentage of people come in the entrance by the pizza shop but exit through the other driveway because it is difficult exiting onto Main Street by the pizza shop. They need a good supermarket in Town and Ralph's provides that; the inconvenience is a small cost for that. About two years ago there was an incident involving guns on Summer Street. The ambulance was nearby but waiting to be called. You never know when the ambulance or fire will be called.

Mrs. Ferland asked how many people feel this is a good idea – there were no hands raised. She then asked how many would like to go back to the way it originally was; two way traffic on the north side of the Baraly building. Most in attendance were in favor.

Mrs. Ferland closed the Public Hearing at 7:42 PM.

Mrs. Ferland re-opened the regular meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S);

Mr. Neill moved to approve the Minutes of the regular Selectboard meeting of June 2, 2010, as printed. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the Minutes were approved.

Mr. Neill moved to approve the Minutes of the first Non-Public Selectboard meeting of June 2, 2010, as printed. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the Minutes were approved.

Mr. Neill moved to approve the Minutes of the second Non-Public Selectboard meeting of June 2, 2010, as printed. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the Minutes were approved.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Silsby Public Library: Sandra Perron, Librarian, noted that a few weeks ago she came before the Selectboard to advise that they were applying for a USDA Rural Development Grant. They were told they would have to include their Library Articles of Incorporation but public libraries do not have them. They are therefore asking that the Town sign off on the paperwork as they are the entity that will receive the money. Mrs. Ferland signed the document.

Police Department: Police Chief Ed Smith reported that Charlestown had 13 runners participate in the Torch Run (this was more than Claremont). Over the weekend they assisted Camp Good News with their event. This coming weekend they will assist with the Harpoon Brewery Bike Ride who will pay to have an officer at their designated stop site on Saturday. They received a request from the Old Home Days committee to close off Railroad Street from the Police Department to Main Street. This was done the last time the Old Home Days activities were held as events are planned in that area; it is a safety issue. The Selectboard approved this request to close the street but requested that Chief Smith notify the Fire, Ambulance and State Police. The department held their first DWI and speed enforcement patrol that was paid for by the State Highway Grant.

Transfer Station: Mr. Weed reported that they will put in the cement pad for the new building. The roll-off will need to have about six hours of repair work done. Since he has been sending one man to the Recycling Center for about a year now, he would like to talk to the Selectboard about finding a solution. Mrs. Ferland recommended that they talk about it with the Solid Waste Committee first.

Highway Department: Mr. Weed advised that they have been doing pot-hole patching; the dirt roads were treated with chloride. The concrete pad was poured. He signed the contract with Pike Industries for the paving and was able to add the other roads. They worked on Dell Street today; that road will be ready for paving. Work on the upper end of Old Claremont Road will start soon as the water final hook-up will be done. The culverts aren't any good so he will remove them but only put three or four back in as needed. They will then go back into the Beaudry Development. He spoke to the homeowner where the bush needs to be trimmed and gave her a copy of the RSA that authorizes the Town to do so for safety reasons. She knows

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they will be cutting back the bush and they will do the best they can. The Selectboard approved having him cut the branches of the tree, too.

Mr. Weed would like to replace about 400-feet of sidewalk before the Town-wide yard sales. The sections would be by the pizza shop, the video store to the other side of Edward Jones and a few other sections. He had a request from Mrs. Lumbra who wanted to know if they could pull out some concrete by that building while they were working there but the Selectboard confirmed that they could not because it is private property.

The new trash container is under the bulletin board; Mr. Weed will empty it every Friday when they do the other Town containers.

Tree Committee: Aare Ilves reported that the Tree Committee is working on plans for the area by the bulletin board near Dan's Max Saver. They would like to schedule a Public Informational Hearing in July to obtain input from the residents. There was a consensus of the Selectboard to schedule this for August 4th, at 6:30 PM at the site and to change the regular meeting time from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Mr. Ilves will take care of posting the notices and writing an article for the Our Town publication.

Emergency Management Director: Charles Baraly is the Town's Emergency Management Director. He asked for some assistance in completing a survey that needs to be done by September 30th. It has to be done for the Town to be eligible for grant monies. Mr. Edkins suggested scheduling a meeting to include the Fire, Police, Public Works, Emergency Management Director, Mr. Ring and himself to see what they can do to put it together.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Aare Ilves: Mr. Ilves appreciates what Mr. Weed is going to do on Dell Street and some of the sidewalk sections. He proposed that they do the sidewalk section before the Claremont Savings Bank; it would be nice to put in a curb. Mr. Weed said there is a height issue there plus the Town does not have any granite curbing.

SELECTBOARD COMMENT:

Police Station: Mrs. Ferland announced that yesterday the Selectboard accepted the low bid from Normand Beaudry Construction to construct the new Police Station Building for an amount of \$322,800. In addition they approved the radiant heat in the slab but are waiting for information on the bullet proof door. They talked about options on the floor drains. Mr. Edkins spoke to Mr. Duquette about the treatment that would be needed to discharge into the sewer and it looks like it is feasible. It will also cost more to go around the building with the water and sewer lines rather than putting it in the State's right-of-way. Mr. Neill talked to Mr. Beaudry about this as it might require a Change Order. The Selectboard will have to meet with Mr. Beaudry to work on a doable floor plan for running the water and sewer lines to the back of the building.

OLD BUSINESS:

Poisson Mobile Home: Mr. Edkins reported that Mr. Poisson's mobile home has not yet been moved. Mr. Poisson came to see him on the 7th to advise that his mover would not available

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until the following Friday. However when it was still there the next Monday, Mr. Edkins contacted the Town attorney to begin enforcement. Mr. Poisson questioned why the Town increased his tax assessment substantially. Mr. Edkins explained that part of the reason was the reclassification of the code for the lot as the Town needs to be consistent with the assessing manual.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION – Payroll, Purchase Orders, Vouchers, Warrants, Abatements, Etc.: The **Payroll, Vouchers, Warrants, and Abatements** were signed.

Purchase Orders: The following Purchase Orders were approved and signed: 1) Highway – S.G. Reed Truck Service \$890.96; 2) Highway – Cold River Materials \$1,277.47; 3) Highway – Cold River Materials \$660.42; 4) Highway – Cold River Materials \$577.17; 5) Water and Wastewater – Simplex Grinnell \$508.55; 6) Fire – Supply Cash, Inc. \$672.75 (the Town will be reimbursed 50%); 7) Cemeteries – Ralph Osgood Construction \$1,560.00; 8) Water and Wastewater – EnviroSystems \$1,000.00.

The Selectboard reviewed, approved and signed the following documents:

- Tax Collectors Warrant for a Jeopardy Property Tax - \$2,006.58;
- Added Property Tax – Thomas Adams – This is for a property transfer that wasn't picked-up at tax bill time;
- Rebate Tax Abatement – Lance Davis and Eileen Meany on Wheeler Rand Road;
- A request for an Abatement was denied;
- A Tax Credit for an Elderly Exemption was granted;
- An Intent to Cut Timber or Wood was approved for Patrick Thompson on the Acworth Road;
- An Intent to Cut Timber or Wood was passed over – Mr. Neill requested a notarized signature of the property owner.

APPOINTMENTS, PERMITS, LICENSES, & RESOLUTIONS:

Town Clerk's 2010 Dog List: The Selectboard signed the Town Clerk's 2010 Dog List for approximately 200 unlicensed dogs.

Hawkers and Peddlers License: The Selectboard approved the Hawkery and Peddlers License for James Kivler to sell berries and vegetables on Main Street.

Patch Park: The Selectboard approved a Permit to Use Patch Park with alcohol for John Decker for a class reunion.

Town Hall: The Selectboard approved a Permit to Use the Town Hall for Gabriel Bailey to have a birthday party. Chief Smith talked to him about the restrictions and conditions.

Cemetery Deeds: The Selectboard signed two Cemetery Deeds.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Department of Revenue Administration: The DRA sent a letter inquiring as to whether or not the Town will use the PA-28 form for their 2011 Inventory of Taxable Property. Ms. Dennis responded that “yes” she would be.

Capital Improvement Project: Mr. Edkins left the letter in the folder to remind the Selectboard to let him know if they think of any projects they have in mind that should be included in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Cemeteries: Acknowledgement was made of a letter to the Selectboard and Cemetery Trustees concerning two trees in the Forest Hill Cemetery that are a threat to an abutting property on East Street. The Cemetery Trustees are looking into it.

Town’s Public Ways: Mr. Edkins noted that they should require Certificates of Insurance and Waivers of Liability for vendors that the Town allows to use the Town’s property. He suggested that the Hawkers & Peddlers Ordinance may need to be amended.

Silby Library: Mrs. Perron left a copy of a list of maintenance items that need attention for the Selectboard’s information.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT’S REPORT:

Department of Transportation: Mr. Edkins had a call today from the DOT to advise that the formal Public Hearing on the Route 12 project is scheduled for Thursday, July 29th at the North Walpole Elementary School. It will allow them to move forward and start the project in earnest.

Vacation: Mr. Edkins will be taking the week of June 28th through July 6th off as vacation time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Conservation Commission –Steve Neill: There have been no recent meetings.

CEDA –Brenda Ferland: There have been no meetings since the last report.

Planning Board –Steve Neill: The PB met last night. Joe Sylvester came in for a Site Plan Review on the Smith and Allen property on Cummings Avenue. The previous hours and conditions were modified and everyone seems to be happy with the outcome. The Board also looked at and talked about the Flood Plain map discrepancies.

Solid Waste Committee – Brenda Ferland: A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Heritage Commission – Doug Ring: They have not yet met this month.

Highway Advisory Board – Brenda Ferland: No meetings since the last report.

Recreation Committee – Doug Ring: No new reports.

Capital Improvements Committee – Brenda Ferland: This committee met last Thursday night. They requested lists from the Department Heads and will begin to look at them at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 8th when the Fire and Ambulance Departments will come in to present their plans and explain what they are looking for.

Other Business:

Notice of Intent to Cut on the Borough Road: Mr. Weed talked to Hardwick; it is written in the agreement with the State that they will not cross the bridge when hauling. He will be receiving a copy of the agreement.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 II:

Mr. Neill moved to enter into a Non-Public meeting pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss (c) Reputations. Mr. Ring seconded the motion and, on a roll call vote with all in favor, the motion was approved. The time was 8:52 PM.

The regular meeting resumed at 9:27 PM.

Other Business (Continued):

Police Department Building: There was a consensus to set up a Workshop meeting to go over the proposed donor list on Monday, June 21st at 5:00 PM. It was agreed that personal contact should be made. Mr. Edkins will work on the letter.

Vacation: Mrs. Ferland will be available by cell phone only from Friday, July 2nd through Tuesday, July 6th.

Planning Board: Some consideration had been given to canceling the Tuesday, July 6th Planning Board meeting but a new Site Plan Review application was received for a Change of Use so that meeting will be held.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, Mrs. Ferland moved to adjourn this meeting. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion was approved. The time was 9:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Borden, Recording Secretary

Approved,

Brenda L. Ferland, Chair

Steven A. Neill

Doug Ring

(**Note:** These are unapproved Minutes. Correction, if necessary, may be found in the Minutes of the July 7, 2010, Selectboard meeting.)