

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
SELECTBOARD MEETING
AUGUST 18, 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.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Mr. Neill moved to approve the Minutes of the regular Selectboard meeting of August 4, 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 Non-Public Selectboard meeting of August 4, 2010, as printed. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the Minutes were approved.

Mr. Neill acknowledged receipt of the Minutes of the Tree Committee Public Meeting that the Selectboard attended on August 4, 2010 and the Board concurs with those Minutes.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police Department: Police Chief Ed Smith reported that they had several indictments from the Grand Jury. He had a meeting today with a company representative from Lebanon about computer forensics. He had invited other Police Chiefs in the area to attend. Chief Smith feels it might be a good idea to explore it further. He will be on vacation for a week beginning August 27th.

Transfer Station: Keith Weed advised that they are fully staffed again. Tires went out today. The company came to remove Freon from refrigerators and air conditioners. They are close to having another load of cardboard go out. Since the price for aluminum cans went up he disposed of what they had been storing.

Highway Department: Keith Weed reported that the surveyors were in the gravel pit today surveying the back boundary line. On the east and west side of Town the signs are being pulled out of the ground and being repainted; this is a problem as it is the third or fourth time this has happened. Manpower is an issue this week so he turned the mower over to the Water Department to do their mowing. They continue to work on the new addition. The Beaudry

Development project is done. On the Sam Putnam Road, a scenic road, he marked a tree that is split in half. It is 200-300 feet from the old school house. On that road there are some trees that he would like to mark for removal; they are close to the Lambert property. In winter the plow trucks have difficulty going through there because of the corner. There are two trees on East Street in the cemetery; neighbors are concerned that they will fall over onto their property. Mr. Zutter contacted the power company but they have not yet called him back. Mr. Ring mentioned there is a tree situation on Fling Road; the dead tree is leaning toward Town property so it should be taken care of. The dip on Upper Lovers Lane keeps sagging lower. Before it collapses completely we should take care of it or post the road. Mr. Weed advised that this will be a major excavation project; he will put some numbers together to do that job. The road would need to be closed for a few days.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Recycling Facility: Mr. Zutter asked if the Selectboard would consider expanding the use of the re-use hut at the Recycling Facility. With the economy and unemployment the way it is there is a lot of stuff that could be recycled and used by residents. Mrs. Ferland explained that in the past people were abusing it by leaving broken items and trash so the Selectboard limited it to books and clothing. The Selectboard is open to suggestions. Mr. Edkins received a call from an organization that would like to put a clothing drop-off box next to the Transfer Station. The Selectboard was opposed as it would be one more “dumping” place.

Storm Water Issues: Jim McClammer, Representative and Consultant, and Judith Spang, NH House of Representatives, Chair of the Storm Water Commission and Lamprey River Advisory Committee, were present to talk about storm water issues. They are going to put together a Bi-State Symposium in early 2011 at Dartmouth. The flood maps are not correct; it is not just a local issue. Mr. Edkins talked to the people at the Office of Energy & Planning several times and does not know why FEMA is reluctant to act on correcting the flood maps. Mr. McClammer said they are both here to see if there are ways they can assist the Town in resolving these issues. They are aware of the drainage issues on Main Street, Sullivan Street and Cummings Avenue. The culvert under Sullivan Street is too high so dredging will not alleviate the problem. They would like to look at opportunities at the State level to help Charlestown. Mr. Edkins said they issued a Request for Proposals last fall for an engineer to do an analysis of the downtown area but an engineer has not yet been selected; it is time to move on it again. This area cannot handle big storms.

Relative to the flood plain mapping, Mr. Edkins noted that some significant discrepancies have been discovered. Some are between where the flood plains are mapped and where the actual stream channels are. He brought it to the attention of Jennifer Gilbert, Flood Plain Coordinator. She acknowledged there are problems but there isn't any push to make corrections. The Charlestown Planning Board is anxious to strengthen the flood plain regulations but is reluctant to do that until the maps are correct. There are problems with smaller streams as they are not readily visible. People will be required to buy Flood Insurance that do not need it yet people that do need it will not be required to buy it.

Judith Spang has been talking with the Commissioner of DES and mentioned that this is one of the top things they need to do. They have joined forces with David Deane, Legislature in

Charlestown Selectboard Meeting – August 18, 2010 – Page 3

Vermont and active with the Connecticut River Commission, to get their congressional delegates to put pressure on FEMA to work with the mapping and insurance program. She looked into the State Revolving Fund and the 319 Water Shed Base Plan as funding sources and left contact information, etc. with Mr. Edkins.

Tim Chase feels the Town should just maintain what they have for now. This should be a good time to do it because the summer has been dry. Mr. Edkins noted that the neighbors have been waiting for the Town to get in there to clean the ditch line that goes along Kurt Frazier's property line. The Town has an easement to do so. Mr. McClammer advised that the Town has the legal authority to go across the Frazier land but questioned if it makes sense to go in and dredge deeper as it won't accomplish much. The difference between cleaning it and dredging it were discussed. Mr. McClammer suspects the problem is on the north side of the bridge as opposed to Frazier's property. Mr. Weed explained what is happening. They will cut vegetation and clean it out; it will be a fall project.

Mr. Edkins did talk to Allen Smith who has a wealth of information on the drainage system all over Town. He knows where there is infrastructure that other employees do not know about so they do want to do a follow-up with him.

East Street Cemetery: Mr. Zutter clarified that there are actually three trees that should come down. The third one is in the southwestern corner and it is close to the power lines.

East Street: Ron DeCato asked when they will have a resolution on the speeders on East Street. He asked if the Town could install speed bumps. Chief Smith was asked to have the officers do radar on that area.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 II:

Mr. Neill moved to enter into a Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss (a) Personnel and (c) Reputations. Mr. Ring seconded the motion and, on a roll call vote with all in favor, the motion was approved. The time was 7:56 PM.

The regular meeting resumed at 9:05 PM.

New Police Station: Mr. Neill reported that John Olson bought \$18,000 worth of 3-1/2" thick blue stone for his building but it was the wrong color. He is willing to donate this to the Police Station on top of the brick he is donating. There is enough blue stone to do the straight area across the front of the building that was to be a concrete sidewalk. There are two ways to install it; 1) install it in sand; or 2) pour concrete and set them in mortar. Norm Beaudry is willing to install it as he is responsible for the concrete sidewalk but will charge about \$2,000 extra for option No. 2. Mr. Ring felt cement is the only way to go as it will be a well-traveled pathway. Mr. Neill agreed. Chief Smith would like to see it done the right way.

Mr. Ring has donations for the building that will house the cannon as agreed to last year. Mrs. Ferland said the VFW is asking about the location for their flag pole. Mr. Ring advised that the four landscaping companies have met; they are waiting for the placement location of these items

before they do the final design. Mr. Edkins noted that they verbally approved the brick for the west end of the building.

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

Purchase Orders: The following Purchase Orders were approved: 1) Recreation – 2 State Pool Service for the pool opening \$1,690.00; 2) Wastewater – CJT Carpentry for the Treatment Plant windows & door \$2,340.00; 3) Highway – Granite State Lawn Care – Street sweeping \$1,200.00; 4) Highway – Depot Home Center for a 24-foot main beam and roof trusses \$3,316.05; 5) Highway – Pike Industries, Inc. for Sewer Manhole repair \$650.00; 6) Highway – Cold River Materials for asphalt for the Beaudry Development \$2,585.58; 70; and 7) Highway– DiBernardo Associates for a gravel pit survey \$1,000.00.

Police Building: The Selectboard approved and signed the following bills: 1) Normand Beaudry Construction for the trench drain work \$3,150.00 to be taken out of the donation account; and 2) Normand Beaudry Construction for the continued work on the building \$55,210.00.

Fling Road Bridge: The Selectboard approved and signed Amendment No. 2 from McFarland-Johnson for engineering oversight on the Fling Road Bridge project. This represents a decrease in the amount of \$10,026.53 due to the fact that federal funds are no longer being used on the project.

Town Clerk's Office: The Selectboard acknowledged the quote from Peabody Electric to install a new air conditioner in the amount of \$2,980.00 in the Town Clerk's Office.

Mr. Neill moved to have Peabody Electric install a new air conditioner unit in the Town Clerk's Office for \$2,980.00. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion was approved.

Land Use Tax Change: The Selectboard approved the Land Use Tax Change for Robert King in the amount of \$400.00 on the Old Claremont Road.

Highway Department: The Selectboard approved and signed the State of NH Inspection Station Appointment document.

APPOINTMENTS, PERMITS, LICENSES, & RESOLUTIONS:

Certificates of Internment: The Selectboard signed the Certificates of Internment for Patricia Parker and Shirley Wright.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Veteran Exemptions: A memo was received from Jessica Dennis requesting that the Selectboard sign several green cards for Veteran's Exemptions. They have been receiving the credit but the original cards were not found.

CIP Committee: An email was received from Emmy Green advising that she is resigning from the CIP Committee. Mr. Neill recommended asking Rick St. Pierre or Roger Thibodeau if they would be willing to replace her on the CIP Committee. Mr. Ring agreed.

DiBernardo Associates: A memo was received from Joe DiBernardo advising that the total cost would be \$500.00 to reset pins for the boundary adjustment between the Town of Charlestown and Norm Cobb. It was suggested that Mr. Edkins ask Norm Cobb if he would be willing to share the cost with the Town.

Route 12 Trees: The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of a letter from Ed Ricker and a memo from Wes VanVelsor on the State's chopping a section of trees on Route 12 south of the Village. Doug Graham, DOT, was contacted and said after he was made aware of the tree work it was stopped and the crew was advised to clean-up the area and make it presentable.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT:

Fling Road Bridge: Mr. Edkins reported that tomorrow's progress meeting on the Fling Road Bridge has been cancelled. They will provide a written report by Friday but the engineer is very pleased with the progress so far. Mr. Ring saw a vehicle going down the road the wrong way and speeding; he called the Police Chief who took care of it immediately. Mr. Neill saw an electric company vehicle pull in by Smith's property and then went down Grist Mill the wrong way. He caught up to the vehicle and spoke to the driver about going the wrong way. He also spoke to the project crew and asked them to contact the Police Department if they see vehicles going the wrong way. They are having a hard time getting National Grid in to install the electric service.

Energy Conservation: Mr. Edkins noted that there is a good deal of energy conservation money available. Mr. Weed had talked about tightening up the Highway Garage so they will look into applying for it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Neill moved to pass over the Committee Reports until the next meeting. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion was approved.

Recreation Department: Mr. Ring reported that the Town Pool is closing this week-end. Mr. Ring was asked to check with Scott Hagland to see if he still has some windows and hardware for the doors at the pool.

Trees: Mr. Ring said the Recreation Committee had put removal of a tree "on-hold" for now as they were told it would cost less to have it done when other trees were being taken down. Mr. Weed advised that there are trees on the Sam Putnam Road that need to be taken down but since this is a scenic road it needs approval from the Planning Board to do this. This will be an agenda item for the next PB meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3 II:

Mr. Neill moved to enter into a Non-Public session 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 9:56 PM.

The regular meeting resumed at 10:08 PM.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Legislative Issue: Mr. Neill mentioned that at the end of the last legislative session a bill was passed that in the event an employee is fired for embezzling less than \$500.00 they are still eligible for unemployment compensation. The Governor signed it into law

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Neill moved to adjourn this meeting. Mr. Ring seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion was approved. The time was 10:14 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 September 1, 2010, Selectboard meeting.)