

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Meeting –
September 10, 2014

Present: Selectmen – Mark Gilmore, Carolyn Shores Ness, David Wolfram
Interim Town Administrator – Kayce Warren

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Ness at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall at 8 Conway Street.

Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and voted to approve minutes of August 20, 2014 as amended by the Chair.

Public Comments: none

Selectmen's Comments/Announcements: The town-wide tag sale is October 4th.
The Rec. department is offering Zumba and painting classes. Information is on the website.

Board of Health Comments/Announcements: The BOH meeting held last night at Frontier was civil and polite. Kindle Morgan did not show. The meeting lasted just about a half hour. Kinder Morgan now has fifteen (15) days to respond. (September 24th @ 4: pm) Following that the BOH will schedule a meeting.

On September 26th the 9th drive-thru flu clinic will be held at Yankee Candle Way. Hours are 10: am – 1: pm. Training for volunteers will be September 21st 6- 8 pm.

Hearings/ Appearances before the Board:

Highway: Present – Kevin Scarborough, Interim Highway Director

Snow removal policy- Mr. Scarborough presented a document stating the Town's policies for removal of snow from roadways. He identified the priority order for street clearing and stressed problems created when people plow snow back into the streets. Also discussed is the concern of illegally parked vehicles, etc. that can prove dangerous to Town vehicles and personnel. There is provision for fines to be levied for violations of the Town's code. (156-6) The Board strongly supports the policy and requested that it be brought back for a vote once a few recommended changes have been incorporated.

River Road Reconstruction – Mr. Scarborough reported that a major concern to be discussed at the pre-construction meeting will be managing of traffic. There will be times when the road will be one way. Due to the volume of traffic, he anticipates police details will be needed during the day and possibly portable traffic lights at night. Mr. Gilmore pointed out alternate routes are available; he suggested closing the road to all but local traffic. No provision for this is in the contract prepared by Weston & Sampson. Ms. Ness is hopeful that the grant can be amended to cover the added cost.

Greenfield Rd (Rt 5 & 10) near Wapping Rd – There is an issue on both sides of the state highway that needs to be resolved. Mr. Scarborough would prefer to work with MassDOT in a team effort to resolve the situation. He said not only is drainage a public safety issue, especially for an elderly couple that live on Wapping Road, but also a public health issue, as septic systems in the area become compromised. He feels the area needs to be cleaned from the river on up. Erosion from Wapping Road is also an issue. Ms. Ness can provide a copy of the geologist report on the landslide at that location. Mr. Scarborough would like to hold a site visit with several persons including a health agent.

Sugarloaf Street ext. – Mr. Scarborough reported that Mr. Killeen has been very cooperative with the erosion issue created by water flowing through his property onto his neighbor's land. Killeen has tried to stop the water from running. There is some sort of law suite in progress between MassDOT and Killeen; something to do with an r-o-w. Mr. Scarborough wishes not to become involved, but he did note that adding some soil in the r-o-w to bring it up to the same level as that of the driveway might solve the problem.

N. Main St. – Mr. Scarborough reported on the project there which involved rebuilding of catchbasins. He is pleased with the quality of work. In an attempt to be financially responsible he shortened the distance for the project.

Old Main St. – 20,000 pounds of patching have been done by the highway crew. It is lumpy and bumpy, as is the nature of patch work. At some point Mr. Scarborough said a reclamation project will be needed for the street. He anticipates the cost in excess of \$200,000.

Discussion /Decision Items:

- **River Road Restoration** – A motion was made by Mr. Wolfram, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and unanimously voted, to approve the contract with Ludlow Construction; with the Chair authorized to sign on behalf of the Town.
- **Baltazar Invoice** - On November 15, 2011 while working on a main sewer line replacement in Old Deerfield, Baltazar workers hit an allegedly unmarked electrical line. Northeast Utilities was called and the situation was secured/remedied within 36 minutes. Baltazar has billed the Town for loss of 8 hours of time in an amount slightly more than \$10,500. The Town questions the discrepancy in time and sees no basis for assuming responsibility. A letter will be drafted to this affect.
- **Special Liquor Licenses** – (1) The Arts Bank has requested a special license for September 14th (2-4 pm) and (2) PVMA will hold a wine and cheese wine tasting during the Deerfield Craft Fair. Ryan and Casey will be serving. **A motion was made by Mr. Wolfram, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and unanimously voted to approve both requests.**
- **Animal Control Officer Intermunicipal Agreement** – A copy of the agreement between Greenfield, Montague, and Deerfield was discussed. The only change is that term is for two years. It can be canceled anytime with sixty (60) day notice. Deerfield's portion of the budget for this year is \$14,510.00. **A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Ms. Wolfram, and unanimously voted, to sign the agreement when the document is received.**
- **Schedule BOH Meeting** – The BOS and BOH have a meeting scheduled for September 24th. A request was made to include a slot for Kindle Morgan under BOH on the agenda for that evening.
- **Ballot Question 1-** Ms. Ness reported that she had agreed to raise attention to the question regarding repeal of the graduated gas tax. She has invited the President of the Selectmen's Association to attend the quarterly Selectmen's meeting at the Polish Club on September 30th. The Board briefly discussed the question, but felt not enough was known to take a position on it.
- **Whately Lease for SCEMS Ambulance** – A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr. Wolfram, and unanimously voted, to sign the lease agreement for the Whately Ambulance.
- **Appointment of Crossing Guard** – A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr.

Wolfram, and voted, to accept the Police Chief's recommendation of Carol Baldwin as a Crossing Board.

- **Somerset Dam EPA Functional Exercise** - Ms. Ness reported that next Wednesday (9/17) TransCanada will hold a functional drill. TransCanada has been redoing the inundation maps based upon the changes along the Deerfield river banks resulting from recent storms. Mr. Gilmore will plan to attend.

Town Administrator's Report:

- The Planning Board has voted to recommend that the Town pursue a PATH Grant to study the feasibility of locating Senior Housing in Deerfield.
- ABCC is working on a process for managing liquor licenses electronically. It will be done in phases over the next year.
- Confirmation of representatives to the Regional Planning Board have been requested by the FRCOG. Mr. Gilmore agreed to continue to be one representative; John Baronas will be the other. Ms. Ness will remain on the Economic Development Strategy Committee.
- Executive Assistant – Ms. Warren reported that she and Ms. Foxmyn will review applications and report to the Board at the September 24th meeting.

Other: Mr. Gilmore reported that he is interested in developing a cultural resource center where skills such as reproducing crafts, preserving foods, etc. could be taught. He thought this would be of interest to the seniors. Note was made that PVMA does this sort of thing.

Upcoming meetings:

The Board will meet on Friday, September 19th, and on Wednesday September 24th.

A motion was made, seconded and voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Phelps

Document list: Planning Assistance toward Housing
Signing of Warrants
Interim Town Administrator's Report