

Minutes: Selectmen's Meeting: Monday, September 30, 2013

Present: Chairman Daniel F. Devlin and Kenneth J. Leva, Clerk; Walter F. Alterisio, Procurement Officer and Member absent

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with quorum present. Board of Road Commissioners approached the Board regarding the salt shed and the complications with concrete retaining wall because of elevations – if they could get 5 acres for future site for salt shed – can't be located at Highway Garage location because of wetlands. They're meet Monday with the advisory board relative to the Salt Shed – Dan will try to attend as well. Dan advised that some engineering flaws will prevent it from happening at the current location without very extensive costs with concrete retaining wall.

Dan noted that 7:15 is scheduled for Memorial Strategy Review Committee – hold on minutes.

The Board voted to appoint the Affordable Housing Committee – Ken to appoint Margaret Abeyta, Robert F. Nelson, Carol E. Bacon, William J. Ahern, Alan E. Chaney, Mary Donovan Moeller and former member William S. Jennings.

The Board also re-appointed Colleen F. Welch and Sharon F. Flanagan to Cultural Council.

Fire Chief Brian Rich advised on the spot he'd showed Dan the other day on the grounds of the Fire Station – looking to clear an area 26' wide and 36' deep for parking for trailers, etc. during the winter to allow for easier access and snow removal. Brian advised moving dispatch to Groton effective 8AM tomorrow morning. Have worked out sop's – provided alarm cards for ideas of other towns that assist Dunstable – won't touch the two large trees until next budget series if needed, but most of the work will be donated to the town. Continuing with the same radio system – if went to digital radios would have had to come up with over \$200K. Board approved the brush removal plan as presented by the Chief.

The Board addressed the individuals who have agreed to serve the town on the Dunstable Memorial Strategy Review committee to come up with a plan of existing and plans for future memorials. Dan read [the charge](#) as prepared by Selectman Alterisio and approved by the board at an earlier meeting.

The Board voted to appoint: Carol E. Bacon, Alan E. Chaney, Anne L. Davis, Robert E. Kennedy, Joseph P. Dean and Dana E. Metzler to the Memorial Strategy Review Committee and distributed their appointment cards and a copy of the charge to all members present.

Ray Sullivan advised he went to the wall @McGovern Farm to take photos of the new stone wall being installed as part of the project, he noted that he went to the engineer the next morning – mortar was crumbling in his hand – he advised there's a problem in the mortar mix – Road Commissioners were out there Sunday and made them cap off what was there – thinks they're using pre-mix bag and all in the mixer. The mortar has no solid consistency – mortar no good. He advised that supposedly there was a state engineer who is overseeing the whole project – but he didn't have a clue. Mike Martin advised that they were down there this morning checking out the cement – and did find some bad points – but the wall isn't dependent on the mortar – it can stand by itself. Even with freezing and vibration – there won't be any vibration in the stone wall – could be some freezing but engineer wouldn't let it

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go if he had any concerns with safety of the wall. Ray was looking for some form of guarantee – not as historical but as a concerned citizen of the town. The engineer is looking into guarantees, etc. – Mike advised the engineer doesn't believe there's any issue with the integrity of the wall. Mike advised it didn't even really need mortar as it leans toward the road – the stones that they put down this end like 2 ½ feet long – was a concern that the wall wasn't flat – Mike brought to their attention not sure it's going to be taken care of but might. It's a country wall, and no-one is going to see it. Ken suggested an update from the engineer or individuals in charge to provide an update for citizens. Ray's question was whether the bond would stand behind the integrity of the project. Mike advised they're looking at the contract as to the guarantee etc. He noted that pilings (guardrail sections) have been driven in and hasn't moved any of the stone – once complete roadway will be paved and won't have any vibrations.

Mike further advised there's a possible overage on the project – going above 110% knows everyone has the tendency to look it up and say highway – Historical Commission owns that wall as far as Road Commissioners are – 4' of the wall is going to be buried, can't understand why they used field stone at the bottom when it was going to be buried but plans called for it so they did as called out. Ray noted concerns with possible failure of that wall—Mike noted that wall is tipped – contractor doesn't understand why they were required to put concrete as that wall didn't really need it but specifications called for it. Road Commissioners will look further into warranty and Mike will try to set up time during the day when the Board members can go out there and meet. Anne & Ray advised that when they went to look at the wall at the beginning as requested by the contractor – were burying a lot of stone – must have known how much stone they needed, Ray noted cost should be on them if they went over on the wall. Believe are running out of stone – if not figured in, and it's an overrun, then they'll be looking to get paid.

Dan advised he'd spoken with Police Chief – will look into Road Commission's request for stop sign or yield at Cross Street & Groton Streets. Chief will report and the board will support his recommendation.

Treasurer's warrants were reviewed and signed, and meeting adjourned at 7:45PM after appropriate motion by Selectman Leva, 2nd and vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Danice N. Palumbo,
Board Secretary