

Minutes: Selectmen's Meeting: Thursday, October 17, 2013

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

Prior to opening the meeting, Board members appeared before Town Clerk to sign Treasurer's notes.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30AM with all members present by Chairman Devlin who advised this meeting was in lieu of the meeting on Monday which fell on a Holiday.. The Board met with Fire Chief Brian Rich and Officer Papageorgiou representing the Police Department, Brian advised that it has come to his attention that there is a problem with the naming of Forest Hill. Doesn't know how to go about making corrections in the name, some of the licenses say Forest Hill now and gps identifies as Forest Hill; most emergency responders are coming in via gps - don't recognize as Forest Street - identifies as Forest Hill. Brian advised that as Road Commissioner, Gerry Simmons had the highway put up sign at intersection of Forest and Lowell Street identifying as Forest Hill Road. He indicated he doesn't know how to best address this but it's a logistical problem as far as public safety. Selectman Alterisio advised more important is the emergency services from outside the town; Nick advised that Police Department knows 285 & above is Forest Hill - below is Forest Street. Brian advised it hasn't been a major problem yet - but would like it addressed before it becomes a problem. He suggested possibly including numbers on the street signs. Selectman Alterisio noted moving forward need something in place, adding that even though the street name isn't necessarily accepted until the roads are accepted, often people have used a name that is different and it has caused problems from time to time. Brian suggested it either has to be legally enforced - advising everyone they must use the official name Forest Street. Brian advised that Planning Board contacted Google advising the proper name for the street is Forest Street and indicated that Google feeds all the gps systems so it will fix itself at some point but not immediately.

The suggestion was made for the Town to send letters out to homeowners, the registry of deeds, etc. to advise that the name of the street is Forest Street. Selectman Alterisio indicated that if someone wants to put together a formal initiative to change the name of the street. General agreement was that Forest Street was the name - need to put together a letter informing everyone that Dunstable relies on outside services, and for public safety must conform to one name. Discussion continued on where the authority lays and Selectman Alterisio indicated he felt it lay with the Selectmen's office - letter will be compiled and distributed. All agreed that even though a lot of

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people identify it as Forest Hill. Generate letter and give it say a week and a half to hear whatever arguments are out there. Discussion continued on how to best proceed – letter will be generated – moving forward need to insure that developers are not taking initiative to change names, etc. Highway will replace the sign with one that says Forest Street – will also look into putting the numbers on that particular sign.

The group then briefly discussed the street acceptance procedure, etc. and complications that might prevent acceptance with Road Commissioner Dana Kinne advising he'd like the Planning Board to look into it so we can move forward.

Brett Rock addressed the article he'd submitted for the warrant regarding the terms for Constable per previous discussion – Selectman Alterisio recalled discussion regarding elected or appointed. Brett advised most constables are hired from outside and serve eviction notices, etc. Constables in Dunstable basically post town warrants, etc. and serve Town notices. Discussion continued on elected or appointed with Selectman Alterisio elaborating on the position and whether this solves the problem – unsure whether it does. Selectman Alterisio is suggesting having some sort of program funding the program, etc. to insure we have someone in the position. Chairman Devlin suggested that Brett's trying to say serve in varying degrees – Brett's unsure whether want to go to the expense of bonding constables, etc. Selectman Alterisio continued to elaborate that would be agreeable to having a policy where town constables have specific duties. Chairman Devlin indicated that's not so much an article but a policy from the selectmen. Selectman Leva advised he'd lean toward an appointment for three years rather than elected position. Maybe there's someone out there who has the skill sets and would like to serve in that capacity. After continued discussion, the agreement was that the article will be amended to change the position to appointed.

Selectman Alterisio advised he'd visited Planning Board last Monday evening – his recommendation was to put it on the agenda for another meeting and the position he took was that he's not really concerned with a moratorium on a treatment center because he thinks it's unlikely that Dunstable would be selected and also 101 applications have been made to the state for consideration. If anything, he's more concerned with the growing. Brett advised that Planning Board had another meeting on Tuesday, and has voted to put it on the warrant and schedule the hearing – hearing is scheduled for Monday, November 4th. Brett advised the cultivation part of it is really the big

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concern and the moratorium is to allow time to look into the subject more closely and develop a process for permitting in the future. Discussion continued on the logistics, and lack of permitting process, etc. and the effect it might have on the town if we didn't have something in place. Selectman Alterisio indicated his concern is with putting things in place without some type of strategic reasoning – not just I don't want it. The approach should be more on whether it makes sense or not. Selectman Alterisio indicated he didn't think there's any way it would happen; other side is the propriety of the community. Discussion continued on the process and reasoning.

Road Commissioner Dana Kinne reported on what the Road Commissioners had uncovered relative to the salt shed – found minutes back in 1975 giving them 39,000 square feet on the town forest – talked with engineer who advised he needs a minimum of 50,000 square feet deeded. Mike Martin advised he'd spoken to Alan and advised that if there's nothing that can be done with the site – the only location they can find is River Street. Road Commissioners asked if we could put an article in the Special Town Meeting to set aside 6 acres of land on River Street – reason so much is for the driveway to set it back – 2,000 feet from the River. Ideal situation was discussed – the reason they asked to take from present location was seemed to make sense – take down the hill. Discussion continued – no matter where the Highway Department operations are established – will be a permanent site. If Conservation isn't willing to move forward at the present site, may spend years, etc. to get nowhere. Could always include it in the article, that if can move forward on Groton Street, parcel would revert to the town. Theory is, with River Street, it will be expandable – could possibly locate a Highway garage down there at some time. Discussion continued on the Road Commissioners efforts. Selectman Alterisio asked what the reclamation issues are with the present site – is there something that needs to be done once we stop using the site. Listening to the argument, board intended to go along with the River Street location, Road Commission has been working to try to work something out. Need to get our engineer to do a site visit.

Discussion continued on an article – what's the seed money for the project – how much for engineering, etc. Chairman Devlin asked how much we have into the engineering for the salt shed – money allocated is almost gone. Selectman Alterisio continued on the presentation – must go with plan and presentation for site plan, engineering and land to accommodate the facility. Discussion continued on the events in the siting of the salt shed, state requirements, and best avenue to

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proceed. Presentation must be worked out – and presented in the discussion of the article.

Mike advised road project is moving along well. Discussion continued on some of the traffic inconveniences – moved along very well – MDR did a wonderful job, engineer was great. If the pavement passes, they should be out of there this week.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40AM after appropriate motion be Selectman Leva, 2nd and vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Danice N. Palumbo,
Board Secretary

