

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
Third Floor Meeting Room
8/8/05
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Peter Sarno; Chairman; Richard Clough, Clerk; Lonnie Brennan

Others Present: Stephen Delaney, Town Administrator; Jack Moultrie, Highway Surveyor; Police Chief Mulligan; Fire Chief Durkee; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant;

Absent:

Call to Order

Mr. Sarno called the meeting to order at 7:15P.M.

Old Business

Bailey Lane Bridge continued discussion

Mr. Sarno stated that the BoS and the Highway Surveyor have met and discussed the Bailey Lane Bridge. He invited Mr. Moultrie to review his report on the Bailey Lane Bridge. Mr. Moultrie read the report. Mr. Sarno stated that on the handout from Mr. Delaney there are listed four options on the bridge. He stated one option would be for emergency access only with a gate. He stated that this could be done for a small expense but may not be the best option. He stated that to fast track to fix the bridge would be to get preliminary engineering on the Fall Town Meeting and the bridge to be fixed on the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Moultrie stated that he can start the process for the engineering for the next meeting. He stated that it is never a good idea to close a road. He stated that at a past Town Meeting the bridge repair did not pass. He stated that his recommendation would be to find the funding to repair the bridge. Mr. Clough asked about using steel plates. Mr. Moultrie stated that the weight limits would be an issue and who would monitor the traffic.

Claire Maimone, 30 Mohawk Circle, asked if they could just clear the water. Mr. Moultrie explained that it is the road and bridge that needs to be repaired not an issue with the water.

Mark Unger, 25 Bailey Lane, asked if one side of the road is okay could they make the road one-way. Mr. Moultrie stated that this could be looked at but that the road is very narrow. Mr. Unger stated that he would want to see the road open coming in from Haverhill. Discussion on emergency vehicles going one-way. Mr. Brennan asked if they could open the road one-way for the residents only. Mr. Moultrie stated that he would want to ask an engineer about the road stability before opening and would suggest no truck traffic. Mr. Brennan stated that he hoped to have something for the residents soon. Mr. Sarno asked if Mr. Moultrie had funds for a study to open one lane and if he could gather input from the Police Department. He stated that this is something he would like to see Mr. Moultrie pursue. He asked if his fellow Selectmen want to go forward at Fall Town Meeting for engineering and for the repair at the same time. Mr. Clough stated that the board should go for engineering and then act aggressively for the repair of the bridge. Mr. Unger stated that at Town Meeting the Town usually does the right thing. He stated

that for a one way on Brook Street all this was not done. Mr. Sarno stated that this street is different than other streets with much more traffic. Discussion on putting a target date on opening for the short term. Mr. Sarno asked if in two weeks Mr. Moultrie could have information on opening the road for the board. Mr. Moultrie stated that he could do this.

David Ariel, 42 Beverly Drive, stated that he has heard from Senator Tarr's Office that the BoS could secure funds for and emergency situation. Mr. Moultrie stated that to go through the State is a long process. He stated that Senator Tarr is working on a Park & Ride lot in town. He stated that for a small town we have a lot of State projects. Mr. Delaney stated that as Town Administrator and Finance Director that the BoS can not appropriate funds without Town Meeting. Mr. Moultrie stated that if a State of Emergency is declared then the BoS could appropriate funds. Representative Barbara L'Italiani stated that if there was a Transportation Bond Bill this could be added but that they are not proposing a bill now. She stated that if the Town uses the TIP route, be careful how you go about the process and follow all the steps. She stated that in her opinion the board may want to look to reopen part of the road.

Sharon Freeman, 58 East Main Street, stated that she would like to stress that this is only one issue of the traffic in town. Mr. Sarno stated that they hope to start a committee of one Selectman; Jack Moultrie, Highway; Police Chief Mulligan; and two citizens; to look at traffic issues in town. He stated that if anyone is interested they should contact Mr. Delaney.

Ann Maribito, 5 Bailey Lane, asked if this is a temporary fix and will the traffic weaken the bridge. She also stated that she has called 911 and they always come from Byfield never from Haverhill. Fire Chief Durkee explained that after 5:00pm emergency service can come from Haverhill. She asked if a gate is put in could it be remote. She stated that she is against opening the road and asked if this opening is for convenience or safety.

Mr. Brennan asked Mr. Moultrie about the cost figures that he has given them \$77,000 for engineering and \$330,000 for the bridge repair. Mr. Moultrie stated that these were the amounts he had but they may change. Mr. Brennan stated that he is concerned over the safety issues with the road closure. He asked why they would not go for all the funds in the fall.

Mr. Sarno stated that at their next meeting August 22nd they would discuss the one-way and gating and then have the wording for Town Meeting. Mr. Brennan stated that he would like to have a motion at next meeting.

New Business

Georgetown Shopping Center/Fire Lane Discussion

Mr. Sarno stated that he would like to get the focus of this meeting on the egress/fire safety issue. He stated that at the last Planning Board meeting Mr. Lappen and the Rauseo's accepted the fire lane. Jim Rauseo stated that they never accepted the parking places. He stated that they stated that they would accept when they saw a plan. Mr. Sarno stated that the Fire Chief and engineers and Mr. Lappen have an alternative solution. Chief Durkee stated at the last Planning Board meeting it was decided that the fire lane was to be completed as to the as-built plan. He stated that they do have access to three sides of the building and that this is all they need. Mike Anderson, Fire Engineer read the law and this stated that they only need access to 2 sides but it also states that the access must be 18 ft wide. Mr. Anderson stated that at the fire lane in question the gate is 12ft and 14 ft at the corner. He stated that they do not need this fire lane and the Fire Chief could enforce brush being cut back to keep the other three sides open. Mr. Sarno stated that they could agree that the last agreement of three lanes is fine. Mr. Rauseo stated he does not want

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to be the bad guy but has given an easement for this fire lane. Mr. Sarno stated that they are asking Mr. Lappen to keep the brush back so the fire lane on three sides stays open. Mr. Sarno stated that the Planning Board can vote on this Wednesday at their meeting. Mr. Moultrie stated that he can not speak for the board but they usually follow the request of the Fire Department. He asked that a letter from Chief Durkee be sent before their meeting on Wednesday and then the fire lane could be voted on by the board.

Mr. Sarno stated that he had some additional letters on the Bailey Lane Bridge and entered them into the record.

Mr. Brennan moved to adjourn. Mr. Clough seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved September 6, 2005.