

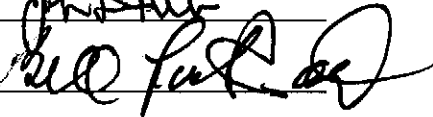
Bob Thompson



John Allen



Bill Lockard



Selectmen's Board Meeting

May 12, 2016

Present: Bob Thompson, Chairman; John Allen and Bill Lockard, Selectmen

Visitors: Town Office Administrator Julie Atwell, Police Chief Doug Jette, Building Inspector Kevin Bennett, Videographer Hank Benesh, Bea Davis, Stan Weiss, John Fichera, Sarah Clemons, Amy Murphy, Joyce Allen

Chairman Bob Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Amend & approve minutes

- a. Selectmen's Meeting – April 28, 2016 The minutes were approved as written.
- b. Non-Public – April 28, 2016 – sign minutes envelope RSA 91-A:3, II(c)
The envelope was signed.

2. Update April 28, 2016 Action Items

- a. Bartlett/Jackson Transfer The Board is attempting to schedule a meeting with Bartlett to discuss the Transfer Station.
- b. North Country Council Willis Kelley is Jackson's NCC representative.
- c. Upcoming Selectmen's Meeting Dates The next meeting will be May 26th; then June 9th and 30th and July 14th and 28th.

3. **Police Report** Chief Jette noted the Covered Bridge got hit yesterday as a result of the driver not paying attention. He took a fifteen thousand pound delivery van on a load limited bridge and due to the height, he scraped all the trusses and ripped the fascia. There used to be signage down there regarding the height limit; Chief Jette wants to know if the town of Jackson's taxpayers contribute anything at all toward the bridge. The bridge is state owned. Chief Jette discussed this with Kenny Crowther; prior to the bridge's renovation there was a height indication on it; this is a NH State Historic Bridge; the state is required to provide upkeep. Chief Jette would like the height limitation posted on the bridge because as it stands right now, the bridge is not labeled properly. The driver can be charged for being overweight but not for violating the height restriction even though the height of the truck is what caused the damage. It only benefits everybody if the state gets that posted properly. The town was fortunate to have one of the DOT troopers in the area who helped the Jackson Police out. There've been eight or nine bridge hits since Chief Jette's been on the Force. The bridge gets fixed but things don't always go back in the right place. The Police

Department has been very active on Route 16; they are not seeing drug trafficking but they are seeing evidence of drug rehabilitation; Suboxone is being found, which is indicative of an opiate addiction. Folks are pulled over for speed or an equipment violation and the Police ask if there's anything they want the Police to know about. Nine out of ten folks will give the police that information; many have the prescription bottle right on the front seat. Once the Police see that they have to verify the prescription and who it belongs to. Jackson is beginning to see an increase in traffic with the warmer weather. Regarding delivery of the new cruiser, there was a hang-up with Jackson's specific car at the plant so it'll be two and a half weeks before it'll be in the yard; the town has acquired all of the equipment to go in it. "Coffee with a Cop" is going well. The next date will be put out via email and on Enews. There were fourteen people at the firearms safety day. It's good to see people who want to learn. It gives people a chance to see firearms and learn about the rights and responsibilities of being a gun owner. It has generated some inquiries as to when the next class is going to be. Stan Weiss wondered, given the damage to the trusses, if it is possible that the bridge is not safe. Chief Jette assured him there is no possibility; the bridge is safe. Kenny inspected it yesterday and the bridge crew from the state came in today. None of the damage rose to the structural level. Joyce Allen would like to know how many of the folks being pulled over on Route 16 have things related to drugs in the car in the last month. Chief Jette noted they are averaging one in twelve stops per day. In each day they make from ten to twelve motor vehicle stops so over the past month there have been eight to twelve. Typically it means these folks have an opioid problem they are getting help for. Joyce sees this as promising. It is, however, while these people may be going to the doctor to be weaned off opioids, now the Police have issues with Suboxone being sold by the person it was prescribed to who then uses those funds to get more illegal drugs. Suboxone is about eight bucks per dose and when the doctors are prescribing a couple weeks at a time, that's seventy to eighty hits. Everybody needs to know it's out there; why would someone have two hundred fifty hits in their car for personal use; it's completely legal if it's in the original packaging and the prescribing information matches the person. There has been nobody caught with opioids.

4. **Public Comment** Sarah Clemons had asked to be on the agenda of a meeting as she had a number of questions; she received a call from Chairman Thompson and she was told she could then call Selectmen Allen and Lockard to talk about it. Through that conversation Chairman Thompson thinks Sarah's questions were answered. Sarah wants to know how a citizen brings something to the public's attention when one is not able to be on the agenda. She talked to the Selectmen individually but not to this forum that is televised and recorded. She has questions about that. Also Sarah was informed that the March meeting (Town Meeting) is where some of these things should be answered as well as during the Budget Hearings. Sarah went to the meetings and the March meeting asking the same questions and she was informed those questions should have been asked at the Budget Hearing. Sarah wants to know how a citizen brings something to the table. She noted Chairman Thompson says he's heard her but he's not answering her questions. Chairman Thompson noted Sarah came to the meetings, she asked her questions and they were answered. If she still has concerns she needs to go to the Office and write out a request. Sarah noted she'll pursue Right to Know; she

wondered if it would be inappropriate to say “Here are the questions I asked and here are the answers I got”; she wants to know if that could be posted with the minutes. Chairman Thompson asked if either of the Selectmen has any response for Sarah as this time; neither did. Chairman Thompson will respond. Chairman Thompson didn’t tell Sarah she couldn’t have anything on the agenda; Sarah is the one that said she didn’t have an agenda item. The Board doesn’t put individuals on the agenda; it puts ideas on the agenda. Sarah had items that had already been on the agenda at previous meetings; she’s asking questions that were previously asked. Chairman Thompson noted Sarah said she didn’t need to put anything on the agenda. The Selectmen hold their meeting in public; the town has an annual meeting and there are budget hearings; this year the Selectmen had three or four budget hearings. The Town Meeting is run by the legislative body; hearings are held for the purpose of seeking public input. Chairman Thompson will always take all public comment at both agenda items and will ask the Selectmen if they want to respond.

5. **Building Inspector**

- a. Weekly Report – Kevin Bennett Inspector Bennett noted it’s getting busy. Permit 2016-26, Owner Garcia, is one of the first that doesn’t have to go to the ZBA for approval now that the new setback has gone into place. The house was non-conforming and is conforming now. Item 5d is the Dana Place Inn; Rich Levine is the owner of record. He is taking the decks off; the first two he did were totally wrong and were not up to code. Inspector Bennett gave Rich all the literature and he tore off what he’d built and rebuilt the decks up to code; they look good. The Old Library Committee signed the contract with Desmaris for replacement of shingles, painting and a handicap ramp. The Selectmen have the contract from Desmaris to sign.
- b. Building Permit 2016-25/Map V03 Lot 10/ Owner – Nichols/6 Riverview Road/Remodel House
- c. Building Permit 2016-26/Map V05 Lot 01/Owner – Garcia/34 Whitney Hill Loop/Replace deck and install new roof over deck
- d. Demotion Permit/Map R04 Lots 7-1 through 7-6/Owner – Wildcat Townhouse Resort/Glen Drive/Replace exterior decks
- e. Old Library – Desmarais Contract – Signatures Required **Selectman Allen, seconded by Selectman Lockard, made a motion to approve and sign the contract between the Town of Jackson and Desmarais Builders. The motion passed unanimously.** The contract was signed.

6. **New Business**

- a. Transfer Station Update – Requested by George Howard Selectman Allen noted Earl has been hired as Manager; Bartlett is in charge of hiring employees and the Jackson Selectmen did have input with it. Four applicants were interviewed and Earl was hired. The Selectmen are

hoping to have a meeting to start the process to use the money that has been allocated to improve the existing sorting facility.

- b. Red Fox Bar and Grille – Extended Liquor License Request (July 16th and July 21st) This is different in that they don't have live entertainment out there and it's only for two specific dates which are post-tournament gatherings. **Selectman Lockard, seconded by Selectman Allen, made a motion to approve the request for the extended Liquor License for the Red Fox Bar and Grille for July 16th and July 21st. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. Valley Vision Submissions – Hank Benesh Chairman Thompson noted Videographer Hank Benesh submits video recordings of Jackson's Meetings (Planning Board, Selectmen, Conservation Commissioner, Zoning Board of Adjustment, etc.) which are aired on Valley Vision on Sundays. Videographer Benesh has asked for this to be put on the agenda today because he'd like to begin filming some of the public speakers that present at Jackson Public Library. Selectman Allen thinks this is fine as long as the service remains under budget. Valley Vision is looking for filler when Jackson doesn't have a meeting to submit. This won't be coming out of the Selectmen's budget; the Library will be paying Videographer Benesh directly. Videographer Benesh is waiting for the final approval from the Library's Programming Committee; he will know by next week. **Selectman Allen, seconded by Selectman Lockard, made a motion to extend Videographer Benesh's Valley Vision submittals to include those from the Jackson Public Library. The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer – Renewal Forms – Signatures Required **Selectman Lockard, seconded by Selectman Allen, made a motion to sign the forms appointing Tom Grieg as Health Officer and Kevin Bennett as Deputy Health Officer. The motion passed unanimously.** Chairman Thompson noted the town appreciates HO Greig and DHO Bennett's service. Jackson is lucky to have people of this caliber to take these positions.
- e. Trustee of the Trust Fund – Account Funding **Selectman Allen, seconded by Selectman Lockard, made a motion to authorize the transfer of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) to be deposited into the Old Library Capital Reserve Fund in accordance with Article 18 as approved at the 2016 Town Meeting.** Chairman Thompson noted this is for the repair and restoration work to be done at the Old Library; the thirty five hundred from the Old Library Committee has already been transferred; this is very exciting.

7. Old Business

- a. Town Meeting Concerns (added) Bea considers this Old Business; she believes the members of the public weren't allowed to speak at this year's Town Meeting. Chairman Thompson believes this topic would actually be

for Public Comment and asked if anyone had any Old Business. There being no Old Business, Chairman Thompson moved on to Public Comment.

8. **Public Comment** Chairman Thompson would like to make sure folks understand the Moderator moderates the Town Meeting, not the Selectmen. Anyone who wasn't satisfied with the way the Town Meeting was run should take it up with the Moderator. Joyce also felt that folks weren't allowed to speak at Town Meeting; this has bothered her since March. She's been upset that folks did not have the opportunity to talk and she'd like to know what the function of Town Meeting is; it's not the same as it used to be. The Town Meeting used to be the place to have good discussions. Joyce noted discussion wasn't encouraged; she remembers somebody distinctly saying if folks had been to the other meetings they wouldn't have to ask these questions. That's why Joyce has started coming to these meetings; she felt shut down and that's a concern for her.

Sarah would like to let Chairman Thompson know that his interpretation and her interpretation of their private discussion are two different things. This is why the discussion should be brought out here for all three Selectmen and the audience to hear. Folks should be able to voice any subject here and be given an answer. It can't be first talk to Chairman Thompson, then Selectman Allen, then Selectman Lockard. Chairman Thompson felt that Sarah was satisfied with the discussion she had with him where in fact she will still go through the RTK laws and try to get the information she wants. At the Selectmen's meetings and the Town Meetings Sarah should be able to come and voice her questions; she's been a resident of Jackson for years; that doesn't give her any special privilege but she will continue giving input on keeping Jackson healthy and running right; voters are, as a group of citizens, being shut down.

Stan has been away but he's really confused as to the role of the public at these meetings. Before he missed some meetings Chairman Thompson felt items needed to be put on the agenda for response. However what he thinks he just heard is that this is a Selectmen's meeting that is being held in public as opposed to a place where the public can ask its questions. That really is a concern to him. He would like to suggest that the subject of public participation be put on the agenda as an agenda item.

Selectman Lockard has a single comment regarding Joyce's comments. He is not a meeting lover; he wouldn't have two budget meetings; folks can talk about it for days. If everything has to be done all in a meeting that meeting will go for three days, even six days. The Selectmen have a Budget Hearing so the public session (Town Meeting) is not about whether to get three tires or four tires for the truck; it is about whether or not to get the truck. The Selectmen have nothing to do with running that meeting; the issue is really how the meeting was run by the Moderator. Folks are saying they would like this to be put on the agenda so they can have a discussion about how the meeting went. Selectman Lockard's opinion is that folks should attend the budget hearings if they have questions but the Annual Meeting is full of people asking questions and voicing their opinions. The Selectmen are available at the Town Meeting. If questions were not answered to the extent wanted then the public is asked to put their concerns in writing. This is

so the Selectmen can get some direction and spend time on it. Whatever folks have for concerns, Chairman Thompson asked folks to focus on it; give the Selectmen some direction in writing and they will be glad to put it on the agenda. Stan hit it on the head; the role of the public at these meetings is that they have accepted an invitation to come to the Selectmen's meetings; this is not a meeting with the Selectmen and whomever shows up; it's not a public inquiry. This is a meeting between the three Selectmen and the Selectmen hold that meeting in public as able unless it's a Non-Public item that the Selectmen are not allowed to discuss in public. Chairman Thompson noted if there is anything beyond that discussion that isn't clear; here's his number. Stan asked if that means he can't put this on the agenda and Chairman Thompson noted that nobody has ever been denied to be put on the agenda as long as they submit the information that supports it.

9. Non-Public Session Selectman Allen, seconded by Selectman Lockard, made a motion to go into Non-Public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 4:46 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

- a. RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.
- b. RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

The Board returned to Public Session at ****

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at ****

Respectfully submitted by:

Martha D. Tobin

Recording Secretary