

**OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
6 HOLLAND STREET
PO BOX 139
MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 03254**

Selectmen's Work Session, 4 P.M.

May 22, 2014

MINUTES

Selectmen: Jonathan W. Tolman, Chair, Joel R. Mudgett, Paul T. Punturieri (arrived 4:13), Christopher P. Shipp (arrived 4:10), Russell C. Wakefield; Town Administrator, Carter Terenzini.

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Status Report:** The Town Administrator gave a general status report on various items as follows: (a) he was behind on the administrative rules for the Code of Conduct but would be ready in time, (b) the preparation of the work effort (and finalization of the design presentation) for the 05/31 States Landing & Green-Up day was on target; (c) the task order for the various road projects was being finalized with the hope of bringing it before the BoS on 06/05, (d) the proposals for the Total Compensation Study, moving equipment, surplus and aggregates would all be on the 06/05 agenda, the utility appraisal RFP is out now and the Neck Fire Station roof would go out shortly (Joel asked if we were going to ice/water shield the entire roof and learned the base bid would be for the perimeter and an alternate would be sought to do the entirety), (e) the preliminary audit shows an unassigned fund balance of about 17.25% which, after accounting for planned offsets, at the tax rate setting would be reduced to about 14% of our base budgets. Carter said that he was considering asking the Selectmen to make a larger one-time contribution to the capital reserves which remained below target. Jon asked him to address the balance of the various reserve funds relative to the targets set for them at their July Work Session. Carter also pointed out that about half of the surplus spun off in 2013 came from reclaimed highway grants that had been held in reserve. Without that the surplus would have been much more in the normal range of an anticipated 8% of budget and thus such a large contribution to the unassigned fund balance was a one-time event, and (f) he asked for items for the agenda for the joint SAU meeting of 08/12 within a month noting one item would be to codify the final ABC Charge and Composition.
3. **Ramp @ Lee's Pond Re: Storm Water Run-Off:** Shaw Smith (SAU Instructor) and Aiden Conn (Academy student) presented improvements the students hoped to make to the ramp to reduce the direct run-off of water, sand and silt into the pond. It consisted of the installation of two so-called "rubber razors" to divert the water into a so-called "rain garden". The improvements were low cost, avoided the need for permitting by using hand tools, and promoted student/community involvement. Joel asked about the effect of snowmobiles and the ice races on the rubber razor. Aiden said he hadn't thought of it but, hopefully the rubber razor won't stick up to the point where it is a problem. Scott Kinmond, Town Road Agent/DPW Director, spoke to the possibility for the area to be snow packed or planked. Chris asked how long the rubber razor lasts and learned no one was completely sure as this was new idea/technique. Russ asked where the run-off would now go and learned the rubber razor would direct it to a rain garden on Town property. Paul asked about the science behind the idea and learned that it eliminates the direct run-off into the pond and the rain garden allows the water and nutrients to be absorbed and filtered by the plant materials. The question was asked as to where the monies

were coming from and it was learned the Town's Conservation Commission was paying a portion from its fund and that NH Lakes was contributing some of the materials. The unanimous board consensus was to be supportive of the project and wish the students well with the thanks of the Board.

4. **Cemetery Rule Revision:** A concern had been raised by a citizen over many items now being found in one of the cemeteries not being in good taste and they had submitted a proposed revision to the current practice. Scott said the current policy really doesn't go into in any detail on what is permitted, noting the last revision had been focused more on the matter of the size of headstones and monuments and the banning of planting shrubs and trees so the cemeteries would look a bit more traditional, uniform and presentable. He acknowledged that he hasn't experienced the loss many had and understood their desire to place items of special value to the person buried. While he didn't want to be disrespectful to the deceased or those grieving, having uniform rules will help in the administration and maintenance of the cemeteries. Scott added that it also helps to avoid any misunderstandings. Paul said we do need to reach some balance on this and spoke of many items he had seen which can fade and deteriorate. Russ spoke to very strict guidelines of veterans' cemeteries, noting it all has to do with maintenance. Carter spoke of stepping it up a notch on the recommendations so that there is no planting at all, items can be placed on the base of the headstone so the area around is clear for maintenance and the Town would not be expected to maintain items for retrieval. Scott agreed there was no time or space to store items for retrieval. Chris, like Paul, was also concerned that we do not swing too far in terms of restrictions and take away all flexibility. Carter said finding that middle becomes tough and a matter of taste and discretion which can always be in dispute and noted the advantage of a "black and white" approach. Paul spoke of Shannon Cemetery as having the most recent burials and thus the visitation. Joel said that in his mind, stemming from the problem with allowing the oversized monuments and people thinking that if that can happen, then they could do whatever they wanted. Scott thought we should enhance the rules and is in favor of the black and white approach as it does make it easier for him. Carter spoke to a concern over the timing so that you aren't doing the change in the middle of the season. Jon said he certainly does have a lot of respect for those at rest in the cemetery and those grieving but, that the Town missed an opportunity on the latest revision and was in favor of doing something more black and white. Russ suggested that rather than a list of what isn't allowed it might be easier to list what is allowed. Paul noted that, as a religious person, it is tough to tell people some items (cross) are a "trinket" if placed on a headstone. The consensus was to direct the staff to come back with suggested revisions to tighten up the rules as to what is allowable with an acknowledgement of the merits of a black and white approach but, an attempt to allow some discretion.
5. **Lacrosse Club Fund Raiser:** Chris raised the issue of the Interlake's Lacrosse Club doing a fund raiser at the Transfer Station. Scott spoke of prior efforts and how people had to stay out of traffic. Carter suggested the Selectmen settle how many dates they are willing to allow and set the rules as to whether the fund raising effort may be "in the proper" or needs to be in the entry roadway. He said the flip side is many people don't want to "run the gauntlet" of such fund raisers. Chris said he wants to make sure we aren't negative toward these efforts if Meredith is open and receptive and Carter spoke of the differences in the two facilities. Paul also spoke to the challenge of the layout. Jon added that a consideration is the volume of traffic we are trying to get people through. Joel suggested they coordinate with the Transfer Station as to the best days. Chris will suggest to the group they request in an email for the Board's consideration during a business meeting.

6. **National Public Works Appreciation Week:** Scott Kinmond informed the Selectmen that this was for the week of May 17th through the 23rd. Joel asked, and board members concurred, to ask Scott to pass along their thanks to the crew for all they do.
6. **Adjournment:** There being no further business the Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Approved

Respectfully Submitted
Carter Terenzini, Town Administrator

DRAFT