

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - July 26, 1993

Present for the meeting were Selectmen Dodge and Johnston with Sandra Gendron taking minutes. Selectman Pimenta was on vacation.

The evening began with the two Selectmen accompanying Road Agent Lee Murray to review the proposed future site of the Police Station on the town owned land housing the Highway Garage, and they also viewed areas of concern that Lee had in Waldorf Estates.

They returned to the Town Office at 7:45 p.m. and the evening meeting continued with Lee. Discussion took place on the ongoing issue of property owners bringing their various forms of landscaping right up to the edge of the pavement thus infringing on the Town's Right of Way, and the problems this causes the Highway Department in such areas as maintaining proper shoulders and drainage, as well as matters of safety. Selectman Dodge commented that the policy had previously been established and will be maintained that any property owners infringing on the right of way will be instructed to remove whatever has been placed in order that the right of way can be properly maintained by the Highway Department.

Next in to meet with the Board of Selectmen was Brad Carr, Leach Hill Road. Mr. Carr wanted assurance that attention was being paid to the stonewall being constructed on the Allen property located at the corner of Leach Hill Road and Roby Road in order to avoid a repeat of the Allen property infringing in the Town's Right of Way. The issue of the Allen porch extending into the right of way had been corrected by a swap of land between abutting neighbors and a relocation of the road entrance. Selectman Johnston and Road Agent Lee Murray had measured the wall in question in three different locations and determined that the wall was being constructed on the land of the property owner. With regard to a back driveway and the legitimacy of its use, Selectman Johnston stated that it appeared that the wall would be built across the area thus eliminating this as a driveway. It was stated that no permit had been applied for or issued to access the property from the Class VI roadway.

Mr. Carr questioned the abandoned vehicle and piles of wood and rocks that have accumulated in the roadway and that appear to be, at least in part, on the abutting owners property. Selectman Johnston conceded that some of the above described debris may be in the town roadway. Mr. Carr emphasized that it was his intention in bringing up these issues to make certain that the situation is not repeated whereby vehicles being parked on the Class VI road cause him problems accessing his own property. Selectman Johnston agreed to review the area now in question and if any of the debris is on the town owned property it will be dealt with accordingly.

Before leaving the meeting, Lee informed the Selectmen that the Francestown Turnpike Project was scheduled to be paved the second week in August.

With regard to the review of the proposed site for the construction of a police facility, the Board suggested that Chief McLaughlin provide a rough plan of what he would like to see in terms of a building so that discussions could continue as to where a building might eventually be placed.

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Fire Chief James Dodge was next in to see the Board of Selectmen. He proposed that the Board consider creating a second site for burning construction debris and brush at the Transfer Station. The accumulated debris had recently been burned by the Fire Department, and Jim expressed concern that the amount to be burned was as large as it was especially since conditions this summer are extremely dry. He contended that the creation of a second area would allow for the burning and cooling process to take place and the sites to be swapped as collection of debris dictates, making the entire situation simpler for all involved. The Selectmen were fully cognizant of the potential danger presented by the existing accumulation of debris which is why the Fire Department was called in initially. Discussion continued with ideas being expressed as to how to make the method of collecting this debris more manageable for the Transfer Station personnel as mentioned above by Chief Dodge. One such idea would be the construction of a barrier which would split the existing site and provide a wall which could be backed up to for the purpose of dumping. This would conceivably require less work for the personnel and be an easier situation in terms of burning.

Jim reviewed what was being done with regard to the Fire Department's hydrant in the Mill Pond. He was reminded that he was to contact the landowner, and the Selectmen's Office would inquire as to what governmental department would likely issue the permit to dredge. Subsequently, I contacted personnel at the state level dealing with dredge and fill permits. I was told that they would be the issuing authority and would require the standard form along with written permission from the landowner to clean out in the area of the hydrant.

Discussion continued with Jim questioning the possibility of compensating David Poole for some of the inspections he had done relative to the Fire Department. Jim went on to point out that David had done several inspections in conjunction with a recent site plan on Rte. #114 and sited the potential of David having to do inspections at the campgrounds dealing with issues of improper campfire sites and unsecured propane tanks. Jim continued by informing the Board as to conditions that had been noted recently at Friendly Beaver Campground when the department was called to respond to a brush fire. Jim also pointed out to the Board, for their information, that it appeared that well used trails by off highway vehicles had been carved into town owned property. He stated that the annual inspections by Fire Department personnel of such things as campfire sites had been allowed to slide due to lack of time and personnel available for such inspections. He contended that based on the conditions he observed, these annual inspections should be resumed and would like to be in a position to compensate David to conduct such inspections.

Discussion turned to a letter he had sent to the Board of Selectmen after the Board of Fire Wards had reviewed conditions observed at Friendly Beaver Campground. It was decided by the Fire Wards that the Selectmen should be made completely aware of the Fire Wards concern that because of the congestion in the campground and the narrow roadways with only one exit, it would be a difficult if not an impossible task to provide a proper coverage should a fire be

reported in the interior of the campground. The Fire Wards concluded that trucks could not get beyond the swimming pool. Jim went on to express concern with what appeared to be improper electrical hook-ups, an area he alluded to not having complete knowledge of. He related that he had sent letters to both campgrounds that inspections would be done on August 2nd by Fire Department personnel and the State Fire Warden. The potential of sending the Building Inspector to review the electrical hookups was discussed as well as the possibility of including Selectman Johnston with no decision made pending advise of Legal Counsel since the Town is involved in litigation with Friendly Beaver Campground.

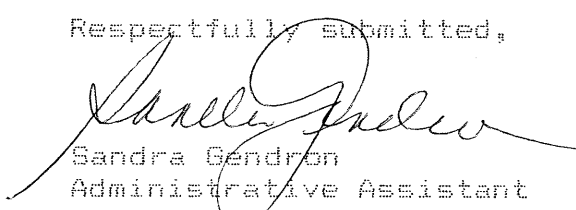
On the issue of compensation for David Poole, it was decided that appropriate and reasonable hours could submitted and would be paid from the Building Inspector line item in the budget.

Jim concluded by pointing out to the Board that he also saw what he considered to be mature timber on the border of the town owned property and just wanted them to be aware.

The matter of the replacement of the Newman-Wilson Bridge to be undertaken by the Weare Highway Department this fall was discussed relative to affected New Boston residents being notified of a meeting that is scheduled for August 11th at the Weare Town Office Building whereby the details and ramifications of the project will be presented and questions can be answered. Letters detailing the specifics for the meeting will be sent to New Boston residents accessing their property via this bridge. Selectman Dodge had spoken with the Weare Road Agent and collaboration between the two communities, especially with regard to the existing Class VI road and the role it might play in accessing properties in the area of the project, will allow the project to go as smoothly as possible.

Mail was reviewed, checks were signed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sandra Gendron  
Administrative Assistant