

August 15, 2005

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 15, 2005**

Present:     Arnold Wilson, Chairman  
              Hal White  
              Doris Sosik  
              David Schmida  
              William Emrich  
              Gregory Morse, Acting Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:**     To approve the minutes of August 1, 2005 as corrected, by H. White.  
              **2<sup>nd</sup>:**     D. Schmida  
              **Vote:** All in favor.

**Department Head Monthly Reports**

Fire Chief Leonard Senecal read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that Firefighter Joseph Overly graduated from the Fire Academy. The new ambulances have been insured, state inspected and are now in use. They also purchased a new John Deere ATV Trail Gater. Chief Senecal thanked the Lions Club, Rotary and Wal-Mart for their donations toward the new vehicles.

D. Sosik said that her relatives were very impressed with the friendliness and complete ability shown by the EMTs when two young girls in her family needed their assistance recently.

Greg Morse, DPW Director, read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that they have been working on preparing roads for paving in the fall. The new Operations Manager started work on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

A.Wilson announced that there will be a public meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall relative to the planned improvements on McGilpin Road. A petition has been submitted to leave part of the road unpaved. Since two members of the Board will be out of town on August 25<sup>th</sup>, H. White suggested that the meeting be postponed. It was the consensus of the Board to reschedule the McGilpin Road public meeting to Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall so that the entire Board could be present. G. Morse will send letters out to notify the residents of McGilpin Road.

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G. Morse read Paul Donahue's report to the Board (copy on file). He noted that trucking of the sludge has made a great deal of difference in stabilizing the work area, and the landfill will be better served by it.

A.Wilson announced that J. Malloy is making arrangements for the Board to visit the wastewater treatment plant at 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday in September, and he will also invite Tighe & Bond, G. Morse and P. Donahue to be there.

### **Appointments/Resignations**

**MOTION: To accept the resignation of Robert Campbell from the Sturbridge Police Department, by H. White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Schmida**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To accept the resignation of Lynn Summers from the Council on Aging, by H. White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Schmida**

**Vote: All in favor.**

**MOTION: To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Kathryn Smith to the Council on Aging, by H. White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: D. Schmida**

**Vote: All in favor.**

### **Senior Municipal Service Program**

**MOTION: To approve the Senior Municipal Service Program application for Modestina Galati, to work for the Tree Warden/Veterans' Agent, by H. White.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: W. Emrich**

**Vote: All in favor.**

J. Malloy had indicated that Barbara Search, Council on Aging Director, had made the following suggestion: The state law changed to allow the abatement amount to increase to \$750. Since the inception of the program, the Town has not fully expended the appropriation. J. Malloy recommended that the Board keep the initial program abatement at \$500, but allow previously approved program participants to rejoin the program (without further approval) if funds are available in the month of June of any fiscal year and work an additional amount of hours to increase their total abatement to \$750 (approximately 37 hours).

A.Wilson suggested raising the family income requirement from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

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**MOTION:** To adopt J. Malloy's recommendation, with one addition: second line from the bottom, add the word "family" income, by H. White.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik

**Vote:** All in favor.

**MOTION:** If funds are available at the end of March of any fiscal year, previously approved program applicants could rejoin the program without getting approval again and work an additional amount of hours to increase their total at the end of June to \$750; new applicants whose income is less than \$35,000/year could make up to \$750 if they earn it within the last three months, by H. White.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Sosik

**Vote:** All in favor.

### **Water/Sewer Abatement**

Green Acres Motel had submitted an abatement request for \$702.27 for a misread meter.

**MOTION:** To approve the abatement for the Green Acres Motel on Account #1093 in the amount of \$702.27, by D. Sosik

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** W. Emrich

**Vote:** All in favor.

A.Wilson recommended holding action regarding the amendment to the Selectmen's policy on water and sewer abatements to provide that the majority approval of the Town Administrator, Finance Director and DPW Direction is required for any water/sewer abatement for disputed bills for amounts that exceed \$500.

### **Request to Name a Private Way**

SPL Development (d/b/a Main Street Senior Housing LLC) had submitted a request to name the road leading into the Crescent Gate senior housing development "Crescent Way."

**MOTION:** To approve the name of the road leading into the Crescent Gate Subdivision at 450A Main Street "Crescent Way," by D. Sosik.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** W. Emrich

A.Wilson asked whether anyone had asked the dispatchers or Fire Department if there would be a conflict or confusion in naming the road "Crescent Way." He suggested getting their opinion before voting to name the road. H. White

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recommended obtaining a schematic outlining streets and asking the Police and Fire Departments to endorse it before the Board takes action on it. The Board agreed to that. D. Sosik withdrew her motion; W. Emrich withdrew his second.

### **Old Business**

W. Emrich asked about the status of Rt. 131. G. Morse said that good detailed plans with 75% design capacity should be available by October.

A.Wilson said that the Selectmen's liaison assignments would be effective as of August 15, 2005.

### **New Business**

D. Sosik asked how much frontage next to the road belongs to the Town. G. Morse said that it is around six feet. D. Sosik asked what to do about a tree near the road that may be dying. G. Morse suggested she talk to Tom Chamberland, Tree Warden.

A.Wilson noted that the law states that one member of the combined Boards of Selectmen of the district towns should be a voting member of the negotiating subcommittee at Tantasqua. He suggested meeting with the Selectmen of the other towns at Holland Town Hall on a Thursday night to elect one Selectman for that purpose. It was the consensus of the Board to meet with the other Boards on September 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>.

A.Wilson said that the Board has been asked to work with the Tantasqua music department and band director to work out a five-year parade schedule for the marching band.

### **Andre Cormier, Escape Estates – Town Water Extension to Cooper Road**

Andre Cormier appeared before the Board, and presented them with a plan for a water line extension down Cooper Road (copy on file). A.Wilson noted that the Board did not have any official comments from Greg Morse, DPW Director, or the Police Chief or Fire Chief. It was the consensus of the Board to take the matter under advisement until their input has been received.

### **Ask the Selectmen**

D. Sosik received a call from a resident who did not wish to be identified on TV, who said that Andre Cormier's presentation was inaudible because he did not speak into a microphone; also, she asked for clarification on the rate for the Senior Municipal Service Program. H. White said that participants will earn the state minimum wage of \$6.75/hour up to \$500.

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**MOTION:** To adjourn, by H. White  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** D. Schmida  
**Vote:** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

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BOS Clerk

Date