



Selectmen's Meeting
Town Office
Wednesday, October 2, 2013
6:00 P.M.

Present: Selectmen Sam Seppala, Roberta Oeser, Dan Aho, Town Administrator Carlotta Lilback Pini, and Executive Secretary Nicole Sesia

Approved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Kelen Gieger of 32 spruce avenue stated that Woodmere Association has not been taking care of the roads. Kelen was originally a voted member of Woodmere Association but after several years decided not to continue. In 2005 people felt they did not have enough money to pay taxes so they sold lots. When the Association ran out of money they decided that everyone who lives in the area should pay an amenities fee. When this happened Kelen came to the Board for an abatement. There was a court settlement that caused anyone who lives in Woodmere to pay an amenities fee for the beach rights. Not all property owners were contacted about this amenities fee. Last year there were some issues with the piece of property, no permits were issued and changes were made. Ms. Gieger was told that they didn't need a permit to dump sand and because the docks and porter potty are movable no permit was needed. Ms. Gieger has no say in what happens to the beach because they don't pay the membership fee but she is paying taxes for the property.

The Association decided to scrape Florence Ave causing it to be completely washed out. For years the road was patched not graded. One of the members of the association scrapes the road and scraped all the top soil and made a line for the water to run into resident's property. Ms. Gieger is worried that the water will run right down into the new building she just built. Ms. Gieger did some research and found that Woodmere association being a nonprofit would have been dissolved in 2011. They haven't done anything since 2005. The Conservation Commission went to Woodmere beach and looked at the wetlands. The association members were told they could bring brush and wood and dirt down to a space that is in the woods but also wetlands. There are no permits for docks or bob houses or sheds and there were all of these on the beach. There looks like there is construction debris dumped into the wetlands. At least two people on the minutes from last year's Association meeting are not property owners. Woodmere is made up of some people who live in the area, but others pay to be part of the association fee. The Conservation Commission did find that there is brush and debris in the wetlands. They also found that the sand is relatively new but no permit was issued. The boat landing is fairly new probably done last year. The shed is more like a food shack, there is a kitchen inside. Dave Duvernay will look into the ownership of the property. DES stated there have been no permits for docks, boat ramps or swim lines issued to the Association. Ms. Gieger asked for this issue to be put on the agenda and Carlotta had called and there was a misunderstanding.

Pat Martin reported that the lighting study was done at town office and the police station. Mike put it out to the contractors that we usually use. He got 2 written responses one for \$5950 and one for \$3980 from Grace electric. Pat recommends we proceed with Grace Electric.

Roberta made a motion to use Grace Electric for the Town Office and the Police Station lighting efficiency project. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

The Southwest Regional survey has been sent out and if the Selectmen would like their opinion included in the survey they need to submit it by the end of this week.

Discussion about the meeting at the Recreation center last night. The two planning grants that were received went to the NHFA under HUD. Roberta explained that the biggest thing about that grant was that the town was the one who put out what we were going to do. \$24,000 was received from one grant the second grant was \$12000. HUD does over rule the state government because it is federal. The grant is for review and for zoning ordinances our zoning is already aligned with this grant. Holly Koski explained that Kim McCummings came into the planning meeting and said she made a mistake at the meeting. The town has been awarded a lot of block grants over the years. Roberta stated that the towns not 'doing' anything. Dan explained that we have to be careful what grants we receive. Carlotta explained that Fast Roads Internet and the senior housing were both grants received through HUD. Fast Roads project was a grant that was given to the town. The whole town did not get the fiber but there is the opportunity to expand. The fiber was put into the slowest part of town to increase the speed. Carlotta is fighting for Rindge to get more coverage. At this point there is no provider for Fast Roads TV. Holly would like to get a petition signed to see how many people would like to get the fiber internet.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Roberta made a motion to approve the AP and Payroll for 9/25 and 10/2. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Roberta made a motion to approve the minutes for 9/4 with suggested changes. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

The Budget Advisory Committee met on Monday night and approved the budget timeline. Sam thinks the 11/13 date would be a problem for him and that maybe we should only have 3 sessions instead of 4. Roberta asked why don't we think about moving the 13th to the 6th? December 11 maybe a conflict for Dan but that is also the optional meeting. The meeting on the 13th will be changed to the 6th of November.

Who is responsible for studying employee compensation and benefits? What towns should we compare too? Look for towns with similar populations, and college towns. Radius of where our employees would go to work if they left us. Roberta suggested that we make sure the police, the highway and fire are closely comparable to the other town. Hillsborough is a comparable town. We should encourage a person to be on their spouses plan instead of being on our health plan, in order to lower our health bill. The LGC has an accurate price of what the town pays for the health insurance. Dan stated that the new rates for fire and police retirement are increasing as of July 1, 2014. Rick's salary is all based on the fire department but he is also building inspector. The state used to pay part of the retirement contribution but now it's the entire employee's fee. Rick doesn't pay Social Security on any of his wages. Refer the benefits and wages issue to the personnel committee for review.

Ed will be able to sell punch cards on Saturday, with checks only; no book keeping would be involved. Ed just puts the number of the punch card on the check. There is no record keeping Ed has to do. The check would be payable to the Town of Rindge. Ed used to take cash up there and we used to get complaints about him stealing money. Dan received a complaint about Ed not helping someone unload their trash. This is not Ed's job although Mike's highway guys help unload trash Ed is not supposed to.

Roberta makes a motion that the policy be that Ed sell punch cards at the transfer station when the town office is closed by check only. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor

After discussion about the need for a name for the private way off of West Main Street, Dan made a motion to approve the road name as Diane's Way. Roberta seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Revaluation Contract addendum- Roberta explained when Dave did the contract with the assessors he was hoping they would do the value on the property when it came out of current use. The assessing company said they would not do the value when a property is taken out of use, so they had an addendum to the contract to do this would be \$50 an hour.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS / COMMUNICATION

September expenditures were distributed to the board.

Tax rates won't be set until after November 2nd. Worst case we could borrow again.

Southwest regional planning commission meeting invitation was distributed for Board to consider attending.

Carlotta mentioned the NH preservation alliance meeting.

Copy of the attorney's motion to dismiss the suit against the town for Atlantic drive was shown to the Board. This was scheduled for a jury trial.

We will have to decide what to do with Ingalls/Mountain road situation. We can label it a class 6 road and close it but then we can't get any of our equipment up there unless we declare it an emergency way.

Adjournment