



Selectmen's Meeting
Town Office
Wednesday, August 21, 2013
6:00 P.M.

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

Approved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Charlie Eicher announced that at the Meetinghouse at 5:30 p.m. on August 22, 2013 there is a gifted and talented student open house.

Don Cook said that he is going to ask the Safety Committee(Roadway is correct name) if they would put a stop sign between Old New Ipswich Road and Shaw Hill Road, which in his opinion, is a dangerous intersection due to the almost blind corner onto Shaw Hill Road. Roberta stated that there used to be a yield sign coming down Shaw Hill. Sam added that the intersection of Todd Hill Road and Hunt Hill Road is also a dangerous intersection since the owner of the house on the corner put up a fence. Carlotta informed the Board that the Roadway Committee would be meeting the next day and suggested Don and others bring their requests to the meeting. Holly Koski said she would like to see some yellow lines around Old New Ipswich and Perry Road to keep people on their own side of the road.

Amy Reisert of Old New Ipswich Road said she would like to know if it is possible to put calcium chloride down on the road to eliminate some of the dust. Carlotta said that she called Rich Cloutier when Mike was out on vacation, and he was unsure what to do so he called Mike at home. Mike said that we didn't have money in the budget to buy it. Carlotta stated that the Town had purchased a tank to hold the Calcium Chloride. Amy said the tank is full. Roberta said that if we have it, it should be used. Carlotta questioned whether it was filled with water rather than Calcium Chloride. Amy asked about the Town's plans to pave Old New Ipswich Road, which is heavily travelled. She said that Mike told her there is a half mile that is ready to be paved. Carlotta explained that Mike's road improvement plan does not include paving any dirt roads. Amy said she could petition Town Meeting, and the Selectmen agreed. Carlotta said it's not wise to encourage people to petition the town to pave dirt roads when there are paved roads that have not been maintained for many years. Carlotta suggested that Amy comes to the Roadway Committee meeting to learn more about the road plan and share her concerns.

Roberta made a motion to approve the accounts payable and the payroll for 8/14 and 8/21. Dan seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Carlotta stated that there are some old outstanding minutes from January and February that she is currently editing. The minutes from August 7th were prepared by Nicole, and Carlotta is editing.

ABATEMENT

Dave DuVernay, the Assessing Clerk, explained that Mr. Lindell requested an abatement for his property at 3 Ware Farm Road. In 2005 Vision appraised the property at \$1,600,000. Mr. Lindell filed for an abatement and was denied. He then applied to the BTLA and the Town negotiated a settlement. In 2010 the values remained at \$1,035,000 into the first half of 2012. \$64,974 is the difference between the assessed and the appraised. Dave suggested the Board deny the application. Silas Little, Mr. Lindell's attorney, stated the issue is that the out buildings are assessed higher than they should be. The primary house is also assessed too high. Mr. Little stated he would see the Town in court. Mr. Little's assessor took assessments from 6 months before and 6 months after and came out with a figure lower than the town. Dave explained that the assessment was too low to begin with. Roberta made a motion to deny the Lindell abatement. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Carlott explained that residents in Taggart Meadows have complained about Bob Van Dyke's timber operation. Mr. Van Dyke has a permit to do an 80 acre cut out of the 135 acres of back land he owns. He is supposed to access the property via Monadnock View Road, but he is also accessing via Taggart Circle. In 2006 there was a big court case about Mr. Van Dyke cutting in the common land and wetlands and he was fined. Roberta said she had a conversation with Mr. Van Dyke about the log landings, and he agreed to move them out of the common land. Carlotta stated that the PURD Ordinance prohibits the common land from being used for public or private rights-of-way. Mr. Van Dyke has cut through the common land and the buffer to get to his back land. She is unsure if there are any wetland violations. The homeowners association gave him an easement the rights to access the land but she is not sure if it is valid, given the PURD Ordinance.

Carlotta said that the Congregational Church attended a Meetinghouse Oversight Committee meeting and requested to toll the bell for special occasions such as weddings, memorials or patriotic ceremonies. The Committee did recommend approving this request. Roberta made a motion to approve the request for the Congregational Church to toll the bell. Dan seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue - Roberta made a motion to accept the donation of \$200 from Barbara Wells and a \$25 Gift Card from Wal-Mart to the Beautification Committee. Dan seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Carlotta reported the following:

- She revised the Selectmen's Goals from the last meeting and shared them with the department heads. Now the department heads will rethink their objectives and schedule a meeting with the Board after the holiday weekend. Carlotta will be taking Friday and next week off and would be back on the third.
- The Meetinghouse window project is about 40% complete. There have been a couple of snags but nothing major. The Meetinghouse Committee is talking about possible specifications for painting the Meetinghouse.

- The Energy Committee's library weatherization deadline was extended until September 3rd. The lighting study was conducted and Pat Martin was very pleased with the study. The Committee will be developing a list of projects from the results of the lighting study.
- The Telecommunications Committee has an update on FastRoads. There are 8 testers with the internet service right now. On Abel Road they will be installing 3 poles instead of digging under the road. The Board of Monadnock Tenant Coop denied the application to have towers in the park.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS / COMMUNICATION

Revenues and expenditures for July 2013 were passed out.

The Planning Board will have to have 2 public hearings to look at the impact fee ordinance.

Carlotta brought up the dues for Southwestern Regional Planning Commission. She explained that their regional studies are used to determine whether the state gives us funding or not and sometimes it's hard if you're not part of the regional planning commission to receive grants. The Conservation Commission would like to contribute to some of the fee this year -- maybe \$500. The Planning Department agreed to contribute \$1000, and Carlotta suggested \$500 come from the Board of Selectmen. Roberta agreed that Southwestern Regional Planning Commission does have benefits. Sam made a motion to have the Planning Board pay \$1000 and Conservation Commission pay \$1000 and the Board will accept it. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Rindge fire statistics for May, June and July were distributed.

Adjournment