

September 11, 2012
Selectmen's Meeting/Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen: R.P. McGinnity Chairman, A. Richards, C. Moser & A.A. Milkovits
Also present: Treasurer Pat Letourneau

Meeting opened at 2:00 PM. The check manifest was reviewed and approved.

Agenda:

Appointments:

None

Selectmen reviewed the following:

Old Business:

1. Re: Minutes – Selectmen Meeting minutes and Staff Meeting minutes from August 28, 2012 were approved as written.
2. Re: Issue of Level 3 Sex Offender visiting the Mason Public Library – Chairman McGinnity gave the background for this situation: a friend of a school worker is a Level 3 Sex Offender. The friend is not a resident of Mason nor has relatives in Mason. The Mason School Board and the Superintendent sent the individual a letter that prohibited him from being on school grounds due to his status as a Level 3 Offender. At the staff meeting on August 28th, Chief Hutchins had explained this issue. Since the Mason Library is used as the school library the Chief requested that the Library Trustees and the Librarian send a letter similar to the Superintendent's to this individual to prohibit him from coming to the Library. Selectmen received a copy of the Library Trustees' and the Librarian's response to the Mason School Board and Superintendent on this issue, which was that the individual would not be prohibited from the Library. They cited the ALA Library Bill of Rights – Freedom to Read. The Selectmen then received a copy of the response from the School Superintendent who requested that the Library Trustees and the Librarian re-consider their position to allow this individual in the library. He reminded them that the library is designated as the school library and is used by the school children. A.A. Milkovits had spoken to town counsel William Drescher about this matter. Attorney Drescher stated that the Library Trustees are "autonomous" and were correct in their statement to the Superintendent. However, since the library is used for the school library then the school rules would apply during the times that the children are using the library. This issue is between the library and the school. Attorney Drescher will send a written opinion on this matter.
3. Re: RFP for an Assessor –Three responses received: Todd Haywood, Granite Hill Municipal Services who is the assessor for Wilton, Lyndeborough and other towns; Jeff Earls of Cross Country Appraisal who used to work for the DRA 1985-1998, and Municipal Resources. After reviewing all RFPs, Chairman McGinnity recommended consideration of Todd Haywood of Granite Hill Municipal Services. The Board agreed with his recommendation. A.A. Milkovits will call his references and ask set questions such as: how does Mr. Haywood

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interact with the Board of Selectmen in each town; the timeliness of his assessing work; the availability of him to attend meetings and his interactions with taxpayers. If all responses are positive, then Mr. Haywood will be invited to meet with the Selectmen in October.

4. Re: Designation for issuer of Pistol Permits as advised by Attorney Drescher. The Board of Selectmen has the power to designate the issuing of pistol permits to the Police Chief, per RSA 159:6. As far as is known in the Town of Mason, the Police Chief has always issued the permits. Expedient circumstances have caused the Board to reaffirm that decision. Since there is only fourteen days to act on permit applications, the Board needed to act quickly to allow Chief to continue issuing and handling gun permits. Selectmen will request Chief Hutchins to send a written proposal for revoking the license of the Mason resident to carry concealed. Attorney Drescher will send a written opinion on this issue of revoking a gun permit.

New Business:

1. New insurance claim for fire alarm system at Mann House – the alarm panel at the Mann House was struck by lightning from the same storm that caused damage to the Police Station's alarm and electronic systems.
2. Letters from School Superintendent detailing meeting with A.A. Milkovits on some proposed cost savings, such as joint Town and School report and some building maintenance and letter praising the cooperation between the Police Chief and School District.
3. From DRA Timber Tax Appraiser Jesse Bushaw – copy of letter to logger Zachary Lavoie demanding Report of Cut for Operation # 11-293-09.
4. Police logs
5. Question on property for sale as noticed on the NNEREN site –Lot J-11-1 is listed on this site as a smaller lot without buildings, contrary to the town assessment as a larger lot with a house. After some discussion, it was decided that no action will be taken at this time to contact the owner but to continue to review this site.
6. Other:
 - Emerson Lane – Realtor requested a statement from the town that this is a town maintained road. Memo will be sent to state that the Town acknowledges that Emerson Lane is a Class V road.
 - Intent to Cut submitted by Martin Ruggiero for lot J-11-1. Since Mr. Ruggiero still owes on his property taxes, per RSA he will need to pay a bond before the Board signs his Intent.
 - Other correspondence

Non-Public Session was called at 2:43 PM to review a welfare application. Present: Selectmen and A.A. Milkovits. A couple with a child is renting in Mason and has fallen behind on their rent payments. Chairman McGinnity explained how town welfare works. The town provides for emergency needs only: food, rent, electricity, heat, etc. It should not be considered for long term sustaining. After review of the application and welfare guidelines, it was determined that a need has not arisen. At this time there has been no "notice to quit" issued. While the Board understands everyone has hard times, at this

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point eviction is not imminent. A motion was made, seconded and voted in the affirmative to deny assistance. Session ended at 3:03 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara L. Milkovits
Administrative Assistant