

March 12, 2013
Selectmen's Meeting/Approved Minutes

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

Agenda:

Meeting opened at 1:05 PM. The check manifest was reviewed and approved.

Appointments:

1. Road Agent Fred Greenwood discussed the following issues:
 - Weight limit signs/6 tons: A motion was made seconded and voted in the affirmative to notice all paved roads with weight limit signs of 6 tons, beginning today. The Highway Department will start installing the signs on the paved roads. The signs will remain until the frost is out of the ground and the road situation is stabilized. Mud signs have gone up on all the gravel roads- a sure sign of spring!
 - Budget: some of the 2013 proposed budget lines were reviewed: Overtime line has \$1,900 left for the rest of the year. Plowing line has \$1,900 left for the year in plowing. Salt line – there is a full trailer in the shed which should last the year and \$7,000 left in the budget. Equipment Maintenance line has \$24,000 left. There should be some funds coming back from Cummings from the truck repair. So far the repair has included 2 cylinder kits, rods, etc. Fuel line is okay so far. Selectmen recommend that if the need should arise, the Road Agent should hold back on other accounts to fund the plowing line. Mr. Greenwood will be watching the budget carefully as the year progresses.
 - Ruts in gravel roads are getting filled with crushed stone.
 - Re: collecting on road bonds – Selectmen recommended that the Highway Department take photos of the roads and aprons of roads before any logging projects begin as well as after the project ends. This will help determine whether any damage was done to the roads by the logging trucks. However if there is a public safety issue with the road damage this will require immediate repair by the Highway Department. Selectmen and Mr. Greenwood agree that requesting the road bond seems to have a positive effect on the care taken by the loggers' trucking on the town roads.
 - Highway Department has started patching some of the roads. Later in the season the Department will be paving and doing drainage on sections of Old County, Brookline, and Wilton Roads.
 - All Highway trucks are being inspected this month.
 - Road Agent presented photos of the bank of lights that fell from the ceiling in the Highway barn/garage. So much moisture coming through the roof has rotted the wood strapping that the lights are attached to and this caused one bank to come down. Fortunately this happened at night when no one was working in the garage.
2. Fire Chief David Baker met with the Board briefly to discuss Town Meeting. Chief Baker will have the new contract with Hollis Communications available at Town Meeting, if any residents have questions.

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Selectmen reviewed the following:

Old Business:

1. Re: Minutes – Selectmen Meeting minutes from February 26, 2013 were approved as amended, with one addition that Selectman Moser has recused himself from voting or discussing any matters concerning Barry Mueller Revocable Trust. Staff meeting minutes from February 26, 2013 were approved as written.
2. Re: Road Bond for Timbering Project/Stanley Brown- Email from Road Agent Greenwood stated that there is no damage to the Starch Mill Road where the logging project occurred. He approves releasing Mr. Brown's road bond. Mr. Brown had recently inquired on the status of his road bond. Once Mr. Brown's Report of Cut is filed, his road bond will be returned.
3. Re: Property Tax status of Calpham Bedford Holdings LLC: From the Tax Collector –a summary statement of taxes owed on lots A-22-3, A-22-9 and A-22-10 after the 2010 and 2011 abatements were applied. The total balance owed on the property taxes on all three lots is \$10,645.00.
4. Re: Insurance settlement from lightning strike - \$640.00 was recently received as part of the 2012 insurance settlement from LGC-PLIT to pay for radio programming at the Police Station.
5. Re: Update on MicroTime technical activities – At this time, the town office needs a new wireless router as there are serious network issues. FairPoint has been contacted to request this router. New server is not up yet as there are some other hardware issues that need to be corrected. Town Clerk's network turned out to be more complicated and is being re-designed for efficiency and security. Chairman McGinnity wants to know what the timeframe is for the new server. MicroTime will be contacted for that information and be expected to hold to that date.
6. Re: Resident Power- Chairman McGinnity explained that Resident Power is no longer brokering the electric supply. The town must choose a new supplier. After much research on different companies and suppliers and brokers, Chairman McGinnity highly recommends ENH. It appears to be the most stable company. Chairman McGinnity explained how the deregulation of PSNH evolved and why Resident Power failed as they had too many customers to handle. Resident Power was a third party broker. Now there are more companies offering electric suppliers. Selectman Moser will review ENH's terms and agreements. After more discussion, the Selectmen agreed in principal to switch to ENH for the electric supplier, provided that Selectman Moser is satisfied with the terms.

New Business:

1. Quarry Conservation Easement – After review of the draft conservation easement deed, Town Counsel William Drescher raised many concerns. Selectmen will

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address these concerns with the Conservation Commission at the Board's March 26th meeting. Chairman McGinnity cautioned against being hasty to accept the easement. The Board would like to take time to review all the points with Town Counsel and will set a meeting next week with Attorney Drescher to discuss his concerns for the easement. At this time the Board will not release any information from Attorney Drescher to the Conservation Commission.

2. Application for solar exemption: Shane Robinson, lot K-3. This will be reviewed by the town assessor.
3. Abatement application: DeForrest, lot D-2-1. This will be reviewed by town assessor.
4. From NH D.O.T.: FY 2013 Highway Block Grant total: \$64,148.45, over \$2,000 less than stated earlier in the year.
5. Police logs
6. From Fire Chief David Baker: confirmation that the house at 111 Emerson Lane was completely burned by the Fire Department on March 9th. This house will be removed from the property's assessment.
7. From NH D.E.S.: Wetland Minimum Impact Forestry Notification for lots: K-25, L-53, L-54 and L-21
8. Other:
 - Notice from Librarian that Jonathan Arsenault will be volunteering at the Library to accomplish his Citizenship in the Community Badge for Boy Scouts.
 - Notice of A. A. Milkovits' upcoming attendance at the LGC Academy's Government Accounting course. This is a 12 week course with two days of class and one webinar. The remainder of the time is for self study and quizzes.
 - Correspondence

1:51 PM Chairman McGinnity called a non-public session for a financial issue. Present: Selectmen and A.A. Milkovits. Issue had come up that the town could not send the full scheduled school payment of \$400,000 for March. A partial payment of \$300,000 will be sent to the school instead, for the March payment. Chairman McGinnity was very concerned for this change in the payment and how it would affect the school finances. It was explained that this is the time of year that the town applies for its TAN. The process usually takes several weeks and must be initiated by the Board's vote to apply for the TAN. This vote was done at the February 26th meeting. Next step in the process is to complete the MS-5 and the cash flow for the application. Once there is a settlement of the TAN the balance of the March school payment along with the full April payment will be sent to the school. Another problem is the school payment schedule; the payments are not level and the highest payments are at difficult times for the town when the town funds are at their lowest, making it difficult to budget. After more discussion, it was decided to send two memos to the school board and business manager with copies to the Superintendent: (1) to explain the shortfall March payment due to revenue shortfalls this time of year and (2) to ask for consideration on setting the payment schedule by spreading payments out in a more even fashion through the year. Session ended at 2:15 PM.

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Meeting adjourned at 2:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara L. Milkovits
Administrative Assistant