



Selectmen Meeting 7/24/2018  
Approved Minutes

**Present:** Selectmen Louise Lavoie, Charles Moser; Kathy Wile, Brenda Wiley; members of the public. Louise Lavoie acting chair in absence of Bernie O'Grady.

**Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Louise at 7:35 PM.

**Approvals:**

- Noted that accounts payable and payroll manifests were signed. There was an additional one check manifest approved later in the meeting for a 250<sup>th</sup> celebration expense.
- Minutes of 7/10/2018 were reviewed. Charlie motioned, second from Louise, to approve the minutes as written. Two votes to accept minutes of 7/10/2018 as written.  
Minutes of staff meeting of 7/17/2018 were also reviewed. Louise motioned, second from Charlie to approve minutes as written. Two votes to accept minutes of 7/24/2018 as written.
- An Intent to cut Timber on Lots F-24,26,27 and 53 was reviewed. Noted taxes were current, access from Brookline, Bill Downs the supervising forester and then approved.
- Town of Mason Updated Hazard Mitigation Plan was ready for approval. Louise noted it was the product of the efforts of many town employees and volunteers as well as NRPC. Both selectmen present signed, Town Clerk Deb Morrison also signed and affixed the Town seal.
- Signatures required on a NY Life Retirement Annuity account application on behalf of an employee. Signed by both selectmen present.

**New Business:**

- Nicole Ruggiero, her attorney Christopher Hawkins and his intern came forward with the purpose of finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding they are working on with BOS and Police Chief Maxwell. Points of discussion included parking lot attendant for cruise nights, clarifying that "grounds" is defined as the area outside of the building, the 30 day window of building inspection certification of the performance platform, and music on patio as opposed to within the building. Charlie maintained that the BOS is limited in ability to define things in any way other than the PB and ZBA had already done, and they would not undermine their work. He further stated the board's position that the MOU is not to be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

Atty Hawkins requested the Board sign the MOU with the proposed changes; they asked him to make the corrections, resend it to the office and all selectmen would review the new language and if I agreement would sign off before the next meeting, and ask Chief Maxwell to do the same. Important that all three (BOS) signatures appear on the document. Acting chair Lavoie spoke of the board's responsibility to handle complaints regarding the business, played an audio received by an abutter during last week's cruise night, recorded from the person's house at 10 PM, with loud music and the sound of loud vehicles accelerating. Nicole will address the car owners on cruise nights and otherwise comply with conditions of the PB, but that is all she can do.

Atty Hawkins will make the changes to the document as agreed, send to the office tomorrow for all parties to read and sign. Nicole will pay for the detail already provided as agreed.

- Town had received a letter from a property owner who wanted to donate parcel L-7 to the Town. It is under 3 acres, land locked, abuts another Town owned parcel, and has an assessed value of \$18,900. Both selectmen said they agree in spirit in accepting the donation, and (Charlie) will get advice on how to proceed from Atty Drescher.
- Establishment of an escrow account for Planning Board purposes was discussed. This request was made to Brenda Wiley by PB Chair Scott MacGarvey. Both Brenda and treasurer Dee Mitchell did not agree with the need, but selectmen thought the benefits of pre-paying fees outweighed the extra work involved and want the account established.
- The Town Clerk had received a letter from DOS/DMV asking to verify eligibility of a resident to establish a business at his residence in Mason. She passed it along to BOS, who discussed and decided that the best course of action would be to have the office invite the individual to come to the next meeting to discuss his plan, and they can then best advise him as to what the correct steps to take would be if exceptions were required.
- Complaint letter had been received; brief discussion validated the concern, ways to correct the process were discussed. Selectmen will follow up with the employee.

#### **Old Business:**

- HD Building Update from Bob Bergeron – George will be bringing in his equipment on Friday, and set to start on Monday. They replaced the problematic office window, and he was asked to talk to George about getting the cost of working around that adjusted. Insulation and the other supplies needed had been picked up, and he and Wally's crew were working on that. Gas company has been contacted to move the lines to allow the insulation to go on that side of the office. Electrician had been scheduled to re-wire some exterior lights as well. In short, ready to go. Bob was thanked for doing such a great job keeping that project on track.
- Vacation policy update was scheduled next for discussion, but the updated handbook emailed to selectmen could not be opened. Handbook will be resent, and the discussion will be moved to next meeting.

#### **Informational Items/Communication:**

Eversource representatives Elizabeth LaRocca, Elise Ward and GZA GeoEnvironmental representative Tracy Tarr, assigned to Eversource, were attending to present an overview of the transmission line work being done in Mason and surrounding communities. Most of the Mason portion involves installing grounding rings around the poles, and also replacing/grounding 2 poles. There will not be any new access roads constructed, landowners have received written notification. Ms LaRocca will email the BOS office with a copy of that notification as well as the start date for the Mason portion, which should be within a week. Apologies for lack of notification for the helicopter portion of the job.

#### **Public Forum:**

- Dotsie Millbrandt wanted to confirm that checks written for the 250<sup>th</sup> had come from the correct accounts – Brenda Wiley confirmed that was the case. Dotsie further said that she had heard that State Senator Avard wanted to present something from the Governor at the

opening ceremony. She wanted to be clear that the 250<sup>th</sup> committee did not want to politicize the event in any way.

- Dotsie asked Louise if she would represent the BOS at the opening ceremony at the cemetery, Louise will be happy to do that.
- Derek Mathieu came forward to inquire about getting a mailbox for his business, Contry Hill Farm, at Lot J-67, on Reed Rd. Short discussion validating the correct location, reason for the request, and decision made to contact the building inspector to measure out and assign the number.

Subject of another mailbox at 110 Reed Rd, a vacant lot was discussed. Owner had mentioned getting mail for his business there in the course of business with the tax collector. Selectmen and building inspector will follow up on that.

- Harry Spear reported that Forestry committee had met, and that Bob Larochelle had offered to be that committee. After confirming that it would not be a statutory conflict of interest to be on both conservation and forestry committees, selectmen agreed to sign appointment papers at the next meeting, and asked that Bob be there.
- Nicole Ruggiero and Atty Hawkins asked who the check for police detail should be made out to, and gave selectmen the check for detail already completed.

**Non-Public:**

**Adjourned:**

There being no other business, Louise motioned, second from Charlie to adjourn. Two votes to adjourn the meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 7:30 at the Mann House.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Wile  
Administrative Assistant

