

MINUTES *approved minutes*

Board of Selectmen Meeting: July 19, 2021

Present: Frank Emig, Ray Leonard, Jim Jennison, Mark McIntire, Larry LeClerk, Carole Wallace, Shirley and Dick Elsesser, Glenn Elsesser, Brenda Melius, Conan Cook, Merrill family, Jennifer Bland, Ray LaClair, Rob Vogel, Gregg Thibodeau, Shaun Relihan, Jack Reick

Approve minutes: BOS meeting July 12, 2021: Motion JJ/RL to approve, passed.

Bill manifest: Motion JJ/RL to approve with addition, passed.

Payroll manifest: Motion JJ/RL to approve, passed.

Highway Department Report:

1. Work update/plan: MM reported ditching and washout repairs continue, Bazin moving on to shimming Charlestown Road having completed Cold Pond Road, Black North hazard trees removed, Derry Hill patching and culvert replacement in progress.

Public Input:

1. Dick Elsesser and others spoke and a letter from Linda Christie was read in response to the recent warning of the disruption of mail delivery to residents on Derry Hill Road until the road is “fixed”. GE requested Town set Derry Hill as a priority. FE responded it is a priority and research is under way to establish budget figures. MM stated he is prepared to make repairs as soon as the postal service lets us know what it needs. FE will meet with Alstead postmaster. JJ repeated his assertion that the Town should bond reconstruction of the road and requested the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) be changed to delete its emphasis on the Town’s four major access roads which includes Beryl, Charlestown, Cold Pond and Crane Brook Roads. Motion JJ/FE to recommend the Planning Board make that change in the CIP, passed.
2. Jack Reick spoke in behalf of Shaun Relihan’s use of property on Hill Road for noncommercial car restoration. It was noted that following a complaint to the NH Department of Environmental Services the Town urged SR to become complaint as a junkyard. Failing that SR applied to the Planning Board as a garage and now has moved away from any commercial use of the property. It was noted that State statute classifies an accumulation of more than two unregistered vehicles as subject to junkyard regulation. SR has recently worked to reduce the number of vehicles on the site. There was consensus among the Selectmen that SR is making a concerted effort to move to noncommercial status and SR agreed to a site visit by RL as confirmation.
3. Gregg Thibodeau relayed that New Hampshire Electric Cooperative is poised to provide broad band to Acworth beginning late this year and completing in 2022. The company is working with FCC funding and no financial bonding will be required of the Town. The Town may need to apply for the American Recovery Plan funds for which it is eligible and designate them for the project. NHEC submitted an agreement for the Town to sign. There was consensus to request review by counsel.

Action items:

1. Building permits: Meadows residence, Lufkin Road: Motion JJ/RL to deny until a septic approval and subcontractor information can be provided, passed
2. Intent to Cut: Roy Farm: Motion JJ/RL to sign, passed.
3. Coffin Hill: An estimate of damages has been submitted by JP Trucking. Per counsel’s advice, there was consensus to forward the estimate to the logger.
4. Assessing:
 - a. Land Use Change Tax: Motion JJ/FE to sign levying the penalty for 5 properties in which land has been removed from Current Use, passed.
 - b. Reval: Draft preliminary values have been received from our assessors and letters will now go to property owners with their individual values and instructions for scheduling a hearing. Overall values have increased due to the real estate market and the cost of building supplies..

Other items:

1. Nonpublic per RSA 91-A:3.IIb: Motion FE/JJ to move to nonpublic, passed: FE, JJ, RL, 9:07PM, Returned to public session 9:20PM.
2. Next meeting August 2.

Meeting adjourned: 9:20PM; Respectfully submitted, Kathi Bradt