

Selectmen's Meeting  
September 19, 2005

The Selectmen met for their weekly meeting. Present were Selectmen Charles Cheney, Jon Homer, Charles Wheeler, and James McGarr. Selectman Johnson was not present. The Board spent the first half hour reviewing and signing the manifest. They also approved several Intents to Build and some Residency Applications.

The Board then met with Tax Collector Hannah Joyce to discuss properties that are in danger of being deeded. Hannah has set October 13th as the deeding date, and advised the Board that she is meeting with them now so they can go look at any properties so they can decide whether it would be a liability to take them over, or to go ahead and deed them to the Town. There were only two pieces of land up for deeding in Waterville Estates, and both owners have been notified several times, both by regular and certified mail. There are 19 properties up for deeding in Campton, and six of those on the list have agreements with the Town to make regular payments, and they have been doing this. Hannah has sent notices, both regular and certified mail to a number of people on the list, and many of them have indicated that they will pay before the deeding date. One property where the woman is in the hospital, the mortgage company has indicated that they will pay the taxes. There are also some properties where no contact has been made with the Tax Collector. A few of these located in the Six Flags Mobile Home Park, Hannah has been working with Park Owner, Robert VonHagel to resolve, and determine what kind of condition the mobile homes are in. One mobile home owner has had a problem trying to get the previous owner to give them a deed, and is working to get that accomplished. There is also a home owned by an older gentlemen from out of State, who has not contacted the office as of this date. These are the properties that the Selectmen need to go look at, and decide how to proceed. Hannah had prepared waivers for any properties that the Selectmen wish not to be deeded, and the Board decided to sign the ones for the people keeping their agreements and making their payments in a timely manner. The Board will meet again with Hannah before the final deeding date to see what remains outstanding and to determine what properties need to be looked at. Selectman McGarr complimented Hannah on her report, and indicated that it was very concise and easy to follow the way she put it together.

Hannah stayed on for a few minutes more to discuss an issue we had with a taxpayer last week. Ann Marie had spoken to the gentlemen when he came over to make a complaint to her about why his personal check was not accepted for a payment of delinquent taxes, and had indicated that he wanted an answer, and was going to contact his lawyer. Ann Marie requested that he give her a week to look into the matter, and she went to Hannah for her assistance. The issue comes down to this. The gentlemen was scheduled to have a tax lien put on his property if the taxes were not paid by a certain date, and time before the tax lien is executed. Notices are sent both regular and certified mail, which he received, and the notice clearly states that after a certain date, personal checks cannot be accept, and a person must pay by certified check, money order or cash. Hannah explained that when she went to any Tax Collector's conferences or workshop, this is what the Tax Collectors were advised

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to do in the event that someone's check did not clear the bank and the lien had not been placed, the Town would not be able to go back and execute the lien. This is particularly important when we receive out of State payments which Hannah indicated that even if the check bounced, and the Police pursued the complaint for her, it is a lot more complicated when it is an out of state bank. She had drafted a letter to the taxpayer explaining the procedure. The Board reviewed the letter, and agreed that it was appropriate, and agreed with the policy in place.

The meeting was running a little early so the Board took time to speak with Ed Hubbard who was present at the meeting. He had some questions about what encompassed the bounds of Sugar Bush Drive, and also had a question about some timber cut on a lot on this road. Ann Marie will get a copy of the road deed, and get back to Mr. Hubbard on the matter.

The Board then met with Interim Road Agent Dick Giehl. Dick advised the Board that he had been riding around looking over the roads, and that a lot of the roads are in bad shape. Some of them are almost back to dirt that were formerly paved roads. His plan is to do the best that the Highway Department can do to get the roads in decent shape for the winter. This includes some grading, fixing of culverts, and patching pot holes. He indicated that Makie has been a great help. Ann Marie gives Makie a list generated from the phone calls received at the Town Office, and Dick oversees what Makie is doing. Dick also plans on working with Makie on some of these projects as well. He indicated that Makie would like to take two weeks off in March, and he did not anticipate that this would be a problem as he can use Ooley as a emergency back up. Dick is also doing an inventory of the Town's equipment. He needs to get some of it stored for the winter, and will store some of it in the basement of the Fire Department. There are some dead batteries, and tires that need to be taken to the Transfer Station. He also indicated that Cliff Eastman had advised him about a culvert that had gotten crushed over the summer when PSNH had done some work on their substation on that road, and that will need to be taken care of before winter. Selectman McGarr mentioned a problem on Bog Road where the water runs over the road, and then freezes every winter. This will be added to the list. Dick indicated that all the vehicles have been serviced and passed inspection. He has placed a maintenance book in each truck to keep track of what is done on what piece of equipment. He also indicated that the Board needs to put some money into Capital Improvements for the roads and equipment when they get into putting a new budget together. He also mentioned that he borrowed Plymouth's roller to do some work on Randall Road, and it worked great at compacting the dirt. Wanosha Trail needs to be swept, and he is looking into borrowing a broom from Holderness to do this. The Board and Dick discussed the idea of a vibrator roller as a useful piece of equipment to have. Makie has began grading over at Windmill and will be heading over to Bog Road during the week. The Board also discussed Cindy's Lane which they had gone over to look at the past few weeks. Selectman Homer felt that there were some erosion control issues that still need to be addressed. Selectman Cheney felt that with the grade of this road that it would never meet Town Road standards, but the Board was also concerned that water from the road

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did not do damage on Pond Road which is a Town Road.

Nancy Byerly who was present as she covers the meeting for the local newspaper, questioned Dick Giehl, who is a Fire Commissioner, if he was aware of the hole in the Thornton Fire Station's roof. Nancy indicated that it had been discussed at last week's meeting, which Dick had not been able to make, that there was some concern that the Town of Thornton was not going to repair this. Ann Marie indicated that she remembered seeing a notice in the newspaper from the Town of Thornton looking for bids on the roof. The Board asked her to contact Thornton, and see what she can find out. Nancy also brought up an issue about the ambulance service where both of the Town of Plymouth's ambulances were out on a call, and they called in the Town of Waterville Valley to respond to an elderly woman in Thornton, and then the woman received a bill. Nancy did not think this was right as we have an agreement with Plymouth for ambulance service. Selectman Cheney works in Waterville Valley, and he will ask the Public Safety Director what he knows about it.

The Board then went on to review their correspondence. Ann Marie advised the Board that she had sent a letter to Leslie Fox of Red Fox Realty which the Police Department had hand delivered in which she was told that her sign was in violation and had to be removed by September 16th. The sign is still up. Ann Marie spoke with Attorney Tim Bates, and he suggested the best way to proceed with this, and the least expensive for the Town would be to have the Police Department take it to the Plymouth District Court. Attorney Bates was willing to assist Chief Warn if he needed any advice as to how to handle this procedure. Selectman Wheeler inquired as to whether she should be contacted one more time. Ann Marie explained that we have written her before, the Compliance Officer has gone down to speak to her, and we have called her on the phone. Ann Marie also spoke with her attorney on Thursday, and explained the situation. The Board agreed that we should have the Police Department proceed with a summons to the District Court.

The Board was still running ahead of schedule so when John Kelley came in who was scheduled for 9 p.m., they proceeded to meet with him earlier. Mr. Kelley indicated that he did not feel that the Board understood his questions in the letter he had sent. He wanted to know if lot 9A could be released as it was released separately at one time from the other lots, and he also wanted to know if the lot could be used by the potential buyer for storage of equipment as it is a non-residential use. Selectman Wheeler indicated that personally he would not agree to release this lot as Albert had never paid what he owed the Town for this land when he purchased the tax lien. Selectmen McGarr indicated that the Board realizes that this agreement is now probably null and void, but Albert has broke this agreement, build an illegal well, and has shown no motivation to improve Beebe River. Mr. Kelley indicated that he understood where the Selectmen were coming from, but he also indicated that Albert does want to complete the road, and he is trying to complete the sale of this lot for him. The lot is being sold for \$65,000, and he does not even know how much the mortgage company will take of this money. Selectman Homer indicated that the Town needs to see something

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positive from Albert Nault, and that has not occurred. His recent comments at the Special Town Meeting were in the same vain as blaming the Town for problems that he has created. Selectman Homer indicated that he is on the ZBA as well, and Albert has come forward with different plans, and just does not follow thorough. Selectman McGarr told Mr. Kelley he hates to see him wasting his time. The ZBA would have to be the ones to determine whether the property could be used for this purpose. The consensus of the Board was that no lots from the subdivision will be released until the road is built as this was the reason as to why the letter was placed at the Registry not to release the lots.

After Mr. Kelley left, the Board continued with their correspondence. Ann Marie indicated that she had sent a response to Attorney Cowie about the Town not maintaining or being responsible for the roads at Beebe River, but Attorney Cowie also had wanted to discussed other issues about the District's handling of their books, the grant etc. Belinda Davis, the treasurer for the District had been in last week, and was concerned about having to go to Court with Mr. Welsh's attorney because of public information the District has not provided to him. She indicated that she had no idea of what paperwork he was looking for as George Romaine has everything. The Selectmen decided that they need to sit down again and discuss with Attorney Bates what can be done about the Beebe River Village District. The Board agreed to meet with Tim at his convenience. Ann Marie will call him.

The Board then reviewed the minutes from last week's meeting. Selectman McGarr indicated that he had two corrections he wished to make on page 3 of the minutes. One to strike out part of a sentence, and the other to indicate that Selectman Cheney had been present at the meeting with the Pike representatives. He then made a motion to approve them with these changes, the motion was seconded by Selectman Homer, and the Board voted to approve the minutes with corrections. Ann Marie also distributed copies of some sealed minutes that the Board wanted to review to see if they should remain sealed. They agreed that they would read them over, and determine what to do at next week's meeting. Selectman Homer also made a motion to formally resume weekly meeting again after the summer months, starting with next week, September 26th. This motion was seconded by Selectman McGarr, and the meetings will now be back to once a week. Selectman Homer also suggested that the Board start working on any special warrant articles that they want to pursue before the deadlines for the coming year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote

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Administrative Assistant