

Selectmen's Meeting  
August 29, 2005

The Selectmen met at 7 p.m. in the Town Office for their regular meeting. Present were Selectmen James McGarr, Donald Johnson, Jr., Jon Homer and Charles Cheney. Selectman Wheeler was out of Town tonight. The Board spent the first half hour reviewing and signing the manifest. They also signed several residency applications, two Intents to Build, and a current use application.

At 7:30 p.m. acting Chairman, Donald Johnson, Jr. called the meeting to order. Road Agent Ray Mardin was scheduled to talk with the Board about some road issues. Ray handed a letter to Selectman Johnson and indicated that he is resigning as the Town's Road Agent. He indicated that he cannot keep everyone happy, and he is tired of arguing and fighting and is tired of the politics. He indicated that the Town has grown with more roads to be taken care of and most people don't care that there is only one person to take care of them only that they pay a lot of taxes and their roads need fixing. Ray indicated that he does not enjoy coming to work anymore, and 14 years is enough. He also felt that the Selectmen, based on discussions he has had with them over the past few months, are not satisfied with the way he is running the department. Selectman Cheney indicated that perhaps the Board should have gotten an extra person sooner, and tried harder to get the garage built. Selectman Homer indicated that he wondered if they could talk things out, but indicated that he understood if Ray felt that he had enough, and wanted to quit. His resignation is effective immediately. The Board asked him if he had any ideas of who might be willing to fill in for him until the election in March. He indicated that he thought that Dick Giehl may be interested in doing it for the Town. Selectman Cheney made a motion to accept this resignation with regrets, and it was seconded by Selectman Homer, and voted in the affirmative by all.

After Ray left the Board discussed how they would handle things for the time being. Selectman Cheney agreed to be on call for emergency road problems, and the Board will meet with Dick Giehl as soon as possible to discuss a temporary fill-in situation until the March election. Dick has been plowing for the Town for a number of years so he is very familiar with how the winter operations run. The Highway trucks are all over at the salt shed. Ann Marie will also talk with Mackie Avery tomorrow to see if he is staying on, and what work he has lined up that he and Ray have discussed.

The Board then continued on with the meeting and began to review correspondence. Ann Marie advised them that Barry VanDeMoere requested that the road inspect his road off of Puckerbrush Road which he is planning to pave within the next week. Ann Marie indicated that the Board had given the snow plowing contractors an increase of \$2.00 last winter to cover the increase in gas, but Eddie Pattee had never been given any kind of increase for the use of his truck. He currently charges \$15.00 an hour. Selectman Johnson made a

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motion to increase the cost to \$17.00 an hour, and Selectman Homer seconded it. It was voted in the affirmative by all. Ann Marie also gave the Board a copy of a letter she drafted for the Board to send to Pike about whether they will sell us some land or not, and request that they put their answer in writing. Each Board Member took a copy of the letter, and will look it over, and decide if they want to make any changes before sending it out. Ann Marie mentioned sending it certified mail as well. Selectman McGarr suggested sending it Federal Express as people open that kind of mail a lot quicker. The Board reviewed several pieces of correspondence with Ann Marie including letters of thanks to the Fire Department from David Hilliard for putting out a fire at the Transfer Station, and a letter of commendation to Officer Shortt from Chief Warn. There were also several workshops and conferences coming up that Ann Marie advised the Board about.

The minutes of the August 8th meeting were reviewed. Selectman Cheney made a motion to approve them as written, and this was seconded by Selectman McGarr, and voted in the affirmative by all.

Under other business, town resident and taxpayer Dick Szeliga spoke about the tires that KC Tire accepts at his facility, and indicated that he should give receipts as he learned at a recent Pemi Baker Solid Waste District meeting that if something is not properly disposed of the responsibility goes back to the original owner. The Board indicated that this is an independent business, and the State oversees it, and they have to move out so many tires, and can only accept so many according the State regulations. Mr. Szeliga also mentioned a friend of his who knows someone at Pike who said that he has not heard from the Town. Selectman Johnson indicated that he has spoken to Derek Hill on several occasions, and Selectman Homer also indicated that he has in the past contacted Pike personnel as well. Mr. Szeliga also suggested the Board take Pike land by eminent domain. Selectman McGarr explained that perhaps he did not understand that eminent domain is a very lengthily and legally expensive process, and the owner must be paid a fair market value.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote  
Administrative Assistant