

# MINUTES OF HAVERHILL SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 1, 2015

Draft Subject to Review, Correction and Approval at Following Meeting

**Board Members Present:** Wayne Fortier, Tom Friel, Lynn Wheeler, Rick Ladd and Robert Roudebush

**Town Manager:** Glenn English

**Administrative Assistant/Finance Officer:** Jo Lacaillade

**Selectboard Clerk:** Karen Hyde

**Members of the Public Present:** Tim Northcott, Assessor, Darwin Clogston, Steve Robbins and Ed Ballam – Journal Opinion

## Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Fortier called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

## Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Robert Roudebush made a motion to accept the consent agenda; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

**Agenda Approval (additions/deletions completed by Board consent):** Tom Friel asked that a possible revision to the Policy on Accepting New Roads be added to New Business. Rick Ladd made a motion to accept the amended Agenda; seconded by Robert Roudebush and carried unanimously.

## Scheduled Public Appearance(s):

- **Tim Northcott-Abatements:** The Board discussed the two abatements for River Meadow Campground that were tabled at the last meeting. Lynn Wheeler recused herself. Rick Ladd stated that he had no financial obligation. Tim recommended reductions on Map 205, Lot 14 and Map 206, Lot 128. Robert Roudebush made the motion to accept the recommendation to reduce Map 205, Lot 14 by \$172,500; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously. Robert Roudebush made the motion to accept the recommendation to reduce Map 206, Lot 128 by \$9,600; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously. Lynn Wheeler rejoined the Board at 6:20 pm. Tim also presented Map 409, Lot 21 (399 Clark Pond Road) for reconsideration. He had recommended denial, but had since viewed the property. He was now recommending approval of the abatement, which was a slight reduction. Robert Roudebush made the motion to accept the recommendation to reduce Map 409, Lot 21; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously.
- **Steve Robbins-Hazardous and Dilapidated Buildings:** Mr. Robbins gave the Board an update on the hazardous and dilapidated buildings in Woodsville. All of the buildings that he spoke about are unoccupied. He presented five properties that he considered top priority. The number one priority was the building at 2 Chapel Street, which is owned by Tom Patton. The building is falling in and the windows and doors are not secure. He did not go inside but there was an odor coming from the building. Steve cited two RSAs that could possibly be applied to this or other situations. Lynn Wheeler commented that Mr. Patton has had the same problems with property in Orford. The second property on Steve's list was 8 Walnut Street, which he believed the Town took for back taxes. With research, it was found that the Town did not own this property. This building is boarded up. The third property was on Gibson Place. This building's doors and windows were intact but part of the roof has caved in. The fourth property was 12 Nelson Street, which has been boarded up and secure. Steve commented that the biggest problem with this property was the cat population. The final property was the green house at the corner of Mill and Perkins Street. The owner talks about fixing it up, but it has not been. Chairman Fortier asked Steve why he didn't go into the house on Chapel Street. Steve responded that he didn't think that he could. He stated that he could go on the property, but wasn't sure if he could go into a

building. He also stated that he wasn't sure if it was safe to go inside. Lynn asked if Steve had found any animals and Steve said he hadn't seen any, but he could smell them. Chairman Fortier stated that the Board needed to do more research and then come up with a plan and strategy for dealing with these buildings. Steve thought that the Board should come up with an ordinance along the Health, Life and Safety issues. Chairman Fortier stated that hazardous and dilapidated buildings were one of the Board's goals. Rick Ladd asked if fire safety in Concord could be contacted to find out if they have ever had successful enforcement of RSA 154:20 and if so, how did they did it and how long it took.

**Public Hearing: None**

**Town Manager's Report:** TM English reported that the Town's partners in the Page Road culvert project were interested in doing an engineering study on the Stonecrest culvert. They have already put aside \$15,000 to do the engineering study and \$45,000 for construction. They really want to do the Stonecrest project. Robert Roudebush made the motion to authorize the engineering study; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

**Pending (Old) Business:**

- **Advisory Highway Committee-Mission Statement:** Chairman Fortier handed out the advertisement that was placed in the newspaper and a draft submitted by Robert Roudebush of the Mission Statement. Lynn was under the impression that the purchasing of equipment was to be in the Mission Statement. The Board was in agreement that they had discussed that. Rick Ladd thought that there needed to be a definition of the Highway Advisory Committee added to the Mission Statement. It was the consensus of the Board that there would be another draft presented at the next meeting on June 15, 2015.
- **Health Officer Report on property in Woodsville:** Steve Robbins reported on this earlier when he talked about the hazardous and dilapidated buildings.

**New Business:**

- **Junk vehicle order to abate:** TM English presented letters concerning two sites in Town that have been long-standing problems with accumulation of unregistered junk vehicles. One is on County Road owned by Kevin Wright and the other is on Benton Road owned by Brushwood Realty. TM English drove by the property on County Road and there were five unregistered vehicles right on the road, three of which were next to the travel lane. The other location on Benton Road are off the road, but still visible from the road. TM English stated that the Town does not license junkyards and neither of these locations are a recycling center. Rick Ladd was concerned about the property on County Road and the safety of people traveling on that road. TM English commented that if the certified letters fail, there are options available to the Board, such as going to court. Robert Roudebush made the motion to issue the written notification; seconded by Tom Friel; Rick Ladd abstained. The motion passed.
- **Request to use Town Property-Tent:** The Board received a letter from the Town of Bath requesting the use of the Town-owned tent for their 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. Robert Roudebush made the motion to allow the use of the Town-owned tent for the Bath 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, with the condition that it is returned in the same condition as when they received it and if damaged, the borrower is responsible; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously.
- **Request to use Town Property-Railroad Park:** AA Lacaillade presented an application from a group that is touring around the state to use Railroad Park. Lynn Wheeler made the motion to allow the group to use Railroad Park for a \$50 usage fee, which will cover electricity and the usage of the porta-potty, along with a \$100 security deposit; seconded by Robert Roudebush and carried unanimously.
- **Utility Abatements:** AA Lacaillade presented the utility abatements. Skip Sansoucy sent letters to the Town advising that the utility abatements be addressed and denied. Tom Friel made the motion to deny all of the utility abatements per advice from the Town's utility assessor; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously.
- **Revision to Policy on Accepting New Roads:** Tom Friel presented three (3) possible revisions to the Town's Policy for Accepting Certain Private Roads for Town Maintenance, specifically the Acceptance

Process. He felt that there needed to be further clarification. He was concerned about the passage of time between the construction of the road and the acceptance by the Town and what may have happened in the interim. Robert Roudebush made the motion to engage Attorney Walter Mitchell of Laconia to look over Tom's options and the Town's subdivision regulations; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

**Commission/Committee Reports:**

- **Fire Committee Report:** TM English and Rick Ladd both attended the meeting. TM English handed out notes from the meeting. The meeting was in regard to the purchase of a new truck for Haverhill Corner. Rick commented that the presentation was thorough, knowledgeable and they had done their homework. TM English also commented that the presentation was very good.
- **Heritage Commission Resignation-James Hobbs:** The Board had received a letter of resignation from the Heritage Commission Chairman James Hobbs. Chairman Fortier commented that Mr. Hobbs had totally committed himself to the Hazen Property. Robert Roudebush made the motion to accept with regret James Hobbs's letter of resignation; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously. TM English would send out letters of thanks to both Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Daley.

**Correspondence:** Chairman Fortier reported that the Board had received a letter of thanks from the Good Shepherd Ecumenical Food Pantry Board of Directors. There was also a letter from HealthTrust regarding a Health Summit on September 29, 2015.

**Comments of the Public:** Darwin Clogston asked for a copy of the draft of the Highway Advisory Committee Mission Statement. Chairman Fortier stated that what they had was just a draft and he would see that Mr. Clogston received a copy when it was finalized.

**Comments of the Town Manager/Administrative Assistant-Finance Officer:** None

**Comments of Selectboard Members:** Lynn asked about the first Railroad Park concert and AA Lacaillade commented that it was very well-attended. Peter Conrad and Dave Joslin, as Friends of Recreation, helped with the concessions. Chairman Fortier stated that the Board did not act on the reappointment of the Chairman of the Planning Board. It was decided that it was still unresolved and it would be discussed at the next Board meeting on June 15, 2015.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Robert Roudebush made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and all approved. Chairman Fortier adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Hyde