

MINUTES OF HAVERHILL SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 27, 2016
Draft Subject to Review, Correction and Approval at Following Meeting

Board Members Present: Wayne Fortier, Tom Friel, Mike Bonanno and Chris Luurtsema

Board Member Excused: Darwin Clogston

Interim Town Manager: Jo Lacaillade

Administrative Assistant/Finance Officer: Jo Lacaillade

Selectboard Clerk: Karen Hyde

Members of the Public Present: Tim Northcott, Leslie Waterman, Howard Hatch, Charlie Chandler, Sam Fouad and Ed Ballam – JO

Call Meeting to Order:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval (additions/deletions completed by Board consent): Mike Bonanno made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Chris Luurtsema and carried unanimously.

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

Scheduled Public Appearance(s):

- **Charlie Chandler-Candidate for Senate District 2:** Mr. Chandler is currently a Warren Selectman and is a candidate for Senate District 2, which is currently held by Jeanie Forrester, who is now running for Governor. Mr. Chandler did a brief review of his background and political career. Mr. Chandler commented that being a Selectman, he is aware how important it is to have a relationship with the local elected officials at the State level. He has held appointed or elected positions in the State of New Hampshire for 45 years. Chris asked Mr. Chandler how he proposed reducing the property tax burden. Mr. Chandler responded that New Hampshire has an obligation to provide an adequate education to all pupils in New Hampshire. The Legislature has said that \$3,500 is financially what is adequate. He went on to say that approximately 80% of a property tax bill goes to funding public education. The actual cost per student is between \$13,500 and \$17,500, so the State of New Hampshire has to face up to that and assist with more funds. He was going to work to see that the \$3,500 is changed and it is much, more fair to the towns. Mr. Chandler thanked the Board for the opportunity to introduce himself.
- **Leslie Waterman-Update on Patton Property:** Ms. Waterman was in attendance for an update on the Patton property, which is next door to her property. She wanted to make sure that the Board was aware that Mr. Patton was not paying his taxes. She had a tax bill from January and she also had one printed out on June 21. Mr. Patton now owes \$10,783.72 in taxes between the two properties he owns in Woodsville. Mr. Patton also owes Woodsville Water & Light \$3,555.75 and has a lien through the Woodsville Water & Light for \$2,846.55. Leslie commented that this was another frustration for her because she pays her taxes on time. She was wondering if the Board ever considered a tax sale on his property, especially the Ammonoosuc property. Chairman Fortier commented that, unfortunately, Mr. Patton knows how to play the game and has been playing it for a while. He pays just enough to keep the Town from legally taking the property through the lien process. Chairman Fortier went on to say that the Town's Attorney is looking into this and the Town is going to petition the Superior Court for an Administrative Order to inspect the building. In conjunction

with that, Steve Robbins, the Health Officer, will be on board with that. The purpose of that is to enter the inside of the building, determine what violations might pertain to either Life Safety or Fire Codes or health hazards. If deficiencies are found in those areas, the Town will have the authority to act on that. The Health Officer can do so much; the Fire Department has a great amount of power if there are violations of Fire and Life Safety Codes. Chairman Fortier commented that he knows that it is frustrating for Leslie, but this will be the quickest and most effective way that the Town can tackle the problem and get Mr. Patton to “move off the dime”. Leslie asked how long Mr. Patton could go without paying his taxes. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that as long as Mr. Patton doesn’t owe more than two years in lien. He has to have two years of lien before the Board can consider taking the property. He usually keeps it out of “dutch”. The Tax Collector usually brings delinquent taxes to the Board but she hasn’t done that in quite some time. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that the Town doesn’t typically do tax sales but they will issue a tax collector deed in some cases to take a property over. The Town then has to hold it for a certain amount of time before they can do anything with it because the owner has the opportunity to come back and reclaim it by paying some fees. Leslie then asked that the Administrative Order would be faster and Interim TM Lacaillade stated that that was what they were hoping for. Leslie then asked how long Mr. Patton would have to fix the problems and Chairman Fortier stated that it would be up to the Court.

Public Hearing: None

Interim Town Manager’s Report: Interim TM Lacaillade stated that the Clark Pond Road bids were out. The Page Road project is set to start about July 5th. The RFP for the Stonecrest Project has been released. The Airport Beacon public hearing is set for Wednesday, July 13th at 7 PM. At the next Selectboard meeting on July 11, there will be a presentation from Regan Pride and the two local vendors to talk about the possible options for recycling. The Household Hazardous Waste Day is Saturday, July 9 at the Robert E. Clifford Building from 9-12. The Finance Officer/Administrative Assistant position was offered to Jennifer Collins and she has accepted. She will join the staff on July 11, 2016. The employment advertisement will go out in the near future to replace Karen Hyde, who is retiring in early September. Chairman Fortier asked if Cindy Frazer from Monroe was interested in a joint effort with recycling. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that they perhaps are. She went on to say that Monroe currently has a recycling center, but it is open 24 hours a day, which is costing them a lot of money.

Pending (Old) Business:

- **Reminder of Brushwood Realty Inspection-July 5, 10 am:** Interim TM Lacaillade commented that this was just a reminder for the July 5th Brushwood Realty Inspection at 10 AM. Chairman Fortier asked if it could be more than one Selectman and Interim TM Lacaillade stated that it was the Town Selectmen and/or Town Manager shall have the right to enter the property. Chairman Fortier asked if anyone was going to be available on July 5th. Mike wasn’t sure if he was going to be back from Boston and Tom had to check his calendar.

New Business:

- **Abatements-Tim Northcott:** Tim Northcott, the Town’s assessor, presented his abatement recommendations to the Board. Interim TM Lacaillade explained the abatement process for Chris as this was his first time dealing with them.
 - (1) Mike Bonanno made the motion to grant the Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC (53 Simonds Road, Map 202, Lot 127) abatement as recommended; seconded by Wayne Fortier and carried unanimously.
 - (2) Chris Luurtsema made the motion to grant the Jessica Desilets (54 Lily Lane, Map 417, Lot 24) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.
 - (3) Mike Bonanno made the motion to grant the Sondra Johnstone Revocable Trust (24 Railroad Street, Map 101, Lot 158) abatement as recommended; seconded by Tom Friel; Chris Luurtsema opposed; the motion passed.
 - (4) Tom Friel made the motion to deny the Paul and Lisa Lettieri (433 Swiftwater Circle, Map 203, Lot 203) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.

- (5) Mike Bonanno made the motion to grant the Michael and Shalai Luca (1876 Mt. Moosilauke Highway, Map 421, Lot 114) abatement as recommended; seconded by Wayne Fortier and carried unanimously.
- (6) Mike Bonanno made the motion to deny the Daniel and Janet McFaul (610 Country Land Drive, Map 417, Lot 119) abatement as recommended; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.
- (7) Tom Friel made the motion to deny the Steven and Tina Mohr (399 Clark Pond Road, Map 409, Lot 21) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.
- (8) Chris Luurtsema made the motion to grant the Jesse Prater (267 Lakeside Drive, Map 201, Lot 205) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.
- (9) This parcel and the next are currently under appeal with the New Hampshire BTLA. There is a hearing scheduled for October 11, 2016. Pending the hearing outcome, Tim recommends denial of both parcels. Mike Bonanno made the motion to deny the River Meadow Campground, LLC (3125 Dartmouth College Highway, Map 205, Lot 14) abatement as recommended; seconded by Wayne Fortier and carried unanimously.
- (10) Chris Luurtsema made the motion to deny the River Meadow Campground, LLC (33 Hazen Drive, Map 206, Lot 128) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.
- (11) Tom Friel made the motion to grant the Elizabeth Ann Tyler (244 Clark Pond Road, Map 410, Lot 39.1) abatement as recommended; seconded by Mike Bonanno and carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Howard Hatch commented that last year, he ran for Trustee of the Trust Funds because at budget time, he had questions on what amounts were in the Trust Funds and how they were used. Charter Trust takes care of investing and there used to be a check cut at the end of the year to cover the costs of that. A year ago, they voted as a Town to do it differently. The money is taken out of each item for taking care of each account. The \$150,000 for the roads is put in escrow, but at the end of the year, there isn't \$150,000 because of the fees. They are losing interest on that money, plus paying someone to manage it. Howard commented that Scott Horne will be meeting with Charter Trust. Tom asked Howard if they were losing money and Howard said that they all were. Interim TM Lacaillade commented that there wasn't anything that could be done under current law. Howard stated that the Trustees were going to do everything they could to find out if everything is legal.

Howard's second issue was that in 2011, an Economic Development Committee was established with 43 members. Over the years, there hasn't been a posted meeting since 2013. The last two meetings, the minutes were pulled off the website and nothing has been done. He thought they were going places with it but if nothing is going to be done, he would like to see the Committee abolished. Howard also hoped that the Board would be firm on the parcel of land that is in contention with Mountain Lakes. He didn't want to see that piece of land go back to Mountain Lakes and still not be on the tax rolls. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that that lot is on the Agenda for the next meeting. Howard thanked the Board.

New Business (continued):

- **Utility Abatements:** Interim TM Lacaillade stated that she had sent the Board an e-mail with Skip Sansoucy's recommendation regarding the utility abatements. He recommends denying the abatements. Chris Luurtsema made the motion to deny all of the utility abatements per advice from the Town's utility assessor; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.
- **Primex-Worker Comp and PLIT CAP agreements:** Interim TM Lacaillade stated that the Town has been with Primex for the last few years for these two insurances. NHMA has gotten out of the insurance field as of July 1 of this year. Chairman Fortier read the resolution that was required to enter Primex Property and Liability Contribution Assurance Program (CAP). Tom Friel made the motion to go with Primex with a two-year contract; seconded by Mike Bonanno; Chris Luurtsema opposed. The motion passed.
- **Clark Pond Road Posting-No Thru Trucks:** Interim TM Lacaillade stated that the Advisory Highway Committee was requesting that Clark Pond Road be posted to "No Thru Trucks" due to the amount of funds being spent on fixing the road. Mike Bonanno made the motion to post Clark Pond Road to No Thru Trucks; seconded by Chris Luurtsema and carried unanimously.
- **North Country Council Rep:** Chairman Fortier commented that, in the past, Mr. English attended the North Country Council meetings. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that Mr. English was on a lot of Committees with

North Country Council but this particular rep would be attending monthly meetings. Tom stated that this item be tabled until the next meeting when Darwin Clogston was in attendance.

- **North Haverhill Fair License:** Mike Bonanno made the motion to issue the annual North Haverhill Fair License; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

Commission/Committee Reports: None

Correspondence: None

Comments of the Public: None

Comments of the Interim Town Manager/Administrative Assistant-Finance Officer: Interim TM Lacaillade had a housekeeping issue which the Board could deal with after the meeting.

Comments of Selectboard Members: Tom asked if arrangements had been made to meet with Mountain Lakes. Mike stated that he went to Mountain Lakes' Commissioners meeting and brought this issue up. There has been no response to this. Interim TM Lacaillade commented that Jeff Page has requested that the Board not meet with anyone until he has had a chance to address the Board at the next meeting. There was a brief discussion about indemnification. Interim TM Lacaillade stated that at the Precinct level, they indemnify every year. But she believes that action was taken by this Board several years ago where they don't have to do this every year. She needed to look up this issue.

Adjourn Meeting: Mike Bonanno made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Tom Friel and all approved. Chairman Fortier adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Hyde