

**MINUTES OF HAVERHILL SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING**

**Monday, May 4, 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:** Michael Dannehy, Darwin Clogston and Ed Ballam – Journal Opinion

**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):** Robert Roudebush made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously.

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

**Scheduled Public Appearance(s):**

- **Appointment to Heritage Commission-Michael Dannehy:** Michael Dannehy was interviewed by the Board as an appointee to the Heritage Commission. Mr. Dannehy also serves on the Haverhill Conservation Commission. He would like to offer his services in finding a solution to the dilapidated housing in Woodsville. Lynn Wheeler spoke very highly of Mr. Dannehy. Robert Roudebush commented that he was pleased to meet Mr. Dannehy and felt that he would be a good addition to the group. Chairman Fortier thanked Mr. Dannehy for his service throughout the years. Rick Ladd thanked Mr. Dannehy for taking on this job as Heritage Commission member. Lynn Wheeler made the motion to appoint Mr. Dannehy to the Heritage Commission; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously. Mr. Dannehy will come in and get sworn in by Town Clerk.

**Public Hearing: None**

**Town Manager's Report:**

TM English reported that the dirt roads in Town are in better condition than expected. He also commented that the Road Agent feels that, within the next week or two, the road limit signs would be pulled. The Road Agent would go road-by-road and pull the signs when the roads are ready. TM English also reported that there was a great opportunity for another culvert job, which would be subject to grant funding. He reviewed the Page Road culvert with the Board, which was 75% funded with grant money and 25% from Town appropriation. He was contacted by the Watershed Council, who would like to do another culvert project with the Town of Haverhill. They have an inventory of culverts to determine where there might be an impediment to fish passage. There is new legislation from the Wetlands folks that future construction of culverts and/or bridges are to take into account animal travel. He was happy to report that the Stonecrest culvert was on the list, which had been discussed previously. Lynn asked what fish were in the stream and TM English reported that there were trout in the stream.

TM English also reported that he has been trying to schedule a meeting of the Fire Equipment Review Committee. He thought that the group had agreed on May 27 at 7:00 pm at the JRM Building. The Haverhill Corner Fire Chief had information that he wanted to provide to the Committee about their next purchase. This is the only piece of fire equipment in the foreseeable future of the three departments that needs to be replaced. TM

English also commented that Board members would like to meet again with the Woodsville Precinct Commissioners to revisit the Life Safety and Fire Code inspections. Woodsville Precinct has meetings on May 5, 2015 and May 19, 2015. TM English e-mailed the Commissioners several days ago and asked them which meeting they would prefer the Board members attend but had not heard back. He thought that the meeting would probably be May 19.

### **Pending (Old) Business:**

- **Life Safety Inspections:** Chairman Fortier asked TM English for an update on this item. TM English commented that they were stalled on this issue. There is disagreement with the Woodsville Fire Chief about reimbursement for inspections. He handed out a form that Rick Ladd had constructed for fire inspections. TM English commented that hours should ideally be tied to a particular inspection and have some kind of limit to the amount of hours involved with these efforts and how much is going to be reimbursed. The Board needs to come up with an inspection form and reimbursement invoice that is acceptable. Rick Ladd did a brief overview of the form that TM English handed out. Lynn asked what buildings would be inspected. Rick stated that Life Safety inspections would be done on three or more family dwellings, commercial/industrial buildings and institutional buildings, not single-family or duplex residential. TM English clarified that Life Safety Code only applies to the buildings just spoken about and Fire Code applies to any building. Rick commented that when the Board has their meeting with the Woodsville Commissioners, he would like to have a draft of the reimbursement form available. It was the consensus of the Board that no invoices would be paid until the reimbursement form has been approved by all.
- **Health Issues and Housing:** Chairman Fortier commented that Jim Hobbs came before the Board about a month or so ago about two dilapidated buildings in Woodsville. Chairman Fortier thought that Mr. Hobbs was a little disheartened that the Board did not take any action. TM English and AA Lacaillade had informed the Board members that the property owner in question was in arrears to the Town for \$8700 in taxes and approximately \$14,000 in water/sewer bills to Woodsville Water & Light. Chairman Fortier commented that it really isn't just two houses in Town; it is several. He thinks the Board needs to come up with a comprehensive plan and act upon it. The Board has discussed this problem several times. Lynn Wheeler commented that there was an article in the May/June issue of Town & City about a town administrator in Pittsfield and he talks about some of the things he did about this problem since he became a town administrator. He talks about taking property by tax deed that required eviction and demolishing a building under RSA 155-B. She was thinking that someone should get in touch with this town administrator for advice. Robert asked if anyone had contacted this town administrator and TM English responded that it doesn't hurt to have more information. He sees these problems every day on the list serv; all of the towns on the list serv are struggling with this problem. Chairman Fortier asked TM English to get in touch with the town administrator mentioned in the article and get back to the Board at the next meeting. It was also the consensus of the Board to have the Health Officer inspect the Chapel Street property and give a report to the Board by next meeting. Lynn Wheeler asked if the Health Officer could take photos of the property and was told that he would be asked.

### **New Business:**

- **Health Insurance:** AA Lacaillade reported that TM English, Lynn Wheeler and herself had met with folks from Anthem and Harvard Pilgrim in regard to health insurance plans. She commented that she would like to sit down with each member individually and go over the different options and then bring that to the next meeting for the Board's decision. She will also address the issues of Obama care at the individual meetings. TM English commented that this is about the infamous "Cadillac tax". The tax is going to happen to employers that offer very good, high-premium plans. AA Lacaillade clarified that it wasn't just the Town's health insurance plan; there were several plans that would be affected by this tax. After going over the different options individually, she hoped that the Board could then make a decision at the next meeting on May 18, 2015.

**Commission/Committee Reports:** Lynn Wheeler commented that the next Recreation Committee meeting was May 6, 2015. There haven't been any events since the last meeting, but there were some events coming up, such as Paddle the Border and the first Railroad Park concert on May 30. Robert Roudebush commented that the Airport Commission had an interesting meeting on April 22, 2015. The Airport Commission has a proposal from the director of a private security company to use the runway for what is called "soft training". They train people who are special ops, CIA and law enforcement units in how to control vehicles in emergency situations. TM English had requested that the Airport Commission obtain a very clear statement of what these folks do and to indemnify the Town in terms of any insurance claims. Robert commented that there are no vehicles crashes and the only thing left on the runway is skid marks. There are no crashes, collisions, firearms or airplanes involved. It involves closing down the airport for the day of the training, possibly three or four days in the next several months. TM English stated that there should be a written, signed agreement as to what is expected of both parties, including indemnification. The Selectboard also needs to make a decision on who will sign on behalf of the Town. Lynn asked about the business that uses the runway and how closing the airport for a few days would affect him. Robert commented that the Airport Commission would have to contact the business. Chairman Fortier was concerned about the runway lights and Robert stated that the security company would be responsible for any damages. Rick Ladd commented that there needed to be a written agreement. Robert asked if the Selectboard needed an agreement to sign off on before it went to the Airport Commission and was told that the Selectboard will be the ones to sign any contracts. Darwin Clogston commented that at Town Meeting, there was a petition for closing Airport Road for safety. He thought it was rather ironic to now have vehicles on the runway.

**Correspondence:** Chairman Fortier reported that the Board had received a letter from Ed Ballam, concerning Benedict's Way, which would be talked about a little later. They had also received a letter from Charter Communications, which stated that everything would stay the same with the current franchise. They had also received the May/June issue of Town & City.

**Comments of the Public:** None

**Comments of the Town Manager/Administrative Assistant-Finance Officer:**

AA Lacaillade presented the 3-year reappointment form for Donald Hammond to the Planning Board, along with a letter from Ed Ballam regarding Mr. Hammond's re-election as Chairman of the Planning Board. Rick Ladd commented that there was an error in the letter from Ed Ballam, concerning Benedict's Way and a site issue. Tom Friel stated that it was a concern and turned out to be a concern that was not founded. Rick commented that management of the Planning Board should have caught this and it was just another small mistake. There was no motion made to reappoint. The Board would consider the reappointment again at the next meeting on May 18, 2015. It was also noted that a letter had been delivered to Ed Ballam's house from William Daley resigning from the Planning Board but that it was not signed. They Board wanted to see a signed letter before they act on the resignation.

**Comments of Selectboard Members:** None

**Non-Public Session to Discuss a Personnel Issue per RSA 91-A:3(a):**

The public meeting was suspended at 7:26 pm for a short recess. The meeting reconvened and the Board was polled and all agreed to go into non-public session at 7:34 pm to discuss a personnel issue.

Robert Roudebush made the motion to come out of non-public session at 9:02 pm; seconded by Lynn Wheeler. No motions made; no action taken, and minutes are to be sealed. All approved.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Robert Roudebush made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Tom Friel and all approved. Chairman Fortier adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Hyde