

Minutes of Haverhill Selectboard Regular Meeting

Monday, November 28, 2016

Draft subject to review, correction and approval at following meeting

Board Members Present: Chairman Wayne Fortier, Tom Friel, Darwin Clogston, Chris Luurtsema and Mike Bonanno.

Town Manager: Jo Lacaillade

Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Fortier called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval (additions/deletions completed by Board consent):

Tom Friel made a motion to amend the agenda. The requested addition would focus on the old Town dump, as discussion had been placed on hold until a response about the deed had been given by Doug Henson. Tom Friel made a motion to approve the addition and it was seconded by Mike Bonanno.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Mike Bonanno made motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Darwin Clogston.

Mill Street Bridge Project:

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation made a public appearance to discuss the Mill Street Bridge Project. Tom Levins, a consultant from GM Associates was also present. The bridge, which carries approximately 150 cars per day requires attention and the DOT is proposing to replace the wooden bridge with a pre-cast culvert with a concrete arch. DOT estimates that the project could be completed in three months; and if started at the end of the school year, it could be completed by the time school began again. Because this replacement bridge is composed of concrete, DOT stated that the cost of long term maintenance would reduce. The Board inquired on the average life span of these types of bridges, and DOT estimated 100 years if maintained properly. The estimated cost for this project ranges from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000.00. Stuart stated that he is unsure if maintenance costs would reduce, as the new bridge would require asphalt upkeep which would include re-paving in 15 years and crack/seal maintenance in 5-10 years. DOT stated that they would cover the expense for the first layer of asphalt. Chris discussed the possibility of the elementary school moving in the near future and the effect that would have on the bridge traffic. Chris mentioned to the Board that this would be a lot of money to spend, if eventually bridge traffic was reduced to Mill Street and Wilson Avenue residents. Stuart stated that there may be an increase in traffic, as heavy emergency vehicles would then be able to cross the new bridge. DOT stated that they feel comfortable removing Line 4 from the project contract which states if the Town fails to properly maintain the reconstructed bridge, the Town would not be subject to DOT funds until rectified and approved by state. DOT stated that this was a typical statement in a majority of their

contracts with Towns and they would feel comfortable removing it from the contract. There was discussion regarding removal of the granite blocks that are supporting the current bridge. The board agreed that they could be moved to the Railroad Park, as there is a small project adjacent to the park that could use them. The Board would like to have the language reworked in the contract, reexamine it once it's revised and then get back to Bob to hopefully have the contract signed by June. The Board would like DOT to come back to run a public informational meeting in the Spring, after Town Meeting, to update residents and to answer any questions.

Pickering Culvert Issue:

Mr. Pickering expressed his frustration sourced from a congested culvert causing erosion on his property since May. Mr. Pickering believes that the ditch line has been tampered with by the highway department and was dug deeper than the culvert pipe itself. Because there is existing pipeline on the property, he is proposing the removal of the problem-causing culvert and re-routing the water flow to another pipe. TM Lacaillade discussed that an easement would be required because doing so would cause a change in water distribution. The Town Road Agent stated nothing about the pipe has been changed and he cannot make any changes until he receives an easement. Mr. Pickering is hesitant about signing an easement, as he was given one to sign in May but due to a false statement made in the document it did not get signed. Stuart discussed that pipe sizes are chosen based on the volume of water flow and the culvert that Mr. Pickering wants to eliminate is the largest pipe on his property. The Town Road Agent explained that he would need to replace the current 12" pipe with an 18" pipe in order to handle the additional water flow that would come from the eliminated 15" pipe. The Board stated that they would support the Road Agent's decision. The Board discussed their desire for the Town Road Agent to perform an exploratory to see if removing the one pipe and replacing the other would be feasible and to make sure the 15" pipe is not located on any sort of ledge. In order to ensure the stability of the ditch, the Town Road Agent stated that it may need to be lined with stone. When asked how much it would cost to line the ditch, he stated it may only cost the Town time, as most of the stone is already accounted for. The Town has an 18" pipe in stock currently. It was agreed upon that the 12" pipe can be replaced with the 18" pipe without an easement, and the only easement required would be to remove the 15" pipe. A motion to move forward with the project and to schedule an exploratory was made, and seconded by Chris Luurtsema. The Board agreed unanimously.

Recycling Proposal:

Justin Adams came to the Board to discuss a proposal for a recycling program for the Haverhill area. Adams stated that roll off recycling containers sell for approximately \$5,000 each. Adams suggests the Town begin with at least two containers as he believes there is a lot of interest from Townspeople. The Board stated that the Center Haverhill Armory would be an ideal location for a recycling drop off. Roll off containers can be purchased as a zero-sort container, where all recyclables can be placed or they can be sold with dividers so recyclables are divided. Though divided containers are hauled away at a lesser expense, more containers are required as they have less storage space which would cost more overall. Once a roll off container is purchased, it is the Town's responsibility to hire somebody to haul the container and to oversee recycling hours. Adams stated he would be able to haul the container, as he does three other Towns as well. At

least one attendant who assists in recycling matters needs to be certified and can be licensed through the state of New Hampshire in Concord for an annual fee of \$50.00. This is a one-day course and consists of an open book test and continuing education courses throughout the year. The cost was discussed and Adams stated it would cost roughly \$1,000 per haul and he estimated the Town would require two hauls per month. It would be possible to draw up a contract to have a roll off vendor employee to man the recycling station on weekends to assist residents in sorting too. The Board now has three proposals to sort through and study and this item – It will be placed on the next agenda to discuss again. Mr. Marsh was present and stated that he will put together a proposal for the board to review next meeting as well.

New Business:

Town Dump:

The boundary line conflict between Doug Henson and the Town was discussed. Tom brought up his concern for the cistern on the property filling with water. Darwin believes it is a minimal amount of water and it does not concern him at the time. Chairman Fortier stated that he does not think it's enough water to cause a problem and DES has not had an issue with it before. Putting the property up for bid again with a full disclosure was discussed as well as retaining the property after getting the land surveyed and recorded. An option to address the cistern was to put a culvert across the road into the middle school ditch. This option would eliminate the need for the cistern but more information from the Road Agent is required. Mike made a motion to have the boundary line agreement between the dump and Henson's recorded at the cost of the Town and will continue the cistern discussion once information is received from the Road Agent. Chris seconded this motion and the board unanimously agreed.

Town Meeting:

The school is proposing to have their annual meeting on March 18, 2017. The Board discussed holding Town Meeting on the same day this year, to encourage more residents to attend the Town portion and to accommodate those who work. The previous Board agreed to this and because there are three new board members, it is being brought up to make sure it is still agreed upon. Although Town Meeting would be held on 3/18/17, voting for officials will still be held on 3/8/17. The school originally stated they would like to have their meeting at 10:00 AM but are open to changing it. The Board agrees that the Town Meeting should go first, as the length of the meeting is more predictable than the school meeting. Chris proposed the Town Meeting should begin at 9:00 AM. TM Lacaillade is going to research whether start times need to be black and white or if the school meeting could begin early if the Town Meeting ends early. Mike made a motion for the Town Meeting to begin at 9:00 AM and Chris seconded it. The Board approved this motion unanimously.

Town Manager's Report:

TM Lacaillade attended a 2nd hazard mitigation plan meeting with three more scheduled in January, February and March. TM Lacaillade and Wayne attended a meeting at Woodville Guaranty Savings Bank at the request of Cottage Hospital to discuss recycling options. There

were a few proposals given from different vendors including Pete's Rubbish and the Lisbon facility. TM Lacaillade mentioned attending an annual conference in Manchester on Wednesday and stated she was at the closing on the Tewksbury Road lot. The Ralph Wright case was settled on 11/28/16 and he has until 12/31/16 to clean up his property per the Court order. TM Lacaillade stated that Scott Clang from Granite State Water is available to come out at no charge. A topic that will be brought to the next meeting is credit/debit card machines in the Town clerk office. Tina is interested in allowing card payments for vehicle registrations. There would be an annual fee for the Town of \$380.00 and a surcharge for residents if they choose this form of payment. Residents who pay with cash or check will not be charged this fee. TM Lacaillade said that she is trying to get information from other Towns that utilize this system to see what impact it has on the finance department for the additional accounting required.

Property:

Steve Robbins had Whitcher Rubbish Removal of Warren, NH estimate the cost for the property clean up and it was approximately \$40,000.00. This cleanup was ordered by the Select Board. Another court date is required in order to gain permission to clean and/or raze the building and the money is not in this year's budget. It was asked if the building would be a good candidate for a training burn, but because there are houses in close proximity and a lot of wires so it is not. A motion to move forward and gain permission to clean up and/or raze the building was made by Mike Bonanno and seconded by Darwin Clogston. The Board agreed unanimously to move forward.

New Business:

The Board agreed to table the drug/alcohol policy agenda item until the next meeting due to the time.

Commissioner Committee Report:

No changes at this time.

Comments from the Public:

No comments at this time.

Comments from Select Board Members:

There was a discussion regarding highway grating next year. The Board discussed hiring someone other than the highway department and only using the grater for plowing in the winter. The Road Agent will be meeting with the Board to answer questions about efficiency, as the grater needs to be replaced within the next two years. Chief Bogie did a portion of the Town grating this year because the Town wanted more gravel put on the roads. Darwin Clogston requested more information about the proposals process. The Board would like to get cost information from the Road Agent if the Town were to grate the roads four times a year rather

than the previous two to three times. TM Lacaillade is going to look into this issue and put it on the next agenda.

Darwin asked that the Powder House Hill property be placed on the next agenda.

Comments from Town Manager:

No comments at this time.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, which was seconded by Chris. The Board voted all in favor of adjourning the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Minutes transcribed by Katie J. Moyse.