

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 20, 2020
MINUTES of PUBLIC HEARING – CANDIA ROAD MAINTENANCE**

Call to Order

5:35 pm – Chairman Robertson called the meeting to order

Present: Andrew Robertson, Chairman; Richard Pitman, Vice Chairman., Cindy McHugh, Alden Dill, Selectpersons.

Excused Absence: Fred McGarry, Selectman

The first order of business is the public hearing for maintenance to Candia Road. The reason that they were holding a public hearing is that it is designated as a “scenic road” and they wanted to give folks a chance to weigh in.

He knew some folks have spoken with the highway agent and also have spoken with the Planning Board regarding this but they felt that it was important to hold a meeting so at this point, he would open the public hearing on Candia Road.

Essentially, what they are looking to do is to improve the drainage and the surface of that road.

Chairman Robertson asked if anyone had anything, they wanted to say about Candia Road.

Suzanne Steele, Harvey Road:

She guessed that she might as well start. She wanted to thank the Board for taking the time to hold this public hearing and the time that was spent for the walk that was done a couple of weeks ago and she also stated that she walked the road a couple of times before and after that group walk that they all did on that Sunday.

As you know, she brought to the attention the post-work that was done on Harvey Road and so this work being done on Candia and Cole concerned her for a couple of reasons that they are now experiencing on Harvey Road.

One of the main concerns that she has in the increase in speed on those travelling on the road now. She lives, for those of them that didn't know, she lives on the Nottingham side, which is not where the work was done but people come from the 43 side and are travelling quite quickly by the time that they get to her house.

She would say, regardless of what direction they are travelling, there are a few people that she has not been able to meet yet, but she would say are going about 50 to 55 miles an hour by the time that they hit her house from either direction and she knows that there are some people that are concerned now with this speed because people are out and about with their families, with their children, either walking or on bicycles and the increase in speed on a scenic road really is not, it doesn't make sense to her. People should be enjoying a scenic road, not trying to travel across it as quickly as possible.

So, by improving, the road improvements will recreate the same hazard on Cole and Candia that they are seeing on Harvey. So, this is one of her concerns.

And then the other, you know when meeting with them a couple of weeks ago, there was a comment about Primex, that was the town's insurance agency to which the chairman stated that this was correct.

Ms. Steele continued, that because the trees were marked, they decided that they needed to come down because of liability reasons and she guessed her comment there is that Primex is an insurance company not an arborist company or a tree company or a company that has knowledge on how long these potential ash trees will live.

There is a tree that she has right outside her house, they've lived here for twenty-seven years and that tree wasn't totally foliated the day that they moved in and it is still that way twenty-seven years later. She would hate for these trees that are necessarily ready to drop, just to be cut because an insurance company says that they need to be done verses a tree expert company.

Last but not least, she guessed that she just wanted to plug once again, is the total use of the highway department and the funds the town allocates to it, is this its best use for both their time and the money. Aren't there other locations that could potentially use both so thank you again for your time.

Chairman Robertson thanked Ms. Steele.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would note that the ash trees are dying and actually has been exacerbated by the presence of the emerald ash borer in the last couple of years in New Hampshire that that is one of the concerns that is greatly accelerating the duration of ash trees, much more so in years past.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were other folks that wish to comment on the Candia Road potential project?

Rob Mathews, Candia Road:

He would also like to thank the Board and the road agent for allowing the public to go. They have had a lot of good discussions on the topic. He thought that most of their concerns have been addressed so he thought that it has been a productive exercise to understand ahead of time what is to be done.

One thing that they haven't heard anything specific about is the ditching and asked if that can be done in a way that will not create hazards for pedestrians and other folks that are using the road and have to get off the road, if it could be done in a moderate way so it is solid and safe for everyone.

Chairman Robertson stated that he knew that this comment had been brought up at this meeting. Unfortunately, Fred McGarry is not with them this evening but Fred, cognizant of the desire to not have the ditching drop away too sharply so that pedestrians, horses, that sort of thing, would be able to get out of the way of oncoming traffic, certainly and that is a concern that both the Board of Selectmen and the highway agent have heard he knew.

Obviously, the low section when you come down the hill, he guessed it would northeast from Mr. Mathew's house, there are actually sections of road there where they have cat-o-nine tails just about growing in the asphalt so they feel the need is real critical to do something there but that concern has been heard, that people need to get by on horses, bicycles and foot without having to fall off a six foot ledge, too.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were any other commenters?

Errol Rhodes:

(hard to hear what he starting to say, Chairman told him that he was having a difficult time hearing him)

(He stated something about miles per hour) and he spoke to the police chief about it and he is not sure if anything has been done about it so he guessed when they improve the road, is there a plan to make sure that speed and **(couldn't understand)** to speed are addressed that make sense so that people don't end up getting injured.

Speaking about liability, that to his way of thinking, is a liability issue that Primex should worry about when you put a nice surface on a road, you might have human damage problem and not a tree falling the wrong way problem.

He didn't know what the select board or the planning board has done to think about how that gets addressed but that is a long-term effect of improving the road.

He guessed that the second question that he had relates, and he is putting his Heritage Commission hat on when he says this and was wondering how the stone walls are going to fare in this whole process?

He stated that they have seen places where, and he didn't know what happened on Harvey Road in regard to this but people seem to think that stone walls are fair game so he would like to put his hand up for stone walls in this particular instance.

Chairman Robertson stated that he could assure Mr. Rhodes that the stone walls are a concern, that is one of the reasons that they are having this hearing and why the planning board was involved.

On roads that have been designated as "scenic", they really can't touch the stone walls and that is well understood by the highway crew and the highway agent.

Mr. Rhodes was just wondering if any steps were being contemplated in regard to speed and it obviously not just Candia Road but if Haynes Road gets improved at some point, he is going to see that in front of his house Mr. Robertson.

Chairman Robertson stated that if Haynes Road gets improved, although he would note, that presently Haynes Road is posted at 25 mph which is the lowest that the Board of Selectmen have the authority to post a public road.

They could consider a 25 mph speed limits on other roads if it's deemed necessary, particularly if that recommendation is brought to them by the chief of police and involves a traffic study of sorts as well as a public hearing before they can change the speed limit.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he couldn't hear what Errol said the first couple of words. Is it worth repeating?

Chairman Robertson stated that he brought up two concerns and that was one, that they respect the stone walls and not damage the stone walls as they attempt ditching and he reiterated Mrs. Steele's comment that as the surfaces improve, speeds tend to pick up and he was hoping that the Board was going to look at speed mitigation with regard to roads that they improved.

Mrs. Cady, Old Centre Road

Mrs. Cady stated that she would actually like to comment on how poor the sound is coming through. She keeps getting parts of a sentence, two words here, nothing, a couple of words.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated her comments and the vice chairman stated to shut her down.

Mrs. Cady continued that she thought that she didn't get all of Mr. Rhodes comments period.

Chairman Robertson stated that he didn't think that any of them did but she was coming through crystal clear Mrs. Cady and asked if she had a comment regarding Candia Road?

Mrs. Cady stated that in a modern age, they have to keep their roads safe and ditching keeps the road safe because it doesn't allow the water to freeze on the tar and cause cracks which then causes tar to be pulled up and they end up with this rough, bumpy road and unfortunately, scenic or not, it needs to be repaired.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated her comments and thought that the Board was well aware for the need for repair, particularly a specific stretch of Candia Road that has some drainage problems.

Chairman Robertson asked if there were any other people that wished to comment?

Erick Berglund, Nottingham Road

Mr. Berglund stated that he had a couple of comments. Adding to Mr. Rhodes comments, he would just like to underline and emphasize the speed problem.

The best time for Nottingham Road was back in the 70's. When they moved here, the road was so bad, people couldn't speed without wrecking their car but the road was improved and people are in a hurry and they are speeding. Come on down Nottingham Road sometime and take a look on how they take off from down the road when they hit that curve, they hit it, it is a terrible thing. They are going to be paying for it. He would just like to add that in here.

They have a road problem. They have a speed problem for all roads.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated his comments and asked if anyone else had any comments.

Rob Mathews, Candia Road

He stated that he concurred on the speed issue and he thought that it would help if they were assured that the road was not going to be made wider in this process.

Chairman Robertson stated that he has not seen engineering-specifics but his understanding is that the road would not be made wider than it is and they are confident in its scenic road designation and they couldn't touch the stone walls on either side, that sort of thing so his understanding is the plan is to keep the width as it is.

Mr. Mathews stated that that would be helpful if they road is not substantially changed. They don't have a problem with maintaining properly if the appearance and the width and that sort of thing be maintained pretty much as it is and be resurfaced, that would be helpful to keep people from going too fast then to be straightened and widened and opened up so much.

Steve Rollins, Highway Agent

This is an overlay so they are just paving over the pavement that is already there. They are only looking to repair a couple of spots where paving over is not going to do any good. They are not looking to make anything any wider or anything like that, changing elevations per se, they are not rebuilding the road, they are just overlaying the road, patching a few spots and replacing some culverts that have given away, rotten metal that's bad. They are changing them to plastic.

As far as ditch work goes, there is only one piece of wall that is on town property, so that they can keep that clump of trees, they are going to open up a little spot on the wall twice, to get the water to go around the clump of trees instead of taking that clump of trees that aren't dead, those are healthy, other than that, they are not looking to do anything to any walls.

As far as tree stumps go, the only ones that will be taken are the ones that are in the way of improving the ditch, (to the dead trees) so they aren't looking to do drastic changes, just to make the overlay last longer.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated Mr. Rollins' comments and for giving them some detail of the project.

Chairman Robertson asked if there was anyone else that would like to comment?

Rob Mathews, Candia Road

Mr. Mathews stated that after Steve's comments, it made him think about how things are going to look afterwards. Is there any money in the budget for restoring the appearance of the roadsides?

Chairman Robertson stated that he is not aware of any money that is specifically earmarked for addressing the appearance of the roadside after the project is complete and he didn't know if Steve has any thoughts or details in regard to that.

Mr. Rollins stated that no, typically they do their work, they pat it all down nice and neat, try to stabilize any erosion and it all gets covered in leaves and that is what they do. They don't hydroseed or anything like that. They just stabilize anything that they disturb and call it good.

The chairman thanked Mr. Rollins and asked for any other comments at this point.

Dick Boisvert, Church Street:

He thought that there was a contradiction of Andy who says that no stone walls are going to be touched but perhaps he misunderstood but it sounded like Mr. Rollins stated that they were going to move a stone wall in a couple of places and asked for clarification.

Mr. Rollins stated that when they had their walk, tree walk, there was one clump of trees that everyone wanted to save that was right in the ditch line and the town owns the land behind the stonewall so in order to save that clump of trees, they have to make a hole in the stonewall behind the clump and they have a culvert there already so there is a hole on the end that they have to clean up a bit so the water can go around the backside of the trees instead of the front side of the trees so that they could leave that clump of trees. It was kind of a little give and take.

Mr. Boisvert asked if that meant that they would have to remove two feet of stone wall, or more?

Mr. Rollins stated that he couldn't say what size the rocks were in the wall but no, they were talking maybe two, four-foot pieces, something like that. Just enough to get the bucket through to do what they have to do and to clean it afterwards so he wasn't talking 20 feet of wall, probably only four-foot sections, just not sure as he doesn't know the size of the rocks off the top of his head. As small as possible.

Mr. Boisvert asked if there would be a culvert put in where they went through the wall or is there just going to be an opening in the wall?

Mr. Rollins stated that there was just going to be a small ditch through the wall and there is already a ditch coming back from the lowest side of the trees so they would just clean that up, the roots and the brush, so that would be that. This would leave the whole clump of six or eight, maybe oak if he remembered, maple, he is not sure, or maybe maple trees, yes, he guessed they were maple. It left the little clump.

The chairman asked if anyone else would like to comment in the public hearing?

Mrs. Cady, Old Centre Road:

Is there no money to reseed the banking when the vegetation has to be taken away when they have to fix the ditch to which the chairman stated that they didn't have any money specifically earmarked for that? If it was deemed necessary and essential to the project, certainly monies could be used.

Mrs. Cady was just wondering if that is something that they should be thinking about when they are talking about redoing. She stated that when the state comes along and blows the seed on the banking that is made and just wondered if that is something that they might have to think about when they are budgeting for road work.

Chairman Robertson stated that he thought that in this case, it was not so much as there were going to be large banks that they would have to worry about erosion control, and correct him if he is wrong Steve, but it is mostly about getting the water drain where these failed culverts are and Mr. Rollins agreed and stated that it wasn't a very wide area that they were ditching.

Chairman Robertson asked for other comments regarding the Candia Road project.

Hearing none, and seeing no hands up at this time, he was going to close the public hearing and note that it is 5:59 pm and he thanked the folks that joined them and give the Board their input and he definitely appreciated the road agent being here to give them the specific details that he is necessarily not up to speed on.

With that said, the Chairman stated that he was going to open the Select Board meeting to the regular agenda and he believed that their first order of business was Steve Rollins.

Steve Rollins – Highway Equipment:

At this time, he was waiting on some paperwork that was supposed to come to him today but has not so could they put it on the table and could he catch them on the next meeting?

Chairman Robertson stated that they could absolutely do that.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they should put it on the table until he gets it and Mr. Rollins stated that he would like to. He was promised some paperwork that he would have had for today but now they are looking into some other options so when he has a little more information, to be able to come back to the Board at that time.

Chairman Robertson stated that it sounded good and appreciated it.

Chairman Robertson stated that he had two agendas and that he had Travis from Veasey Park on his first one and didn't know it was still valid.

Mr. Harrington stated that Travis withdrew.

Skip Kelly – Kettle Rock Road

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board may recall that Mr. Kelly spoke with the board a few months ago and turned the meeting over to Mr. Kelly.

He stated that he purchased that property on the corner of Kettle Rock Road and Mt. Delight Road and he is planning to do a subdivision of that property and in reviewing it, and James Franklin is also here in the meeting and he will probably speak to the Board as well, but they are basically planning to upgrade Kettle Rock Road to town road status and the purpose of this is to get input from the Board as to what kinds of things that they would like to see happen in conjunction with making that a town road.

He did understand that there is concern about future development in Allentown, potentially, being able to travel over the "soon to be" town road, Kettle Rock Road and the town had a great deal of problem with Gulf Road in conjunction

with Northwood where in Northwood, they continue to develop parcels of land that are in Northwood but the majority of the traffic exits through Gulf Road into Deerfield.

He wanted to point out a couple of differences as he sees it.

Gulf Road is a much longer route to get from Northwood into Deerfield and onto Route 107 where there is a main flow of traffic, a much longer section of road than they were talking here in improving with Kettle Rock.

He guessed the issue with Gulf Road is that there is no opportunity to widen Gulf Road and that, of course, would be problematic.

In his scenario, it is his understanding that the existing right of way for Kettle Rock Road is currently fifty feet so he believed that this would remove that problem, if in fact anyone were to try to develop parcels in Allenstown and he didn't know if Bob DeRose was in the meeting here or not but Bob is an abutter (Bob stated that he was there) and Bob is going to speak to that a bit to that as far as the feasibility of people doing development in Allenstown. That is pretty much my agenda here.

Chairman Robertson stated that he is basically asking the Board if they would consider relaying out or what have you, accepting his proposal to bring the road up to Class V standards.

Mr. Kelly stated that this was correct.

Chairman Robertson stated that he just wanted to be clear and asked the Board if they had questions for Mr. Kelly. Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he wanted to hear what Mr. DeRose

Bob DeRose stated that he was an abutter to Kettle Rock Road for a pretty good stretch and going down Kettle Rock Road (not able to transcribe)

Chairman Robertson stated that his audio was breaking up and Mr. DeRose started again.

Mr. DeRose stated that he is abuts the Kettle Rock Road parcel as well and the difference between the Gulf Road scenario and Kettle Rock Road, there are two other houses down Kettle Rock Road, there is a Deerfield resident and an Allenstown resident.

The Allenstown resident owns approximately 100-acres and goes substantially down a good stretch of Kettle Rock and next to them is a piece of conservation property so the likelihood of somebody investing one or two million dollars to put in a development all the way out there in Allenstown, he thought that it was highly unlikely and he would have to fight with the abutters on both sides of Kettle Rock Road so the chances of that are slim to none.

The Gulf Road issue, in his mind, doesn't seem to be remotely close to any possible concern on Kettle Rock Road.

The chairman stated that they appreciated his comments and he would note, and the chairman didn't know if he had mentioned it or not, but he is a contractor as well, is that correct? He has more insight into this.

Mr. DeRose stated that he has done work for Skip before and he is assuming that he will do this work if it goes through as well as having a vested interest being an abutter, he wanted to make sure that it is done with everybody's vested interest, the town, the abutters, future neighbors, etc.

Chairman Robertson stated great and appreciated his input.

Chairman Robertson asked if any Board members had any questions for Skip or Bob at this point?

Mr. Franklin asked to speak and was acknowledged. He stated that he would like to point out that as far as the right-of-way width of Kettle Rock, they have a little bit of a discrepancy. The town has it listed as 50-foot wide. They do have a couple of surveys in the area that list it as 40 feet wide so they are still researching it. They have their time period of when it was laid out but they have not been able to actually find the layout for Kettle Rock yet but they are still working on that to get a solid answer.

Chairman Robertson stated that he is a little wary of side roads that have a hard and fast 50 listed as a right-a-way when its fact they are usually laid out in two rod roads and morphed a little.

Mr. Franklin stated that they have not found the layout for it yet so they have not been able to confirm one way or another whether it is fifty feet or it is narrower or wider.

The chairman appreciated that.

Mr. Kelly asked for a follow up and continued that if in fact it would find that they didn't have the fifty feet, he is certainly amenable giving a strip of land to the town to make it the fifty foot if that is what is needed to do the upgrade.

The chairman thanked Mr. Kelly.

The chairman stated that before they went any further, because this is an existing town road, be believed that they had to have a public hearing with regard to layout with the Board of Selectmen before they could make a decision and that would have to be something that the Board would decide to do, and correct him if he is wrong John but he was fairly confident that they needed a public hearing and they had a certain number of days, that type of thing that they had to schedule that out.

Mr. Harrington stated that it was ten days for a public hearing and the chairman thanked him.

Just having gone through this with some other Class VI roads here in town, he knew that each time that they changed the status or relayed out, they were required to have a hearing.

Chairman Robertson asked if Board members had questions for Skip and the vice chairman stated that he did.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he would like this to get put on the table until they got to meet in person so they could actually see something on paper. This doesn't work out and it's not fair to our friends.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to table discussion on Kettle Rock Road until they could meet in person

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: Selectwoman McHugh stated that they have to remember about the extra maintenance that would be required for Mt. Delight Road for the Kettle Rock Road projects, too.

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated to Mr. Kelly to keep in touch with Mr. Harrington and see when they could have a public meeting so that they could review this.

The chairman thanked Mr. Kelly for joining the meeting as well as bringing Mr. DeRose and Mr. Franklin into the meeting to discuss specifics.

Regular Business:

Review of Outstanding Minutes of July 6, 2020

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the minutes from July 6, 2020

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Accounts Payable – July 13, 2020 - \$34,713.99

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$34,713.99

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Accounts Payable – July 20, 2020 - \$74,146.32

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$74,146.32

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Payroll Manifest, week ending July 8, 2020 - \$86,802.34 (gross), \$58,811.76 (net)

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the payroll manifest as read

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Atlantic Recycling Proposal:

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a quote for a proposal from Atlantic Recycling for the two 50-yard, roll-off containers that were damaged by fire several weeks ago.

The quote is in the amount of \$7,050.00 a piece for a total of \$14,100.00 and then there is \$900.00 freight also which bumps them up to \$15,000.00.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that is covered under our insurance and Mr. Harrington stated that yes, there is currently a claim for it.

Selectman Dill asked what the deductible will be on that, like a \$1,000.00 to which Mr. Harrington stated is correct.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if they had to approve the money before Primex pays?

Mr. Harrington stated that the claim has already been placed. He has been dealing with a representative. They don't seem to think that it is going to be a problem. If they need to rent containers, the insurance has agreed to pay for those as well.

Chairman Robertson added that there is loss of use coverage in the policy.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they needed to make a motion to buy these outright and hope that they get reimbursed to which Mr. Harrington agreed and added that it takes six to eight weeks to build and get delivered.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to purchase two, 50 yard roll off containers to replace the ones damaged by fire for the amount of \$14,100.00 plus \$900.00 freight and delivery

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Three personnel action requests from the Veasey Park Commission:

These are essentially the young folks that they have hired to maintain order and check residency stickers at Veasey Park this summer. These are backdated to June 24, 2020.

Rowen Carr	32 hours a week at \$10.00 per hour
Sidney Kilgore	32 hours a week at \$10.00 per hour
Dalton Tedrow	32 hours a week at \$10.00 per hour

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to approve the personnel action requests as presented

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Second Billing for the Municipal Relief Funds - \$4,023.71 to be reimbursed

Vice Chairman Pitman asked what this was for and Mr. Harrington stated that these are costs associated with COVID-19 pandemic and the town has a state funded amount that they can spend from.

Chairman Robertson stated that basically, they have a bill for \$4,023.71 that they would like to submit to the state for reimbursement and he needs a motion and a second to do that.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to submit the bill of \$4,023.71 to the state for COVID-19 cost reimbursement

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that they had an invoice from Keech-Nordstrom for the survey and boundary determination in regard to the site that they are talking about putting the police department and it came in at \$2,100.38 and need a motion and a second to pay it because it is coming out of the trust fund money that was part of a warrant article for planning for the police department.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to pay the invoice from Keech-Nordstrom in the amount of \$2,100.38

Second: Selectwoman McHugh

Discussion: Vice Chairman Pitman asked if that was the total bill or was there more coming to which the chairman stated that it appears to be total for boundary determination and survey.

Mr. Harrington added that it is just for the work that they have started to do, that was just authorized to do when they met with Steve Keech across the road. Fred McGarry was there as well and they asked for the topographic and land study to be done for now.

Vice Chairman Pitman wondered if it included the night that they met with them and the chairman stated that it was and he supposed that it is conceivable that there is more coming. He was amazed. What it is described as the \$2,100.00 was covering was the A-CAD, base map preparation, meeting with town/city staff, boundary determination and computations, review project with staff, project letters and follow up calls, project research, crew coordination and wetland delineation.

Mr. Harrington stated to the vice chairman that he recalled that there was a number higher that was talked about that night so if that is what you are referring to, he thought that he knew what you were talking about.

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that they had a letter to the owners of the Emerson property, located at 13 Nottingham Road, that after an onsite review of the property by the Deerfield Building Inspector, Richard Pelletier, the property was found in a condition that meets the requirement of the petition.

The Town of Deerfield is satisfied with the clean-up efforts take by the family and the owner.

The chairman stated that they needed a motion and second to sign the letter and send to the owners.

Motion: Selectwoman McHugh moves to sign the letter to the owners of 13 Nottingham Road as described

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion:

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that this closes the door on a chapter that has been going on since November 7th, 2002.

Chairman Robertson stated that they were moving on to assessing matters.

He stated that he had an application for reimbursements for federal and state forestry lands. This is for Bear Brook State Park, Pawtuckaway State Park and Woodman State Forest. Total assessed valuation of the town's portion of Bear Brook State Park is \$2,005,200.00.

The town's portion of Pawtuckaway State Park is assessed at \$971,300.00 and the town's portion of Woodman State Forest is assessed at \$143,200.00 and these are valuations that they will not get tax dollars for.

Motion: Selectman Dill moves to accept the applications for reimbursements as presented

Second: Vice Chairman Pitman

Discussion: Selectman Dill stated that this is just to keep the reevaluation in compliance to which the chairman stated that it was.

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Intent to Cut Wood/Timber – Janet and Roger Rich, Mountain Road

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to approve the Intent to Cut Wood/Timber

Second: Selectman Dill

Discussion: Selectman Dill stated that it was actually two lots because it had confused him at first because he didn't know how they were going to cut 50 acres from a 23 acres lot so it is a few lots that are connected.

Chairman Robertson stated that it is an ongoing process up there.

Vote: Yea 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Harrington stated that he had one item tonight.

Given the elections in September and November, there has been a concerted group put together by the town moderator to discuss what the plans are for the upcoming elections as far as site recommendations to the Board to which they hoped to be bringing to the Board shortly with some alternatives.

He also wanted to bring up tonight, whether or not the Board would consider a town mask wearing policy for elections and government buildings, if that would be something that the Board would be interested in. It would be helpful for the committee that has been formed to know what direction they wanted to go in with regard to that.

Vice Chairman Pitman asked if someone were to show up without one, would the town have to supply it and Mr. Harrington stated that they are talking about all the alternatives of what they could offer folks that come to vote. That is one thing that is being tossed around as an idea.

(Selectman McGarry joined the Zoom Meeting)

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to make it mandatory to wear a mask at the election in September

Second: Selectman McGarry

Discussion: Chairman Robertson stated that obviously, Mr. Harrington is aware of the criteria that goes along with this as to whether they are actually able to force people to wear a mask to vote to which Mr. Harrington stated that this was correct.

Chairman Robertson stated that they could make it policy but push come to shove, they may not be able to entirely enforce it the way that they want to but he thought that it was a good starting point.

Mr. Harrington asked if they just wanted to limit it to the elections or for the public to be required to wear a mask in all government buildings when that day comes that they open up?

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he just had the elections on his motion and the chairman stated at this point that they should just stick to the elections.

Mr. Harrington stated that it sounded good but wanted to verify.

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Chairman Robertson stated that since they were talking about elections, the school board is considering a request when they meet tonight to using the school for elections.

A number of people the school would allow a much better entrance and exit point than the town hall does for the elections.

There has also been some discussion among people for the potential of using the sheep barn at the fairgrounds if the fair association would allow that.

He thought there were some concerns as to whether the fair association is interested in that as well as in November with the temperature fluctuation might be.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that November is a definite out because of winter storage because that is done in October and that building gets filled up first.

Chairman Robertson stated that it was a good point and one that no one has heard so that would pretty much take care of that.

Chairman Robertson stated that they will know after tonight's school board meeting to hoping that they can go ahead and use the school or not.

If the school is available, that will come back to the Board of Selectmen to authorize that as the polling place for both elections, if possible.

Other Unfinished or New Business:

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he had one thing when the chairman was ready.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that there has been a claim filed and denied for Glenn Young. He spoke to him and he actually rode with him to where a tree was at 12 feet and he hit his excavator roof on.

The vice chairman brought it up with Mr. Harrington this morning and he is going to get him a copy of the report. Mr. Young wanted to bring it to the Board to see why they could do about the denial by Primex since it was on town property so he was bringing it up.

Chairman Robertson stated that essentially, how that would work is Glenn would make a claim through his commercial equipment insurance. If for some reason they felt it was fault on the town's behalf, his insurance company, in most cases, would pay the claim and then subrogate against the town's insurance company in an attempt to recoup what they paid and generally they also try to recoup the deductible for their claimant.

That is pretty much the universal process in how that type of claim works. They wouldn't, they can't force the town's insurer to cover the claim and they would not step forward and pay a claim until or unless the town had been found in fault and what would happen is that Mr. Young would file a claim with his insurance company. They'll get the claim and they will likely pay it and if they think that there is any fault in the town's behalf or there is a pressing reason that they should come after the town, his insurance will contact Primex and seek to subrogate both to what they paid and for Mr. Young's deductible. That's pretty much the universal procedure on that.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he thought that the main thing with the select board point of view is that this thing gets taken down sooner than later. You can see where metal embedded right into the bark about where he hit. It is something that probably should have been done earlier.

Selectwoman McHugh also agreed it should be taken down.

Chairman Robertson asked Mr. Harrington to communicate that to the road agent.

Mr. Harrington stated that this was already communicated and the plan is to take the limb down after he received the recommendation from Primex. Now that they have had an incident with that limb, they strongly recommend that the town take it down for that no further vehicles would possibly impact that limb so that is already the plan.

Selectman Dill came back onto the meeting and stated that his phone overheated and he had to literally put it in the cooler to calm down and could they catch him up real quick.

Mr. Harrington stated that the discussion that just took place was about an insurance claim that was brought to the town. Glenn Young was traveling on Griffin Road. He had his dump truck with a trailer and an excavator on the top of the trailer. The excavator struck a limb because there was an oncoming box truck and they both went out to the edges of the road to avoid each other and the claim was denied and Dick was bringing it up to the Board on behalf of Glenn Young to see what the process would be.

Andy explained to the rest of the Board and Alden stated that he was caught back up.

Selectwoman McHugh stated that she had a question that was sort of like this regarding the detour of the bridge. How does Old Centre Road, Meetinghouse Hill Road and Church Street all look for low hanging limbs?

Mr. Harrington stated that he asked Mr. Rollins to go out and run that road with the detours to make sure that there are no potential issues going on those roads.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that there is no issue with truck traffic, they are still running.

Chairman Robertson stated that he would remark with mentioning those roads that he was pleased with both Saturday and Sunday to see the town's cruisers on Old Centre and Church Street and at the junction of Meetinghouse and Old Centre and Church Street keeping an eye on people that were driving a little too fast because they weren't from here and were looking to cut through.

He stated that he saw the cruisers there a good, long time there both days.

Chairman called for other new business, other business, old business.

Selectman Dill asked if they knew how that was progressing? Does the state think that they will be done in a week, two weeks still?

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that they hoped to be done tomorrow.

Selectman Dill stated that this was awesome.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that he checked it out today and tonight they are going to pave and tomorrow. They had to put new guardrail on both left and right because the area is a little narrow at the culvert. All the welding is done. The plates are in and he would say that 75 percent of the guardrails were in and they hoped to pave it tomorrow.

He didn't want to answer for the state but that is what he found out so he could report tonight.

Citizen's Comments:

Ms. Cady, Old Centre Road

Ms. Cady stated that she had a couple.

The thing that Skip Kelly mentioned about Kettle Rock Road is the Planning Board's concern when they had Gulf Road with only one opening and she didn't know about anything beyond where Tim lives but could there be, say, the development of the 100-acres that they talked about beyond Skip's development. She supposed that is a question for the planning board to ask but in opening the road, if they put in that development, would that force the Allenstown traffic to come through Kettle Rock Road onto Mt. Delight to go South Road or up Mt. Delight and down to Allenstown and the vice chairman stated that it would.

Chairman Robertson stated that this is a concern that the Board of Selectmen have.

She was thinking and she thought what Skip was trying to put across that it wasn't like Gulf Road but it would be to the extent that the concern would be whether or not they could go out through Allenstown rather than coming out through Deerfield. Would that happen and that is the concern.

Chairman Robertson stated that the Board shares that concern and that is the reason that they haven't jumped on this.

Ms. Cady continued that if it goes to the planning board, that they would be looking at that.

The other thing that she would like to commend, the road agent, at the last planning board meeting, he didn't expect him to come out that night but she had told him about a tree that had fallen over on the Bugnaski side and it has been just hanging there between two trees and with thunderstorms and lightening and storms, she was concerned that it might come down on somebody and he came up that night with his backhoe, took a chainsaw, cut it up, put it on the Bugnaski's side and cleaned up the mess and she thought that this was a service beyond what most of us could ask for.

Chairman Robertson stated that he appreciated letting them know that.

Selectman Dill stated to hop on to Ms. Cady's comment there, they have to find out what the laws are in Allenstown for development. If they could build on a Class VI, if you could put a development on a Class VI road in Allenstown, it could make Deerfield have a serious problem.

They ran into that in Northwood on the Nottingham line where in Northwood they could only build on public roads and Nottingham was on private and they were in the same situation so if they could find out what Allenstown has for their development laws on that, it would probably help or statutes, he should say.

Vice Chairman Pitman stated that the intent of the motion was to slow this thing down.

Motion: Vice Chairman Pitman moves to adjourn
Second: Selectwoman McHugh
Discussion:
Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Next Meeting: Monday, August 3, 2020 at 5:30 pm

*The Minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dianne L. Kimball, Recording Secretary
Pending approval by the Board of Selectmen*