

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting 20 August 2013

Members present: JoAnn Brown, Chairman, R. Stephen Leighton, Jim Andersen
In attendance: Charles Burnham, Carolyn Clarke, Martha English, Jim Allmendinger, John Orr, David Hickey, Thomas Wallace, Ralph Cutting, Bob Durfee, Lynn Sweet, Greg Messenger, Matthew Messenger

The meeting was called to order at 6:02PM

Payroll and bills were reviewed and payment was approved. Correspondence was reviewed and discussed as necessary. The Selectmen reviewed the advertisement and flyer from St. Jean Auctioneers for the sale of the property at 971 Parker Mountain Road on September 14, 2013. The Selectmen signed a letter of support for the designation of the Strafford Regional Economic Development District. This designation should facilitate better regional planning.

Representatives from the Library Trustees and SLA presented the Selectmen with quitclaim deed for the Hill Library building. There is currently a ROW through the NH National Guard property to access the Library. The Selectmen asked if a copy of that ROW and the conveyance of those rights to the Town be included with the deed. The representatives will bring that paperwork to the September 3, 2013 Board Meeting.

Minutes from the August 6, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved as written.

John Orr, president of the Kooauke Island Association and 3 representatives from the association met with the Selectmen to discuss the denial of their abatement request. Mr. Orr presented a brief and recent history of the association and the taxation of the piece of land under consideration. Two questions need to be addressed. What is the actual value of the association's common land and boat slips? Is the value of the rights of way conveyed to the taxpayers in the assessment of their individual properties or in the value of the association's common land? Steve would like to meet with the Town's assessor regarding these questions. The Selectmen's Office will inform them of the outcome of that discussion on Tuesday.

Bob Durfee from DuBois and King presented to the Board a brief overview of study of the First Crown Point bridge and recommendations for its replacement. The existing bridge was built in the early 1980's, and was cost effective for the period. The condition of the existing bridge which is on the NHDOT red list was discussed. Mr. Durfee presented 3 possible designs options that would meet NHDOT and NHDES regulations. The Board decided on the same bridge design as the recently completed Northwood Road Bridge. A temporary one lane bridge will be constructed downstream while the new bridge is being built. Abutters to the project have been notified and have been advised of the plans. The Selectmen recommended a dry hydrant on the north side with a nearby pull off for a fire truck. Mr. Durfee outlined a tentative timeline as follows:

- Mid September 2013 - submit plans to NHDOT
- Early January 2014 - request bids
- February 2014 – open bids and select contractor
- Early summer 2014 – begin construction

This is this optimal timeline, but may need to be postponed a year or be funded over 2 years due to availability of funds from the State as well as local funding. Mr. Durfee assured the Board that the condition of the bridge could withstand the year delay if necessary. It was the consensus of the Board to begin the process by submitting the plans to the State and await a funding decision.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:13PM.