

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting June 23, 2015

Members present: Jim Andersen, Chairman, Lynn Sweet, and Bryant Scott

In attendance: David Copeland, Judy Dupre, Bill Legrande

The Selectmen's meeting commenced at 5:55PM.

Bills and payroll were reviewed and payment was approved. The Selectmen reviewed and addressed correspondence as necessary. The Selectmen reviewed and approved Chris Bane's request to attend classes for additional certification. Minutes from the June 9th Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved as corrected. The Selectmen signed several property abatements and a Current Use penalty.

After a discussion with Building Inspector, David Copeland about the possibility of Bill Booth, also Building Inspector, receiving additional training to become a certified building inspector, the Selectmen agreed that the time is approaching when the Town will need a certified building inspector. Lynn Sweet made a motion to approve the training as well as the expenditure for tuition as it is within this year's budget and to plan to budget additional funds for the continuation of training in next year's budget. The motion was seconded by Jim Andersen. A vote was taken:

Jim Andersen – Aye, Lynn Sweet – Aye, Bryant Scott – Aye

Mr. Legrande, First Crown Point Road, inquired about one of the tax deeded properties being auctioned on June 27th. The members of the Board explained the local and State regulations pertaining to building on the lot as well as the process, benefits and consequences of merging that lot to his own should he be the successful bidder at the auction. They also discussed with Mr. Legrande the process, benefits and consequences of putting some of his land into Current Use.

Judy Dupré, tax collector, gave the members of the Board an update on the status of properties with 2012 tax liens. The Town will be taking 3 properties and reevaluating several others in July.

Due to an increasing amount and kinds of events held in Town, it was the consensus of the Board that it has become necessary to establish some sort of policy and/or permitting process and associated fees for these events. During their discussion, questions about police coverage, use of alcohol, fire and medical response, parking and land use were raised. Bryant will speak to the State Liquor Commission, and the Selectmen's Office will look into policies that other Towns employ for events held in their Towns.

Several items pertaining to beach operations were discussed. The beach staff seems to be working well together and have gotten the beach area prepared for opening day. After some discussion about the fences in the parking lot, the Selectmen thought it best to remove the broken fence at the bottom of the stairs from the parking lot; the road agent will take care of that. The Selectmen's Office will ask him to address the area at the top of the stairs coming from the parking lot. The poison ivy has been sprayed and will continue to be monitored. The gate to the beach on Province Road will be wired closed until a permanent repair can be made.

Boat trailer parking continues to be an ongoing problem in the small parking lot of the Grange/dam area. The Selectmen agreed that there should be a sign prohibiting boat trailers from parking along the fence. Parking along Province Road near the dam is also problematic as it restricts traffic flow on an already narrow road. The parking near the fire station has been alleviated by NO PARKING signs, and it was suggested that NO PARKING signs be posted along Province Road, near the dam.

Ben Francum, manager of the Transfer Station, will be handling the purchase of shirts and jackets for the Transfer Station employees.

The Selectmen offered their congratulations to Fire Chief Scott Whitehouse who had received his EMT and Inspector 1 certifications, acknowledging the fulfillment of a requirement of his probationary period as Fire Chief.

Members of the Strafford Historical Society recently visited the area of First Crown Point Road where the new bridge was built. They have verified that no historical site was disturbed by the recent construction of a new bridge. The construction company, Earth Mechanics, also has made thorough photo documentation of the project, which substantiates the Historical Society's findings.

The Selectmen are continuing their investigation into the docks on Water Street. Several questions were raised about the authority/rights of both the State and property owners concerning the docks. The Selectmen discussed the possibility of the Conservation Commission undertaking the task of updating the Water Street dock inventory.

The Town's auditor, Grezlak and Co., is coming the week of June 29, 2015. The Selectmen's Office has been preparing for that.

The proposal to the report for the outdoor shooting range at the NH Army National Guard Site on Parker Mountain Road is available for review by the public. The Board decided not to make an official response to the proposal.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:45.