

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting June 9, 2015

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

In attendance: Scott Whitehouse

The Selectmen's Meeting commenced at 6:00PM.

Bills and payroll were reviewed and payment was approved. The Selectmen reviewed and addressed correspondence as necessary. Minutes from the May 26th Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved. The Board reviewed and signed a contract for a significant savings with Fairpoint for telephone service to the Town Hall.

The Selectmen signed pay rate slips for beach attendants, police officers, and fire department. They also signed abatement recommendations.

Fire Chief Scott Whitehouse and the Selectmen had a lengthy discussion about an upcoming event at 664 First Crown Point Road. Issues of permitting, safety, and public health were reviewed. Scott has established communication with the host, the promoter of the event, State agencies and Strafford Police Department. All agreed it was a good opportunity to review these matters in light of the upcoming 2020 Bicentennial celebration.

The Selectmen and Scott discussed several matters of general fire department operations.

- As of the meeting date, the department had responded to 179 calls; they are averaging about a call per day. Last year at this time, the department's call volume was 100. There have been 6 building fires this year. The Selectmen suggested that he be prepared to make a presentation at the 2016 Town Meeting outlining this information, and that he elaborate about the actual cost of a structure fire – manpower, apparatus and equipment, paperwork and follow up.
- The Autopulse has been repaired under warranty. Scott would like department members to get more training on the equipment. It's possible some men from Barnstead could help with the training.
- Scott has signed up to take a class in labor laws for fire chiefs.
- The department is making safety/emergency preparations for the Fourth of July fireworks display.
- Scott reported that the department continues to get notes and cards from grateful residents, commending the department's professional handling of emergency situations.
- Ten department members have gone through the EMT training locally and are preparing for their national exam.
- They discussed the increased level and nature of activity at the Bow Lake Station. The Selectmen asked Scott to handle this as he deems best.

The Selectmen reviewed and approved the flyer of notification for the June 27th auction of 2 tax deeded properties by James St. Jean Auctioneers.

Lynn gave an update on the status of the First Crown Point bridge project. The headwalls are installed, paving complete, and the seeding is done. Even a critter path was installed under the bridge. The area looks great; a rhododendron may be planted in lieu of trees. The engineer has signed off on the project.

A few beach matters were discussed including the elimination of poison ivy around the beach area and the repair of the fence at the Grange and the steps leading from the parking lot to the beach entrance. The Selectmen's Office will check into this. The scouts in BSA Troop 23 are planning to clean the beach area this week.

The Selectmen reviewed a request for use of the State owned Bow Lake beach area. They unanimously agreed to deny the request due to insurance coverage/liability considerations. The Selectmen's Office will draft a letter of response indicating that they are unable to give her authorization for the use of the beach area.

The Selectmen's Office is researching information regarding docks along Water Street.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:40.