

SELECTMEN'S MEETING – September 21, 2009

Present: John J. Strasser, Margo Connors
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Nick DeMayo, Alex Aaron, Chief Allan Clark, Road Agent Douglas Glover

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

MS. CONNORS asked ROAD AGENT GLOVER the status of the road report. Pearl Lake Road to Dickinson corner is complete, Lover's Lane has been repaired, Carpenter Road from Hayward Lane to Lafayette Road has been repaired, and the worst part of Toad Hill has been patched. No work on Dyke Road, getting the rocks dug out of Crane Hill Road. Toad Hill Road and Crane Hill Road will see work next year.

The Town Engineer has reviewed the Vickery Road off Route 117 and recommends a partial release of funds from the escrow account being held by Samaha & Russell. MR. STRASSER made a motion to release \$30, 500 from the Vickery Escrow Account, seconded by MS. CONNORS. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Selectmen denied the Zoning Permit for Howard and Amy Mitz as a variance is required. The paperwork will be sent to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The Selectmen opened the meeting for public comment:

NICK DE MAYO questioned if the Selectmen had voted to proceed with perambulation of the Town as reported in the Courier. The Selectmen agreed to have the cost looked into and then they will decide if it will be in next years budget.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to accept the minutes of September 14, 2009 seconded by MR. STRASSER. The motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Connors questioned if there was a reason that the minutes are not approved at the beginning of each meeting. There is no reason and we will start with the minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

The next Coalition Community Meeting will be held at 10:00 AM, October 9, 2009 at the Local Government Center in Concord. Mr. Strasser will check his calendar for availability.

The Selectmen discussed the Meetinghouse and whether or not a perimeter drain is needed. Mr. Card met with Paul Pinkham, Pinkham Construction and they felt the basement was dry and that there was not a need for a drain. Jennifer spoke with Barbara Serafini and she felt that the grass that goes right up to the building should be cut back and some stone put in. Mr. Glover noted that the basement has had water in the past and that a 30" wide cut with 18" of stone and some perforated pipe would be needed to do it right. Chief Clark also felt that the furnace showed rust where perhaps there had been water in the basement before. It was agreed that the Selectmen would go to the Meetinghouse next Monday to have a look.

ALEX AARON met with the Selectmen to discuss a request for an additional driveway and a building permit for a barn on Map 202, Lot 11.3. After meeting with the Road Agent today, Ms. Aaron has agreed that a new driveway permit will not be requested and that the entrance to the barn will be off the existing driveway. Ms. Aaron stated that there would not be a bathroom installed in the barn at this time but that she had spoken with DES and that she could add it to the house septic system in the future. Ms. Aaron was reminded that there can only be one dwelling unit per lot and the barn cannot be used for dwelling. The Selectmen approved the building permit for a 24'x36' barn using the existing driveway.

ALEX AARON then requested a building permit for Map 202, Lot 12. The original building permit for this lot had expired and a new permit would require wetland approval from the State of NH DES. Ms. Aaron submitted the approved wetland permit dated September 21, 2009. The Selectmen reviewed the permit and then reviewed the original building permit. Since the building size has changed a new energy audit is required and a map showing the exact placement of the house and barn. Ms. Aaron stated that she did not anticipate building the barn at this time but wanted to include it on the permit. Ms. Aaron was given the old permit and she will re-submit the permit with the correct energy audit and map.

ALEX AARON had previously requested that her property located on Map 202, Lot 3 be re-assessed as unbuildable. The Selectmen had responded that the property was not unbuildable as it needs the required frontage (200') on a town road and then it can be built on. This may be accomplished by building a driveway to town specifications that are approved by the Road Agent and Town Engineer. Ms. Aaron was advised that a plan for the road would be required to be submitted. Ms. Albanese was told that the road specs are in the Subdivision Regulations and can be downloaded off the website. The driveway plan must follow the inspection process with the Road Agent and Town Engineer.

CHIEF ALLAN CLARK met with the Selectmen to update them on Fire Department business. Chief Clark wanted the Selectmen to know that Chief Wentworth does so much beyond the law enforcement work. Chief Wentworth takes every concern brought to him and along with Chief Clark work as a team because of their love for the community. Chief Clark stated that the Fire Department is under budget and anticipates finishing the year that way. The department is fully staffed with new members being brought on board. Currently there are two members taking the Fire Fighter I Class being offered in Whitefield. The cost for a new member with basic training is approximately \$615.00 and approximately 250 hours. Chief Clark does not anticipate any additional dry hydrant work this year as funds are needed elsewhere. Chief Clark is getting quotes for the dredging of the pond on Birches Road. He is also working on permits and an easement for this location. This cost will be presented in a separate warrant article next year as public funds cannot be spent on private property. Currently the pond has silt and salt that runs off the state road. This drainage will need to be re-directed and a swale on the upper side put in along with stone. Building maintenance was discussed; the roof

fund currently has \$20,000 and will need \$50,000 for replacement. Ms. Connors noted that the roof project may qualify for some of the energy grant monies that will be available to communities. Ms. Connors and Chief Clark will follow up on any funds available. Chief Clark wanted the Selectmen to be aware that the two engines are both showing their age. One has an 11 year old chassis and 30 plus year old body/pump and the other is 25 years old and they are having trouble buying parts and have spent 7500 to keep running. Recently the engine battery shorted out and luckily the vehicle was parked outside at the time. Last year the request for capital reserve monies was raised from 15,000 to 25,000 and that gives a balance of \$109,000 at the end of 2009. To purchase a new no frills vehicle would be \$250,000 to 275,000 and with the new EPA requirements the cost is 15 to 25 thousand more. Chief Clark would like the board to consider raising the amount put into capital reserve for 2010 if possible. The grants that were available previously are now going to hiring urban fire fighters and have limited funds for rural apparatus. This makes it much harder to get a vehicle through the grant process. Chief Clark closed by noting the department is well trained and the moral is excellent. Mr. Strasser noted that Chief Clark does a great job with his \$65,000 budget.

Mr. DeMayo asked Chief Clark about the grants and he explained that the funding previously used for equipment was 600 million and now only 200 million would be available. In addition more people are applying and 25% of the funding is for new apparatus. He stated that the 25 year old truck should be replaced as it does not meet current standards. It carries just two firemen and no air packs. He was asked what is done with the old truck and stated that it could be sold but wouldn't be worth much over \$5,000. Chief Clark would like to get a couple more years out of the truck and would like the CRF to be increased to \$50,000 if possible. It was stated by Mr. DeMayo that with highway CRF up to 75,000 and the proposal to raise the fire CRF the timing was bad in this economy. Mr. Strasser noted that there is never a good time.

With no more business before the Board, MS. CONNORS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. STRASSER the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, September 28 at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:30 PM with appointments scheduled at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer P. Gaudette
Administrative Assistant