

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**July 25, 2022**

**MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**4:30 P.M.**

*The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.*

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Selectmen present: Dick Hendl, Poul Heilmann and Amy Lewis

Others: Lori DeConink, Claudia Zent, Susan Cutting, Keith Cutting, John Anderson, Michael Tully, Kathy Coombs, Bill Coombs, Barbara Cooper, Sarah Anderson, Susan Chiarella, Richard Tatro, Evelyn Tatro, Cory Swenson, Steven Dzubak, Sue Abair, Linda Welch, Whit Smith, Henry Bresnahan, Lisa Page, Theresa Quinn, Judi Shank,

**Scheduled Appointments:**

Bill Coombs -Beach traffic control for safety purposes: Mr. Coombs addressed traffic concerns going by the beach providing several examples of safety concerns, speeding and reckless driving. Mr. Coombs proposes that the selectboard consider purchasing two 15-inch speed radar signs, which would be permanently installed on both sides of the road about ¼ mile from the beach. The information for the signs was provided to the Board members for their review. The cost for one sign is \$2,966. The sign has the ability to be programmed for various speeds.

Dick stated that with Route 114 being a state road the Board is limited as to what they can do. The Board would have to get permission from the DOT. The Board is in favor of the idea and Dick will ask Pat to follow up with the state DOT.

Mrs. Tatro stated that we are not a high-crime area, and there is such a problem at the beach with a lot of kids running around in addition to people walking on the road, why aren't the police officers sitting over there instead of in their driveway. Mr. Coombs stated the police can't be at the beach around the clock. Tamara added that Officer Julian leaves the cruiser parked in his driveway like that when he is not on duty in an attempt to slow down traffic going by.

The Board moved forward to the topics of vandalism in town, providing three examples that have happened in the past two weeks: One, graffiti at the skateboard park. Two, the raft at the lake which was damaged by persons unknown. Lastly, the port-a-potty at the beach. Ron's Jons reported rocks, rotten food and other debris in the port-a-potty. They were not happy having to go and clean that out. The Board is aware that some residents are unhappy that the raft is sitting on the recreation field. The Board felt they would put it out again once they had the opportunity to discuss it and find out if people are aware of who is causing this vandalism. Dick stated the Board will announce putting the raft back in the water after some discussion, but if it gets destroyed again there will have to be another solution. The town cannot continually spend money to clean up after vandals.

It is Sarah Anderson's understanding that the town used Covid funds to purchase security cameras, which is true. The cameras are located on the town buildings. Dick stated that the camera on the Fire Department surveils the recreation area; it was placed there after the skatepark was vandalized a year ago. Sarah asked if there has been vandalism on the town buildings; in the past yes there has. Sarah asked what stopped the camera from catching the activity at the skatepark. Unfortunately, the cameras were offline. Sarah's suggestion is to utilize the cameras on the areas where we know the vandalism has occurred.

Poul stated that having the raft out for a week enabled the Board to get some attention to the fact that we've got vandalism around here; residents showed up to discuss it. If the raft had been fixed and put right back nobody would have thought twice about it. There was also a lack of communicating that there have now been three incidences of vandalism. What has been brought up are good points and Poul will recommend the Board investigate the suggestion of a camera at the beach. The reality is we have vandalism occurring here and the Board needs the residents to help them find out who is doing it and why. It goes back to if you see something say something.

Tamara stated the town's IT people and Pro-Technologies are trying to work together to solve the problem with the cameras. Dick stated this is a transition of two technologies they are trying to get to work together. To address the question of the cameras being on the buildings Dick informed the residents of the suspected attempted break-ins at the Fire Department. Considering this, the Board felt it was their responsibility to protect first the high-cost assets of the town; that is why the decision was made to put the cameras on the town buildings. Sarah asked if it would be beneficial to spend the money on signs alerting that these areas are under video surveillance. The Board will consider that.

Barbara Cooper asked if the cameras are recording 24-7, who's responsibility is it to review the film and how often is it reviewed. Tamara stated the video is live streamed to her computer and if something happened the police department would come view it; there is a two-week rewind capability. The town still relies on the residents reporting to them so that the film could then be reviewed. Barbara asked what the expense would be to put a camera at the beach area. It would depend on the camera, but the current system cost in the range of \$24,000. Theresa Quinn stated she is all for protecting town resources, but personally doesn't expect surveillance of that kind at a public beach or picnic area.

Steven Dzubak feels the first priority should be to get the cameras working, and it sounds like that is being worked on. Two, putting signs out saying you are being recorded will go a long way in deterring people. Three, before deciding to put a camera at the beach those first two things should happen along with obtaining an estimate for the camera as there is no power at the beach or a network connection for the data to be downloaded to.

Linda Welch asked what the cost was to repair the raft and remove the graffiti from the skatepark. Dick is unaware of the cost but doesn't think the cost is a factor; it is the total disregard of public property. Linda stated at the cost of so many people using the beach, raft and the skatepark there will be vandalism; it is Linda's opinion that the vandals win if we take away the amenities and the rest of the residents lose. The cost seems minor compared to the value to the town and the community.

It is Mr. Coombs belief that the larger raft does draw a type of kid that the smaller raft doesn't. If the raft is put back, maybe there should be some restrictions on how late people can go out there. Amy said there is no way to patrol or enforce that. Mrs. Coombs added that unfortunately with the larger raft out the smaller raft is being utilized more giving the smaller kids less of an opportunity to use it.

Dick stated there were some very good suggestions and the Board will try to follow through on the ones they feel are possible.

Dick moved on to the ADA parking compliance. He has spoken with the Department of Justice, the state ADA compliance officers and they have told him the following:

- The basis of the number of parking spots that we have, theoretically, down on the beach we need to have one handicap accessible spot which must be van accessible.

- Since we don't have a paved parking area it is impractical to try to line the area.

After talking with someone in Concord a reasonable solution was created. Dick showed the residents a sketch of the solution which laid out a van accessible parking area, which must have two 96-inch spaces, one for the van and one for the lift. Dick stated we are getting van accessible signs for the beach and the library.

Sarah Anderson went back to the beach parking area. The Beach Improvement Committee talked about how the parking lot at the beach needed some work. The concern of the committee is more of preventing the drainage permanently and establishing how many spots are there, and parking permits for town residents. The Board is still exploring the best way to identify people who are authorized to use the beach; it's not only residents. It's seasonal residents, people with guests; this is not an easy problem to solve, and it is not being ignored. Theresa Quinn, as a representative of the Lake Protective Association, wondered what it would look like for the town to have a greeter of some sort. If someone was designated to keep an eye on the number of people, cars, duration and get a general count that would give the baseline information the Board might need to project what is needed regarding the parking area. Dick asked if the Lake Association would be willing to collect some of that data. Theresa will see if that is something the Lake Host might be able to do, at the suggestion of the Board. Judi Shank suggested using high school students as it would go towards their community service hours.

On behalf of the Board Dick closed the discussion on these matters and asked that ideas residents have be submitted to Tamara Butcher in person or by email. The Board will take them under advisement and do what they can. If anyone wants to volunteer to assist on any of these things

the Board would welcome that effort as well. The Board announced that they will authorize Chief Lacaille to put the raft back in the lake as soon as he can. Dick asked that if anyone had any information on who is creating the problems, they would welcome that information as well.

### **Zoning Permits:**

Before reviewing his report Whit turned things over to Cory Swenson to talk about his concerns. Corey Swenson had a complaint made on him by his brother's wife two to three years ago saying he was running a commercial business out of a residential area. This resulted in Corey having to get rid of all his equipment. Corey doesn't understand why now his brother is being allowed to do everything he wasn't allowed to do; they now have everything Corey was made to get rid of and are doing the same thing he was stopped for. The Board was just made aware of this issue and will see what they can do to rectify the situation.

REPORT from ZONING COORDINATOR. -- Board of Selectmen - Monday, July 25, 2022.

### **Application for Permit – APPROVED**

1. Mr./Mrs. Butcher, dba Brookside Storage LLC, 2669 George Hill Road, would like to build an 8' x 12' shed to be used as an office behind the storage units they have at that location. Zoning Coordinator has been to the site, viewed the location, and has spoken to Mr./Mrs. Butcher regarding the plan. Applicants represent they have an approved site plan on file with the town. Site Plan reviewed and, while it does not include a shed/office, there is provision for three (3) additional storage unit buildings that have not been constructed. Applicant has gone before the Planning Board and has agreed to submit to the Planning Board a revised site plan (using updated application forms for a better record for the town) showing the shed/office. Review to occur at the next meeting of the PB – August 18, 2022. Otherwise, there are no wetlands issues or setback issues, and the structure will be less than 35' tall. Zoning Permit approved per delegation of authority with the condition of obtaining sign-off on the revised site plan from the Planning Board.

2. Robert Crowell & Donna Blaikie, 435 Messer Hill Road, would like to build a garage next to their house. Zoning Coordinator has been out to the site and discussed the plan with the applicants. Area for the garage has been clearly identified. There are no setback or wetlands issues. The height of the garage will be less than 35' tall. No observed business or commercial activity and applicants have represented the same on their application. Zoning Permit approved per delegation of authority.

### **Permit Applications in hand - Waiting further Information**

4. American Tower Corporation, 180 Oak Hill Rd, would like to upgrade and place additional equipment on the existing 250' tall telecommunications tower. Height of the tower will not be increased. Additional information required to complete application (tax ID) and fee to be paid (\$50). Plans, drawings and description are sufficient.

5. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. Zaleskas/Kelly, 164 Four Corners Road, would like to erect/install a small - (8' x 15') shed behind their house on Kolelemook Lake (lot is .34 acre). Zoning Coordinator has received

email from Applicant and has responded with instructions/requirements for Applicant to apply for Special Exception before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Permit Applications Returned to Administrator

6. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. Cushing, Lot 1 Nichols Hill Road, for a garage. Zoning Coordinator visited with Mr. Cushing (at his request) at the location on Nichols Hill Road. Mr. Cushing expressed a desire to build closer to Nichols Hill Road than the required 35'. Mr. Cushing advised regarding need for a variance. He said he planned to file an application with the town. Zoning Coordinator is not aware of any additional activity on this one.

Other Matters.

A. Property owner advised Zoning Coordinator that she does not plan to appeal decision by ZBA denying Special Exception to build/place modular home within the Shoreland Conservation District next to a Water Body on her property. She will relocate the house to a location that does not encroach on setback requirements. (Cotter)

B. Attended Planning Board meeting. Consultation with Butcher regarding Revision to Site Plan – Brookside Storage. Minor subdivision review (Gobeil) presented by Clayton Platt.

C. Telephone call from property owner (complaint) regarding property on Sanborn Hill Road being used for Commercial Activity. Property owner invited to Select Board meeting to explain his concern. Memo sent to BOS members by email.

<< July 24, 2022 >>

**Minutes of July 11, 2022:**

Amy made a motion to accept the minutes of July 11, 2022 as written. The motion was seconded by Poul. Amy, Poul and Dick voted in favor of the motion.

**Court Status:**

There is no new status to report on any court actions.

**Board and Department Updates:**

Amy stated there are some concerns with cleaning conditions of the Fire Department. The bathroom and kitchen need more attention. Poul will contact Marcy.

Poul stated the work being done on the sand shed area is progressing. Part of the discussion Friday was where they would take all the stumps and the brush. After meeting with Pete Abair, Darrin Patten and communicating with Ken Jacques they decided to take a piece of the area, about 50 ft. wide and 100 ft. deep to move all that material back there rather than trying to haul it back or dig it into the ground.

Poul met with Tim Bray and updated the grading scale, simplified it a bit. Poul provided the information to Dick and Amy for their review.

Dick stated the library trustees will meet on Thursday to discuss their review of the scholarship applications. They are still in the process of trying to find the best way to evaluate those applications.

**Correspondence/Signatures:**

Letter regarding Senate Bill 239.

1 Intent to cut

**Miscellaneous Business:**

A resident asked if there are any restrictions in Springfield about property owners turning their properties into Airbnb's. Dick explained the current process they are following when they become aware of a short-term rental in town.

Sarah Anderson asked what the rules are for advertising on the town marquee. Dick stated the marquee is reserved for those organizations that are sponsored directly by the Town, Historical Society, Garden Club, The Beach and Picnic Improvement Committee, Town Office, Library, Police Department, Fire Department. Sarah said there has been discussion about where the Historical Society falls in that. Dick stated the Historical Society is a town sponsored organization.

Susan Chiarella asked if the Board could consider being a little more lenient, and if a group like the snow mobile club wanted to advertise on the marquee the Board could judge whether or not that is worthy of putting it up there. The snowmobile club does a lot for the town; it keeps trails open for recreation and Susan feels they deserve to be able to put an event, one or two a year, on the marquee. Dick said that can be discussed when there is sufficient time.

Theresa Quinn, KLPA is a 501C-3 and they also do a lot for the town and would love to have access to the town marquee. They are aware they are not technically a town sponsored organization, so she would also like to request that leniency, and more importantly a bigger marquee.

Sarah Anderson had brought the marquee up because they beach improvement committee had discussed putting a marquee at the beach which might not be necessary if there were a larger one by the rec field. Susan stated the Garden Club paid for that second marquee and a volunteer helped build it. It may be possible for the Garden Club to contribute to that again, it would have to be discussed at the club.

Poul made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42pm. The motion was seconded by Amy. Poul, Amy and Dick voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Jill Hastings

Deputy Administrative Assistant