

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**DECEMBER 22, 2014**

## **MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**7:00 P.M.**

Selectmen present: Don Hill, Chairman; Leigh Callaway and George McCusker.

Others present: Pete Abair, Road Agent; Tim Julian, Chief of Police; Bryan O'Day and Susan Chiarella.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Sue Chiarella re: Beach parking and clean-up. Sue stated she has been asked to be the spokesperson to address concerns brought up to her about use of the beach by individuals and large groups that do not live in town and causes parking issues and crowding. Don noted this issue comes up every year. The beach ordinance allows use by Springfield residents, guests and friends, and includes a lot of people. George stated this is an age-old problem that is difficult to enforce. Chief Tim stated after complaints last year, he approached people and had no problems. If they were not allowed to be there, they left. Leigh suggested reviewing the beach ordinance with Chief Tim. George noted the time to do this is now, not when there is a problem. If an issue comes up Tim needs something to work with. Residents need to notify the Chief when this is taking place, not after the fact. George does not want to have to use extreme enforcement like in some other towns. Don feels the best approach is on a case by case basis. Input for enforcement remains with Tim.

Sue extended appreciation to the highway department for all they do. She questioned if the beach could be put on a schedule to be cleaned up and raked more regularly. Cigarette butts are all over the place. Allowing smoking was discussed. Don moved to amend the beach ordinance to include a no smoking clause. Motion was seconded by George and unanimously approved. New signs will be printed to improve notification of "Springfield Families Only" and "No Smoking". Pete will add clean-up of the beach to Rick's list of things to check on a weekly basis in the summer.

Sue discussed recent problem with a tractor trailer truck on Nichols Hill Road that was to make a delivery on Hannah's Way, missed the turn, and then had trouble turning around at the end of the road. Sue suggested perhaps a "No Thru Street" sign should be posted at the beginning of the hill. Pete will move the "Dead End" sign to the top of the hill, near Hannah's Way.

### **Highway:**

Pete reported the new truck is going to be ready soon. The blue truck has broken down and there is not going to be any more money spent to fix it. Leigh reported the blue truck was put out to bid. There were no bids received. Pete put word out for offers, and two offers have been received. The truck will be sold as is and includes the plow, wing and sander, wheels and tires. Motion by Leigh to open the two offers received; seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Offers were received from TMS Diesel, and Bryan O'Day. George stated he would like to see the truck sold to someone local, whose tax dollars have helped pay for it. If it is kept and registered in town the revenue stays here. Don noted at one time it was felt the truck was worth \$15K and there were no offers. Luckily there are two firm offers now. Motion by Don to accept the offer of \$8501.00 from Bryan O'Day to purchase the "blue truck" as is. Don stated it would be best to complete the transaction by the end of 2014. The motion was seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Janet stated for "housekeeping" purposes the funds appropriated in Article 2 of the 2014 Town Warrant for the new truck should be encumbered since the new truck most likely will not be paid for until 2014. Motion by Don to encumber funds appropriated as per Warrant Article 2; seconded by Leigh and unanimously approved.

#### Budget Review:

Leigh reviewed budget worksheets, unreserved fund balance estimates, and payroll scenarios with the board. He noted these are not decisions but merely numbers open for discussion. He calculated the unreserved fund balance after last year's warrant article expenditures at \$642K. Holding funds for pending legal exposure, and possible funding for some of the paving and other projects would leave about an 8.9% balance. Don noted this would bring the fund balance back where it should be and follows George's point of using the fund balance appropriately and aggressively whenever possible to help offset taxes. Leigh noted the payroll worksheet provides information for further wage deliberation. The worksheet includes numbers with and without the Municipal Association's wage survey for the highway and police departments. The Board recommended department heads should meet with their Selectman liaison to discuss wages before the budget meeting of January 5<sup>th</sup>. The Selectmen will hold a non-public session at 6:45 p.m. January 12<sup>th</sup> with these two departments.

Leigh noted based on the discussion at the Planning Board meeting, he feels strongly that if new wetlands provisions are adopted the line for zoning compliance needs to be increased.

Don thanked Leigh for the "heavy lifting" on the spreadsheets. "This year's worksheets are the best tool we have had."

Minutes: Motion by Leigh to approve the December 8, 2014 minutes as written, seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Leigh shared a list of completed projects from 2014.

The proposed snowmobile ordinance has not been adopted. Leigh would like a session for review of the draft and discussion before it is sent to legal counsel to be reviewed. Board agreed a deliberative session will be held at the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Board would like to find out what the legal requirements are for divesting of the tax deeded properties in Eastman. They would like to review the parcels with the ECA and proceed with an auction.

Additions to projects list:

Overhangs are needed on the 2 bay doors and the side “people” door on the North side of the highway building to keep the ice from hitting someone. Don stated this is a safety issue and should be taken care of with haste. Pete was asked to call Bill Huntoon or other local contractors who may be readily available to take care of this issue. Don moved to encumber up to \$3,000 to get the project done at the earliest moment. Motion seconded by Leigh and unanimously approved.

Town Hall Carpeting: The carpeting project has been contracted, but the bill probably won’t be received until after the first of the year. Motion by Leigh to encumber \$2200.00 to cover the contract price. Motion seconded by Don. Don and Leigh voted in favor. George abstained as he was not in favor of the carpeting. Don noted the motion was to encumber funds.

Correspondence: The Selectmen noted the receipt from Mr. Woods of the Lake Sunapee Protective Association regarding joint session to review ordinances and discuss possibilities to establish a common ordinance throughout the other towns in the watershed. Don noted the same notice was discussed at the joint planning and zoning meeting and the feeling was the town was not willing to give up the ability to be different than other towns. The Planning Board moved and approved a motion that they are not interested in a common ordinance.

Letter from Attorney, Bernie Waugh offering to meet with local officials and discuss major statute and case law changes that happened in 2014. Board agreed to proceed with the offer sometime in April. Local officials should come prepared with questions for Mr. Waugh.

Board and Department updates:

Leigh noted the Planning Board supports pursuing a part-time zoning compliance officer. There needs to be discussion about what is expected and what the salary requirements are. Sue Chiarella suggested investigating what other towns do for zoning compliance or administrative support and perhaps someone who already does this for another town may be interested part-time in Springfield. Don noted this is a continuation of deliberations the Selectmen have had regarding a part-time enforcement officer. Revisions to the wetlands ordinance from the aspect of zoning, needs to be handled by someone one with credentials to handle enforcement. Leigh noted since the Selectmen’s terms of office are a “revolving door” a complicated ordinance cannot be satisfactorily enforced by a “layman’s” interpretation. George agrees the dialogue needs to remain open, but Springfield is rural residential and different from other towns. Sue suggested sharing a person that has experience and knowledge and can work in an advisory/enforcement capacity based on our town ordinances.

Don noted receipt of an e-mail asking the Selectmen to propose a warrant article on the Town Warrant urging the State to come up with a fair school funding formula. Leigh suggested reviewing this with Todd Fleury, Springfield's School Board Rep.

Board and Department Updates: George reported he has urged the Conservation Commission to get involved in providing more information for the website. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to provide news and useful information. Don noted the Department Head or Board Chairman should forward the information to Tamara for posting.

Planning Board: Don reported: Wonderwell met with the Board. They have some more work to do. Their hearing was continued to February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Don stated the Board also reviewed wetlands ordinance revisions. The Board would like to move forward for 2015 town meeting, but they have not had a complete document to review. They discussed a hearing at their January meeting. The statutory provisions for posting notice and scheduling hearings was reviewed. January 9<sup>th</sup> is the last day to post notice for the first hearing on zoning amendments. January 20<sup>th</sup> is the last day to hold the first public hearing on zoning amendments. Janet will get in touch with Mike McCrory at UVLSRPC to discuss.

At 8:55 p.m. the Board voted unanimously to enter into non-public session per RSA 91:A-3; Personnel. At 9:15, after voting to seal the non-public minutes, the Board entered back to public session and adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts,  
Administrative Assistant