

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**JULY 13, 2015**

**MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**7:00 P.M.**

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

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

Others present: Mike Lawlor, Pete Abair, Bryan O'Day and Tom Duling.

Don called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mike Gelcius from the Elkins Fish & Game Club present the Board members with a letter of appreciation for allowing the club to hold their recent Lake-a-Thon at the lake and recreation field. (Letter attached to these minutes).

**Building Permits:**

Hazelton & Albanese - Main Street. Variance granted by ZBA to extend deck 5'. Building Permit approved.

Edward Stammer – Philbrick Hill – Building Permit for 24' x 24' shed approved.

Sidney Pratt – Main Street – Building Permit for deck approved. ATF fee paid.

Gary Robinson concerned whether there has been more progress about planning other than what was going on last week for Oak Hill and Messer Hill Road since the meeting residents had with the Board a while back. He can't remember the last time gravel was added to Messer Hill Road or the roads top dressed. Concerned with sand being pushed 20' to 30' off the sides of the road in places and feels the road is being widened and branches are being cut and just thrown into the woods. He has never had problems until recently. Don reiterated the point that was made at the last meeting was there was no crisis or perceived crisis with these roads. The point was trying to make was to open the discussion to modify future plans but overall they (Selectmen) are happy with the way things are proceeding this year. Don noted many roads are getting wider. Bryan O'Day commented that the town no longer uses one-tons for plowing and maintenance because they don't hold up. The trucks are bigger and the plows and wings are larger so roads need to accommodate them.

Leigh noted the process for putting together big ticket items for budget preparation will begin in August/September. Part of that process will be road restoration and will be reviewed with the Road Agent, the Budget Committee and the Selectmen as well as the Capital Improvements Committee. He will address the concerns regarding Messer Hill and Oak Hill. There is a lot of competition for tax dollars. Don extended appreciation to Gary for the conversation and discussion.

Minutes of June 22, 2015. Leigh moved to approve, seconded by George and unanimously approved. The Board commended Tamara on a good job with the minutes, and for filling in in Janet's absence.

**Project List:**

Leigh reported the heating bids are due on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

He has no date on the relocation of the computer server and wiring upgrades.

The stone steps for the front of the building have been ordered.

Leigh stated Trudy Heath has asked about some minor painting inside the historical society building. Board unanimously approved adding to the list.

Sealing behind the Town Hall steps needs to be done to prevent erosion from water running behind them. Board unanimously approved adding to the list.

Don stated that the air conditioners in the Town office are old and inefficient and are not able to keep up with the heat on a hot sunny day. Replacing them should be considered. There have been no complaints by the staff, but he has heard citizen's concerns with providing a more comfortable workspace for the employees. George stated he is in agreement. The computers should be in a cooler environment as well. Board agreed to add to the list.

Leigh provided the Selectmen with an updated budget worksheet. Bottom line review shows things are in pretty good shape, but still bear watching.

George stated he would like to see the highway budget have a separate line for sand and a separate line for gravel next year.

George complimented Peter on the roads. He stated the roads on his side of town are fantastic. He cannot comment on the other side of town. Don noted that the number of positive comments on the roads is the highest he has ever heard.

**New Business:**

Pete stated someone has offered to buy the old Ariens mower. The Board agreed to accept sealed bids for the mower at the meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup>. A notice will be put on the website, through these minutes and on the marquee.

**Board and Department Updates:**

Don extended accolades to the Old Home Day Committee and all the volunteers for a spectacular event. George stated this is the first time he has been able to attend because he is usually at the race, but he felt there was reasonable attendance. Don noted many people commented on the Kearsarge Community Band and also appreciated them playing during the parade.

Cemetery: Stone Vault company has been straightening stones at the cemetery.

Building Space Committee is still meeting.

Library Trustees are moving forward and doing a canvas of the area libraries to see how others are moving forward with new uses etc.

Planning Board – Don spoke to Kevin Lee about two recent consultations that were sent to the Planning Board. Kevin noted he would rather the Board hold consultations and find that they are not needed, then to not have a consultation with someone who really needs one.

Bob Costello has offered to donate a picnic table to the town. The Board appreciated the offer but are all set with tables for now.

Correspondence:

Letter of resignation from Dr. Art Bobruff as Municipal Budget Member effective June 10, 2015 to fulfill his appointment as Springfield's representative to the Kearsarge School Board.

Letter from Dubois and King offering services to evaluate the Gove Brook Culvert on George Hill Road that is on the State's "red list". The Board discussed what needs to be done to get on the bridge aide list. They will reach out to Lou Caron to see if this something that he does or who he may recommend.

Notification from the Town of Wilmot with copies of minutes and a notice of upcoming hearing regarding a proposal from Huckleberry Heating.

Signatures:

Intent to Cut Timber Forms approved for D & P Hill on Nichols Hill Road; and Star Lake Farm on Stryker Road.

Yield Tax Assessments completed for: Aaron's Ledge Inc.; N. Sacks; S & M Forest Trust; D & M Patten; J. Chiarella; S. Chiarella; and Garfield Trust.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts  
Administrative Assistant