

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**August 22, 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: Dave Tucker, Angela MacCreighton, Pixie Hill, Whit Smith, Steven Dzubak, Kara Zaleskas

The Board of Selectmen reviewed and signed the general obligation note from Mascoma Bank which is to be used to cover the expenses of the sand shed site prep work. The note was also signed by Angela MacCreighton and Pixie Hill at this time.

Dick made a motion to deposit \$100 into the bank account in Mascoma Bank to keep the account open so that we can proceed with the repayment of the loan. The motion was seconded by Amy. Dick, Amy and Poul voted in favor of the motion.

### **Scheduled Appointments:**

Discussion of Harm Reduction Training and Nalox boxes:

Amy spoke on behalf of the fire department as there was one available to attend tonight's meeting. The fire department is thinking about putting Nalox boxes at specific points in town. As of the last fire department meeting those locations had not been determined or even if we had the boxes. Dick shared they were proposing putting one of the boxes at the fire department and one at the police department. The fire department is also talking about a harm reduction class presented by Dartmouth Hitchcock. There would be no charge to the town for this. The town would sponsor it and open it up to surrounding towns. Dick made a motion to allow the fire and police department to proceed with the acquisition of the Nalox boxes and arrange for the harm reduction training. The motion was seconded by Poul. Dick, Poul and Amy voted in favor of the motion.

### **Zoning Permits:**

REPORT from ZONING COORDINATOR. -- Board of Selectmen - Monday, August 22, 2022.

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

1. Mr. Stephen Bell, 13 Winding Wood Road, for a propane-fired backup electrical generator behind garage. Zoning Coordinator has visited the property and has spoken by phone with the applicant. No set back or wetlands issues and structure will be less than 35' tall. No observed commercial or business activity and applicant has represented the same on the application. Zoning Permit approved per delegation of authority.

2. Mr. Richard Ingham, 52 Shad Hill Road, to install solar panels on backside roof of his home. Zoning Permit application complete and fee paid. Zoning Coordinator has visited the property and has exchanged email with the applicant. No set back or wetlands issues and structure will be less than 35' tall. No observed commercial or business activity and applicant has represented the same on the application. Zoning Permit approved per delegation of authority.

3. Guy & Sue Downey, 1867 Main Street, to install/build a lean-to style shelter roof off the side of their horse barn to keep the snow from blocking the door out to the paddock. Fee paid and Zoning Coordinator visited with Mr. Downey to discuss the plan. No set back or wetlands issues and structure will be less than 35' tall. No observed commercial or business activity and applicant has represented the same on the application. Zoning Permit approved per delegation of authority.

Permit Applications in hand - Waiting further Information

4. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. Zaleskas/Kelly, 164 Four Corners Rd, would like to erect small - (8' x 15') shed behind their house on Kolelemook Lake (lot is .34 acre). Variance application (incomplete) received.

Other Matters.

A. Attended GOEFER webinar Aug 11

B. Inquiry regarding build on lot in Eastman (Cold Pond Builders)

C. Inquiry from property owner on Nichols Hill Rd. Several items - Lot merger; driveway; storage containers; tree fort (post & beam) requesting general info; no plans certain. (Berns)

D. Attend Planning Board meeting (Brookside Storage; Ellis – Messer Hill) Provide wetlands info (Dutchman Pond) to Clayton Platt.

E. Visit American Tower site on Oak Hill with Saulnier

F. Inquiry regarding process/procedure for operating a short-term rental of guest facilities business on Stoney Brook Road. Provided property owner with application for Special Exception (Li)

G. Inquiry regarding process/procedure for operating a short-term rental of guest facilities business on Sandy Beach Road. Provided property owner with application for Special Exception (Aucoin)

H. Review/Revise correspondence (Hendl) regarding clean up of lot on Sanborn Hill Road

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Whit met with Kara Zaleskas to take some measurements at her property. Her application is now all set, she will go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment in September.

Whit visited the American Tower site with Dan Saulnier in connection with the approval of the zoning permit to put additional transmitters on the tower. Dan recalled a lot of debris up there, which there wasn't at this time. However, Whit will be in touch with American Tower in connection with sending them the approved permit because there is no site plan with respect to that location and there should be. It is possible that a formal site plan is not required, depending on when it was built.

Whit stated out of the seven or eight short term rentals we have in town there are two that are problematic. One is in Twin Lake Villa which is in the hands of the attorneys. The other is the green house on the edge of the lake. One application has been denied and there has been a request for reconsideration by the zoning board. At their last meeting, on the advice of counsel, the Zoning Board agreed to grant that request for reconsideration; this is regarding the property on Woodcrest.

Two notices have been sent to the purchaser of the Ramsay property and no response has been received. The Board would like to follow up with that with a notice of violation and include the town attorney.

Dick drafted a response to attorney Corley regarding the clean up of the lot on Sanborn Hill Road. The Board agrees with the response and Dick will work on getting that out tomorrow.

Dick moved that the Board, as the enforcing board in town, formally appeal the decision to grant the special exception to the Harriet's. Not on the basis of the granting of the special exception, but on the basis their procedures were not consistent with the prior special exception that was granted to Mr. Biebel which came with conditions. Dick feels some kind of condition should've been attached to the special exception for the Harriet's. The Board agrees that is reasonable. As a representative of the ZBA Poul will draft a letter informing Mrs. Chiarella that the selectboard is formally appealing that, not on the basis of granting the special exception, but on the basis of the inconsistency of the criteria used in both of those cases. Whit stated the Board has until September 2<sup>nd</sup> to make that appeal.

Kara Zaleskas asked if the special exception on Woodcrest had been approved. She was informed that it has not, but there has been a request for reconsideration. In the case of Woodcrest, where it has been denied, they have been told they can't operate the business. Dick stated once the ZBA reviews the appeal and makes a decision the Board will see where to go from there.

Kara expressed her concern with short term rentals and businesses on Woodcrest. Kara informed the board she received a notice of another business at 70 Woodcrest. Dick informed her that is not a business. The Board requested to see a copy of the notice she received informing her of this business. Kara will try to locate the letter and provide a copy to the town.

**Minutes of August 8, 2022:**

*There are two more units on order and locations being considered are the post office or the beach; they are also considering putting one ~~if~~ **in** a personal vehicle belonging to a fire fighter.* Poul made a motion to accept the minutes of August 8, 2022, as amended. The motion was seconded by Amy. Poul, Amy and Dick voted in favor of the motion.

**Court Status:**

At the request of a resident who would like to know the status of the active litigation that's taking place Dick checked with the town attorney and was told that the motions that were made at the June hearing by both sides were taken under advisement by the judge and he will make a decision whether to dismiss the court case or to schedule another hearing. Our attorney will inform us as soon as she hears the result.

**Unfinished Business:**

The Board has received from Chief Beaulieu his intent to retire as of the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. The Board accepted his decision and thanked the Chief for his 19 years of service to the Town of Springfield. The Board also wished the Chief continued health and a long happy retirement. As of the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, Chief Beaulieu will be in retirement status. The Board is considering the next step once the retirement is final.

Amy stated at the admin meeting for the fire department that she attended she mentioned she would prefer to see one of the spare AED units on the rescue truck or in a centralized location in town. One of the EMS officers provided Amy with some data from an EMS trainer where it is stated that it is a good idea for EMS members to have units in their personal vehicles, but there is nothing Amy could find online through Fire Standards and Training where that is an actual policy. What Amy found to be consistent in her research is that all AED units need to be in a centralized location where people know where they are at all times and are accessible by the public. One point this EMS officer was making is that the location where this unit would be kept in the personal vehicle was a remote area of town, on the outskirts of town. Amy feels there are many other remote areas in town that would not be represented; why put emphasis on one area and not the others. Amy's request to the fire department was to have one of the units on the rescue truck and to find a centralized location for the second unit and that has not changed. Chief Lacaille will be invited to the next Board meeting to get his feelings on the AED units.

**New Business:**

Covid specific benefits – Tamara is in a list share with other municipalities and one of the questions was what other towns were doing as far as added benefits because of Covid-19. It came back unanimously that no towns are continuing to offer additional sick days for anyone diagnosed with Covid. The town of Springfield didn't have a policy in place for additional benefits due to Covid-19.

The Board received a letter from a resident asking for the town's official policy on responding to anonymous complaints. Dick drafted a response to this resident stating that in his six years on the Board we have not had an anonymous complaint except for one resident who writes them periodically. The town's policy has been where there is credible evidence, and the Board investigates and find that the evidence is valid they will take action. If the Board finds they have questions or can't pursue it because they don't know who ask any follow up questions it then gets dropped. Dick offered this resident the opportunity to act as a go-between between any resident that feels they can't come forward with a complaint to handle the anonymous complaint as a go-between between that individual and the Selectboard. The Board has not received a response from the resident.

Whit reminded the Board that the town does have a written policy which he prepared several years ago; it was adopted by the Selectboard and echoes what Dick provided to the resident. Dick will follow up with that policy if he gets a response from the resident

Whit has brought to the Board's attention that the wetlands map is out of date and suggests an update. Dick feels this is a good idea, but before approving it as a Board they would like an idea of the cost. Whit has begun investigating this project. Amy suggested Whit contact DES Wetlands bureau, they may be able to provide useful information.

Dick asked if there is a process to review the final sand shed site preparation when Stevens is finished with it so we know we got what we contracted for. Poul doesn't recall having that conversation, but it is something that should be done. Poul will reach out to Stevens.

Whit has been talking to Tim Bray about possibly getting a large screen tv that can be used as a display presentation tool for the Protectworth room. This would be very beneficial to the Planning Board especially when reviewing maps. They are looking at a 65-inch screen.

Steven Dzubak informed the Board that the raft further out has a board that you can put your foot through now. Next to the new board in the middle there is a very soft board where someone has already broken through; not convinced it's vandalism because about 4 feet of the board is very soft.

Dave Tucker asked what will happen after the 5<sup>th</sup> of September and Chief Beaulieu is retired. Dick stated the next step will take place as soon as several issues are discussed with the town attorney. Dave's concern is the lack of police coverage in town. The Board stated they are doing things at the fastest rate they can and not making any bad choices.

The Board will ask the Fire Department to pull the raft in for the season as it is a safety issue. There was some discussion on doing something other than the wood raft for next year and possible placing the donated raft as the further out raft. Things to think about for next summer.

**Board and Department Updates:**

The picnic beautification committee is working on a sketch of what they would like to do. Hopefully the Board will have something substantial to start the process of the work in the spring.

Poul has been having his weekly meeting with the highway department. They are working on getting the posts for the handicap signs. Tamara said they have found a place where the posts are in stock.

Pete and Tim did fix the handicap ramp at the meetinghouse and will check the one at the library as well. They also plan to put some water seal on both.

Tamara informed the Board that the phones in the Highway Garage and Fire Department are now working properly.

We have an appointment with Capital Alarm on September 7<sup>th</sup> to determine the problem with the phone line for the alarm at the Fire Department. The Historical Society and Meetinghouse are scheduled to get phone lines for the alarms.

The truck was returned to the highway garage, but it is still listing. They will be coming to take another look.

Paving on Hogg Hill is still on the highway garage's radar; weather is a concern as far as getting started. Amy stated asphalt companies typically shut down the beginning of November.

The library trustees will meet on Thursday.

The Cemetery Commission has decided on a requirement to use corner markers on burial sites. They are now looking in to where to purchase and how to amortize the cost over the cost of the sites.

Tamara provided the Board with a list of properties that are in jeopardy of being deeded. There was some discussion on the letter that has been sent out in the past. The Board decided to send letters to all on the list except for the ones that currently have arrangements with the Town. Dick made a motion to notify property owners by letter what the situation is and either invite them to come in and discuss a plan or pay the bill. The motion was seconded by Amy. Dick, Amy and Poul voted in favor of the motion.

**Signatures:**

2 Timber Tax

**Miscellaneous Business:**

At 6:00p.m. Dick made a motion to enter into non-public session to discuss personnel per RSA 91-A:3, II(b). The motion was seconded by Poul. By roll call vote Dick voted aye, Poul voted aye and Amy voted aye.

Dick made a motion to exit the non-public session and re-enter the public session at 6:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Poul. By roll call vote Dick voted aye, Poul voted aye and Amy voted aye. Dick made a motion to seal the minutes discussing personnel. The motion was seconded by Poul. By roll call vote Dick voted aye, Poul voted aye and Amy voted aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Jill Hastings

Deputy Administrative Assistant