

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June 13, 2016

MEMORIAL BUILDING

6:30 P.M.

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

The Selectmen met in non-public session at 6:30 p.m. per RSA 91:A-Personnel. Selectmen present were Don Hill, Chairman; Leigh Callaway and Tamara Butcher. At 7:05 p.m. the Board closed the non-public session, to enter into public session. The Board voted unanimously to seal the non-public minutes.

Others present: Mike Lawlor, Ed Belfield, Tim Julian, Mike and Sue Chiarella, Tom Duling, Bryan O'Day, Roger "Whit" Smith, Jim Minard and Sheila Burrows.

Jim Minard and Sheila Burrows of 4276 Main Street. Jim reported his property abuts the Airpark property owned by Durgin & Crowell. For the past 11 years test firing of guns has been taking place on that property. Some of the property is in Grantham, and he is aware of some shooting of handguns from there. People claim they have permission to shoot there and he feels they do not. For the past three years there has been an increase in recreational shooting of what appears to be military style weapons. The percussion from these firearms is disturbing. He is concerned with his safety and the noise issues. Jim said he has spoken to Sergeant Beaulieu and Chief Julian about this. Tim indicated this was the first he had heard of this. Jim stated he does not have any complaints with the occasional training that takes place there with military helicopters etc.

Jim addressed an additional concern regarding an incident that occurred about a month ago late on a Saturday night, with a party at the Airpark property. Someone was running a chainsaw, and loud 4 wheel-drive Jeeps were racing back and forth from Main Street, to Sanborn Hill Road. He spoke to Mr. Shepard the owner of the roadway and has asked if he could close and lock the gate. The roadway serves as access for other property in Grantham. Recently the gate has been closed.

Don stated as the property is being accessed through Springfield and a Springfield resident is making a complaint, the situation bears monitoring. Jim reported he is not the only one bothered by this, other neighbors are as well. He came tonight to raise awareness of what is taking place there. The night of the party, he called Newport Dispatch to report it. He states he was treated rudely, so he called the State Police. The State Officer was alone so did not enter the property as there was only one egress. The officer stayed in the area for quite some time, but did not witness anyone leaving or entering the property. The Board extended appreciation to Jim for notifying them of the issues. Tim Julian reported the Police Department would be watching the area.

Jim stated also, he walks his dogs on Sanborn Hill Road, and has noted people have been accessing and partying in the area of the pit on Sanborn Hill Road and the property off the Class VI road where logging took place. Tim Julian will notify the owners of the property.

Don reported he recently observed 2 youth on ATV's on Nichols Hill Road. He warned them they could not operate on the road, and asked them to leave. The Conservation Commission has also reported damages to Town property by illegal access. In checking the regulations, there are no roads in Springfield, Class V or VI or otherwise where ATV's are legal. ATV's can only operate on land when the operator has been given written permission from the landowner. The operator must have the written permission on their person when riding.

Susan Chiarella – Springfield Garden Club:

Susan asked if there was a possibility to improve the area along the playground at the town office and replace the damaged, "ugly" chain-link fence with a split rail fence. The Board agreed that it was not attractive, but there had been a split rail fence there many years ago that was damaged because of snow removal.

The Garden Club would like permission to fix the bulletin boards at the recreation field so they are even across the top. The Board agreed.

Susan requested that the beach be put on the routine schedule of someone who works for the town to be cleaned and raked. Leigh will speak to Pete.

Brian Vincent, from CLD Engineering presented the preliminary plan for use of the lot behind the highway shed. A copy of the plan is available at the town office. The previously mapped wetlands are incorporated into the plan. The water table is a challenge. The driveway profile and storage area will require about 1,000 total cubic yards of material. The driveway slope is currently about 9% but may be able to be lessened somewhat. The Board agreed a driveway of that distance and slope to access a sand shed in the winter does not make sense. Access to a storage area would be less frequent. A lot of work and materials will be required to gain access to storage space. Mr. Vincent will work on reducing the road slope where he can. He will provide the Board with construction estimates. The Board thanked Brian for his time.

Building Permit: Tom reported he has an application from Ben Kezar for an 8' x 14' storage shed for "sugar products", to be situated below the existing sugarhouse. He has been to the site and setbacks appear to be in order. The Board reviewed the application. The permit indicates the shed is not for business use. Discussion followed whether a site plan is required for the maple operation or the saw mill located on the property across the street. Maple Sugaring is an agricultural use as per the state and agriculture is a permitted use in the zoning ordinance. Some on the Planning Board feel a site plan is still required. The scale of the operation is not changing with the addition of this shed. There have been no complaints regarding traffic or noise. It does not appear that a Special Exception would be required for the agricultural use, but would be for the saw mill. A site plan may be a good tool to have for a baseline. Leigh stated he

wanted to know more about whether this use requires a site plan. He is not comfortable signing off on the building permit without input from the Planning Board. The Board unanimously agreed to hold off approving the application until they could consult with Planning Board at their meeting on June 16.

Tim Julian reported that during the course of this meeting, he texted both Peter and Ben Crowell regarding the shooting taking place at their property on Airpark Drive. Neither have given permission to shoot out there.

As the Selectmen had another appointment scheduled for a non-public session per RSA 91A Personnel at 8:00 p.m., and since they were not finished with all business, they voted unanimously to continue the meeting to Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. They entered into non-public session at 8:05 p.m.

At 8:35 p.m. the Board adjourned the non-public session, entered back into public session, and voted to seal the minutes of the non-public session.

**Board of Selectmen, continued meeting
Wednesday June 15, 2016**

**Memorial Building
1:00 p.m.**

The first 33 minutes of BOS meeting minutes were taken by Leigh Callaway.

Present: Selectmen, Don Hill, Leigh Callaway, and Tamara Butcher
Also present: Ed Belfield

This was a continuation of the meeting of Monday night, June 13, 2016. Don opened the meeting at 1:00 PM

Don noted from the Fire Department meeting of last night (June 14) that there is more concern over correct house numbering. There was a recent emergency call missed on George's Mills Road. Three businesses are on an unnamed private road, only one of which had a number visible. Janet will start procedures to establish a named private road in the long term. In the short term, Town Police should remind and require the businesses to put correct sign numbers up. The Town will accept suggestions for the new road name while noting that it remains private and the Town is not assuming responsibility for its maintenance. The Board agreed that the Town should start the long term process of naming with a certified/return receipt letters to the businesses.

Don had spoken with the Highway Department about maintaining the beach (an issue discussed on Monday June 13.) The Road Agent was already aware and will detail his people to clean up and rake soon.

Don noted that Wonderwell had sent an update to its site plan for the Planning Board meeting on Thursday June 16. Wonderwell noted they have changed their plan and will build a temporary staging type exterior egress stair so they can re-gain occupancy of the third floor in 2017. Don

had discussed this with the Fire Department at its meeting last night and according to them it is legal. Don believes this should be a change to the site plan with Planning Board approval because it replaces an enclosed stairway which he believes should have been in place as part of Phase II February 2016.

Don discussed permit compliance of docks on Kolelemook Lake in response to a complaint brought by a lake resident. "Grandfathering" has been allowed by NH statute for docks in place before 1972. Modified docks, and docks removed seasonally, are not grandfathered. Although the Town of Springfield has no standing to enforce NH statute like this, he noted it is virtually impossible to enforce the grandfathering aspects. Ed Belfield, a member of the KLPA, took with him a list and said he would mention the issue to the KLPA. Don will reply to the resident who brought the issue to the Board's attention, with contact information where complaints can be placed.

As follow up from Monday night, Leigh brought up the building permit submitted by Valley View Maple Farm. Because this is a gray area involving agriculture (a permitted use) and other uses of the property, the Board of Selectmen informed the owner in writing that it will request guidance from the Planning Board on Thursday night June 16 as to whether a site plan must be initiated. That letter also encouraged the owner to attend the June 16 Planning Board meeting. The building permit was not approved and will be considered after Planning Board disposition.

The Selectmen noted approval of a building permit for Kevin and Jenn Roberts before the site plan had final approval, was an incorrect procedure. The Roberts' Site Plan has since been approved and they are all set. The Board of Selectmen also approved sending an email drafted by Leigh to NHMA Legal Inquiries relating to agriculture and site plans.

Don noted that George Hildum is reviewing assessments and deeds of Oak Hill properties. This is follow up from a resident who questioned the consistency and equitability of view assessments on those properties.

Don has spoken with Chief Julian about illegal use of ATVs; according to Tom Duling, ATVs are allowed only on private property by the owner or with permission of the owner. He also noted there is considerable noise coming from firearms at some locations at the Grantham end of town, and helicopters are being operated at a privately-owned airpark with permission of the land owner. As the Town implements better zoning compliance processes, issues of this magnitude should be brought under the umbrella of site plan review.

The Board re-iterated the critical requirement for house numbers and noted that there are funds available for hardship cases.

Janet arrived at 1:33 PM.

New Business:

The Board reviewed abatement requests and recommendations from George Sansoucy and George Hildum regarding 2015 abatement requests from Public Service d/b/a Eversource, NH Electric Cooperative, and Northern New England Telephone (Fairpoint). Don moved to deny all three request as per the assessors' recommendations, seconded by Tamara and unanimously approved.

Selectmen assignments: Leigh does checks in June; Don in July, and Tamara in August.

Leigh reported the contracted payroll processing, from all reports has gone seamlessly. He has been picking up the overnight mail from the Post Office on Friday mornings.

Board and Department Updates:

Tamara reported the Cemetery Trustees would like to have some dead Maple Trees removed from the Messer Hill Cemetery. Leigh reported they have money appropriated in their budget (\$914.00 remaining) to do this. They should contact Pete Abair. Fox Tree has done this in the past.

Tamara reported Frank has asked Pete if the highway department could do something to stop the gravel from running off the road onto the Garlock cemetery plot, but it hasn't been taken care of yet. Leigh will speak to Pete.

Minutes of May 23, 2016 were approved as written.

Projects list:

Don reported Sue Chiarella's request to level the bulletin boards at the recreation field was to have the town do something about them, not the garden club. This will be added to the project list. The flagpole at the Town Office needs to be leveled as well and there was discussion about replacing the pole, and finding out what can be done to illuminate it. The trash can at the recreation field will be replaced or repainted. Tamara reported the man who will be working on the Historical Society floor is hoping to come on Friday afternoon. He is aware they would like it done before Old Home Day.

Don contacted Bill Huntoon about painting at the Historical Society. He stated he is aiming for August, weather permitting. The Board noted if Bill is not able to get it done in August, they would pursue making arrangements to have it done in September.

Leigh reported the highway crew has been doing a lot of ditching and getting Bowman Road ready for paving. He has received compliments regarding the ditching on Hogg Hill and Messer Hill Roads.

Leigh reported he is waiting for a quote from Mason regarding moving heating elements in the Protectworth Room before proceeding with bids for the closet building.

Correspondence:

Copy of NH DOT permission granted to the Springfield Garden Club for a sign request at certain locations throughout town. The Board extends “kudo’s” and thanks to the Garden Club for everything they are doing.

Signatures:

Intent to Cut for YMCA Camp Coniston on Hogg Hill Road

Intent to Cut for Rodgers on Main Street

Yield Tax Assessment for Hill on Nichols Hill Road. (Don abstained from signing).

Cemetery Deed for D. Blesedell signed.

At 2:20 p.m. the Board voted to enter into non-public session per RSA 91: A – Personnel.

At 2:58 the board entered back into public session, voted to seal the non-public minutes and adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant