

Town of Springfield, New Hampshire

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

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

Present: Neal Huntoon, Bob Anderson, and George McCusker.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

David Ducharme was present to speak to the Selectmen regarding the septic plans for his property in Eastman. He submitted his design a month ago. He explained that he had hired a soils scientist to define the wetlands on the property due to the new zoning regulations. The soils scientist has noted areas on the plan accordingly. This is a 3.5 acre lot with and setbacks have been maintained. He would like to get this approved and built before winter. Janet explained that the plan had been put on hold to review with the Selectmen how they wanted to proceed since there appeared to be concerns regarding the wetlands. The Board indicated that they would have the health office contacted tomorrow to find out what the concern is and the possibility of contacting Mr. Ducharme to review the plan at the site.

Highway: Brad met with the Board to inform them that the full-time highway assistant terminated his employment. The Board agreed to advertise the position.

Neal spoke to the Board regarding an estimated \$20.00 per hour increase in amount being requested for contract plowing this year. The Board spent a considerable amount of time reviewing whether to continue with this arrangement. It has been increasingly difficult to find people willing to contract for plowing. Neal and Brad have been to look at the truck offered for sale by the Town of New London. The current part-time position would be used to plow in a snowstorm. The equipment would then be available to be used other times during the year. The truck for sale by New London does not come with a sander. Brad indicated that a sander would cost approximately \$6500.00. After discussion, Neal moved to submit a bid to the Town of New London in the amount of \$9600, the amount to be taken from the highway contract plowing budget, seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Beach: Bob indicated that the Wetlands Board has approved the replenishment of 10 cu. yards of beach sand. The Board agreed that the sand would not be replenished until next swimming season.

Police Department: Tim Julian met with the Board to review the part-time police officer budget. To continue the part-time employee, Mike Beaulieu 20 hours per week will require an additional \$5,450 in wages to the end of the year. Tim reviewed the benefits of keeping the current part-time employee versus using State Police for

coverage. After discussion, Neal moved to continue with the current part-time officer arrangement; no more than 20 hours per week, for the next 30 days and the budget will be reevaluated at that time. The motion was seconded by Bob and unanimously approved.

The Board reviewed letters of appreciation to Officer Beaulieu for motor vehicle assists.

Recreation Field: Sean Lyon met with the Board to update them on recreation field projects. He will meet with Archie Weathers today to see what remains to be done. As soon as it is known how much money remains in the fund, they will begin work on skateboard equipment. Archie is donating fencing across the front of the basket ball court. The building committee would like to place boulders along the right side of the field along the fire department side to keep people from driving on the field. They discussed gating for limited access along the driveway.

They are working on setting up non-profit status so they can get funding support. The committee is planning a square dance, liars club, wine tasting and another band concert fundraising activities during the winter months.

The committee is also working on sketching out every possible potential use for the field for future planning.

Ash Landfill: Sean mentioned that the Ash Landfill property transfer is going along well toward completion. They are hoping to get documents signed shortly.

New Business: The Board reviewed the settlement documents for the property on Sanborn Hill Road. Bob made a motion to approve a lien on the property as per the court settlement, seconded by Neal and unanimously approved.

Conservation Commission: Bob indicated that he attended the September 14, Conservation Commission meeting. The Conservation Commission would like the Selectmen to consider reconstruction of the beach to minimize sand erosion. Bob welcomed the CC members to come up with a plan and ideas for financing.

The CC asked Bob to review with the Selectmen whether they would consider exchanging the tax revenue obtained from the State for the Gile Forest for a conservation easement. Approximately 5 to 6 thousand dollars is received yearly from the State for this property. The Selectmen indicated that they would want input from voters before making any such decision.

CC members asked whether the Board would approve an attachment to the building permit notifying people regarding wetlands and erosion control. The Board agreed that an informational handout could be helpful but were not in favor of attaching any further conditions to building permits at this time.

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Board of Selectmen

Page 3

September 19, 2006

Minutes: Bob moved to accept the minutes of the August 22, 2006 Selectmen's meeting as written, seconded by Neal and unanimously approved.

Janet reviewed with the Board, Cynthia's concern that ballot clerk wages were currently at minimum wage. It is difficult to find someone willing to serve as ballot clerks for elections. Bob moved to increase the ballot clerk's wages to \$7.50 per hour, seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Applications were approved for town hall use for the recreation department, and use of the fire department parking area for Mascoma Valley Snow Travelers during the town-wide yard sale on October 14.

With no further business, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant