

## **Selectmen's Minutes**

March 23, 2015

Present: Bruce Beane, Steve Moscicki, Donna Clark-AA, Celine Presby-Treasurer

Absent: Jim Trudell

Acting Chairman Beane called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

### **Public Matters:**

NH Dept of Revenue Supervisor Josephine Belville spoke to the Board about the Assessment Review Process that will take place this year, including reviews of the Town's exemption, credit, current use and assessment records. Assessor Phil Bodwell of Commerford Nieder Perkins was also in attendance to discuss the requirements for the revaluation his company will complete in 2015 to bring assessment values back to 100% of fair market value. The measure & list portion of the process was mostly completed in 2014, while the sales analysis and hearings on the new values will take place this year. Letters will be sent to owners of posted properties that did not respond to original requests to measure and/or list their properties. The Town's recently determined 2014 median ratio of 102.0% and overall equalization sales ratio of 98.1% were also discussed. Mr. Bodwell reviewed an abatement application with the Board. Per his recommendation, the Selectmen granted a 2014 property tax abatement to James & Lori Elliott for Map 216 Lot 108. After Ms. Belville and Mr. Bodwell left the meeting, the Board discussed the State's recommendation to require a performance bond from Commerford Nieder Perkins for the revaluation work. Due to the longstanding relationship the Town has with CNP, the Board decided to waive the bond and will instead withhold final payment on the contract until all required documentation is complete.

### **Manifests & Invoices:**

The manifests for Mar 16th and Mar 23rd were authorized and new invoices for future payment were reviewed and initialed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report was read showing a balance of \$140,923.66 in the WGSB checking account and \$65,170.46 in the WGSB Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account. Beane motioned to approve the Treasurer's report as given, 2nd by Moscicki, all voted in favor.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes for the Mar 9th regular meeting and the Mar 10th Annual Town Meeting were reviewed. Moscicki motioned to approve both sets of minutes as written, 2nd by Beane, all voted in favor.

### **Committee/Department Reports & Needs:**

- Road Agent Tom Smith thanked the Selectmen for dedicating the 2014 Annual Report to the road crew and proceeded to update them on highway department matters. Weight limit notices will be posted on Town roads March 24th. Only the Road Agent can grant permission for overweight vehicles to travel on those roads while the ban is in effect. Pot holes will be filled this week and roads will be graded, rolled and sprayed this spring as soon as the frost is out. The remaining stockpile of crushed ledge pack will be put down on Under the Mountain Rd from the mines to Brook Rd. Tom plans to do some work to improve the turn-around areas on some of the smaller Town roads and will research options for the future Mountain Meadows bridge repair/replacement project. The road crew will also do some rehab work on the Sterling truck body frame and cut brush between the cemetery and the Grange Hall. The Board will visit the intersection of Skinny Ridge & Under the Mountain Rds with Tom to determine if something can be done to improve traffic visibility.
- The Board briefly reviewed the 2015 Town Meeting. There were 23 members of the public in attendance and all money articles passed as written. The Town Meeting minutes are posted on the website.
- The Chairman's seat on the Board of Selectmen is traditionally held by the person in the third year of his or her term. After a brief discussion, Moscicki motioned to appoint Beane to be Chairman for the coming year, 2nd by Beane, so voted all. Moscicki also motioned for Beane to continue as the ex-officio member on the Planning Board, 2nd by Beane, all voted in favor.
- The Board signed oath of office papers for Elaine Burkham and Florence Corey who served as ballot clerks during the Town election.

### **Permits and Applications:**

The following was approved:

- Pistol Permit

### **Correspondence:**

The following were received:

- NHMA Legislative Bulletins #11 and #12 including information on proposed budget cuts affecting municipalities
- Lyman Community Group's Feb 2015 meeting minutes
- UNH T2 explanation of updated structure of Roads Scholar Program
- Eversource Energy press release regarding sale of PSNH power plants
- 2015 NH Labor Law Training - Apr 30th in Hanover - Clark will attend
- Grafton County Senior Citizens Council Winter 2015 Newsletter
- Grafton County Senior Citizens Council thank you for 2015 appropriation
- North Country Council Mar 2015 E-Bulletin
- Mar 2015 A Safer Road to Tomorrow newsletter
- HealthTrust Benefits Administrator Workshop - Apr 23rd in Gorham

### **Old Business:**

- Beane reported that builder Charles Hochmuth, electrician Duane Glidden and plumber Jared Mardin will be working to complete renovations to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office and the handicapped bathroom on the main floor in the next few weeks. The Board reviewed and signed a purchase order for Jared

Mardin for \$4,250 for labor and fixtures for both the main floor and downstairs meeting room bathrooms.

- Legal counsel confirmed that the Town may request a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment on a tax deeded parcel that lacks the minimum 250 ft of road frontage required for building prior to offering it for sale. That would ensure that the lot could be built on as long as the current zoning minimums are in effect. The Selectmen will submit an application to the ZBA so the required hearing can be scheduled.

Moscicki motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm, 2nd by Beane, all voted in favor.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, Apr 6th, at 6:00 pm.