

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2016

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees included John Halter, Selectman Chair, Stephen McGerty, Selectman, Margo Santoro, Selectperson, James Coffey, Town Administrator, Harry Power, Compliance Officer and Patricia Putnam, Administrative Assistant. Several members of the public were in attendance.

APPOINTMENTS:

Harry Power – Building Permits:

1. Tax Map # 119, Lot # 01 - Michael Cherry, Kennedy Brook Drive – Wood Shed – approved
2. Tax Map # 421, Lot # 26 - Tom Welch, 25 Bailey Brook Road – Car Port – approved
3. Tax Map # 126, Lot # 32 – Kenneth Pollard, 112 Old Antrim Road – deck & landing – approved.

Karen Bell, Trustees of the Trust Fund – Notified the Board that the Trustees have decided to invest some funds with the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool and are moving forward with Step One which is the 3 School Funds. The Trustees met with Joanne Klatskin from NHPDIP to come to this decision. This will provide liquidity for any funds that must be made available to the School at any time. Karen Bell also acknowledged that the McCourt Fund has been located.

Cemetery Trustees – Mary Lou Stymest, Edmund Saleski and Amy Rokoszak who explained that the cemeteries will be open until November 15, for Veterans' Day observances.

They then stated that there needs to be a way to close the access road due to various problems that are occurring. They requested permission to install a gate, with a lock, the keys to which will be with the trustees, the police, the fire department, the grounds keeper and the Selectmen's office. Margo Santoro moved and Steve McGerty seconded to support the Cemetery Trustees placing the gate, the board approved. The trustees then presented pictures of the Whitney Wrought Iron Burial Enclosure. They wish to place a lock on the gate to prevent anyone from removing it for its monetary value. They explained that decorative items from the corner posts have been removed. The Whitney burial enclosure is located in the New Town Cemetery. Steve McGerty moved and John Halter seconded to support the trustees' plan to remove and place the gate in a safe location, until a grant can be written, to repair and secure the Whitney Gate, the board approved.

Harry Power praised the Trustees for the condition of all the cemeteries.

Geoffrey Jones – Conservation Commission – presented a slide show to illustrate the Conservation Commission's concern on the Wind Farm on Tuttle Hill in Antrim. The slide show described a "Wildlife Action Plan" which was drafted to protect the open, undeveloped parcels of land in the Stoddard/Antrim area. The Conservation Commission is requesting the Board of Selectmen sent a letter in support of their position, much as the board did in 2012.

Charlie Levesque, from Antrim, explained that his town adopted support for open space where the farm is proposed. He reported that the Antrim Selectmen have steadfastly supported the wind farm for the tax revenue it would generate. Antrim Zoning does not allow the placement of the wind farm in the location where it is proposed. In 2011 the Antrim Planning Board wrote an ordinance to allow the project but the voters turned it down with a margin of 2 to 1. In 2012 the Planning Board wrote another ordinance, which was voted down with the same margin of 2 to 1.

In 2014 the Developer wrote another article, which was submitted by petition, which would have allowed the project to be built, but the voters again defeated it by a margin of 2 to 1.

Margo Santoro asked why the 3 Town Meetings – and Mr. Levesque said the Selectmen are deeply committed to have the project built and granted a 20 year tax relief to the developer, as part of a pilot.

Jim Coffey reported that he had a call from Upton & Hatfield, representing the Town of Antrim, urging the Selectmen not to support the Conservation Commission. It was noted that Paul Crosby wrote an email in support of the Conservation Commission's stand.

Brenda Bryer, Conservation Commission Member, reported that she was reluctant to support the Conservation Commission but decided the Tax Credits, which will fund the project, will end up costing the Tax Payers money.

Steve McGerty said, since the Antrim Voters are opposed by a margin of 2 to 1, he was in support of writing the letter to support the Conservation Commission. He would like a balloon test so he can understand the impact.

John Halter moved and Margo Santoro seconded to write a letter, similar to the one sent in 2012, in support of the Conservation Commission's stand on the wind farm, the board approved.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS:

1. Steve McGerty reported that David Vaillancourt has started on the Kings Highway
2. Steve McGerty marveled at an accident that occurred in front of the fire station – the driver ran across the station's ramps, down into a swampy gully and back up onto Route 123 and kept on going.
3. Steve McGerty asked if the board had sent the letter to the NH Department of Transportation calling for a no passing zone in front of Mr. Mike's. The board thought the letter had been sent. Steve McGerty reported that when the rumble strips were installed and the painting of lines, the passing zone is still there.

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED:

1. BOS Board Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2016
 2. BOS Non-Public Minutes of August 2. (2)
 3. Notice of Intent to Cut-4015, Lots 8, 9, 10, 11.
 4. Pistol/Revolver License (2)
 5. PA28 Forms for 2017
 6. Payroll Authorization For Daniel Eaton – EM Director
 7. Payroll Authorization For Wallace Weaver – Vehicle Maintenance
 8. Payroll Authorization For George Preston – EM Deputy Director
 9. MS-1 Extension
- All the above were signed.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

1. John Halter asked if there were any comments the attendees wished to make. He announced that there would be no comments taken from the general public on the issue of Joseph Sarcione's dismissal. John Halter explained that he would ask for any input from the board members:
 1. Margo Santoro reported that she had planned on meeting with Bonnie and Joseph Sarcione but, because of the negativity on Facebook concerning the Fire Department, she was advised not to. She did say that due to the Forestry Bylaws not being followed, she could not reconsider her position against Joseph Sarcione.
 2. Steve McGerty said Joseph Sarcione retired from giving firefighting classes 3 years

ago. Steve McGerty asked Joseph Sarcione if this was correct. Joseph Sarcione would not acknowledge Steve McGerty's question and then Joseph Sarcione said that he has all the answers so there is no need to respond. Margo Santoro stated that Joseph Sarcione attitude is a big part of the problem.

3. Jim Coffey said his role is to represent the Board of Selectmen, which he will continue to do.

4. John Halter said he finds the issue one of the most troubling conflicts in his 30 years on the Board of Selectmen.

John Halter went on to complement Hayden Sarcione for having the strength of courage and conviction to speak to the Board.

5. Joseph Sarcione said he is proud of Hayden and told Hayden to stand up for your convictions. Joseph Sarcione went on to say that he wanted the Board to know that Randy Weaver and Jesse Pollock had tried to meet with Steve McGerty to try to have Steve talk with Joseph Sarcione to work out the issues but had failed in their efforts. Joseph Sarcione also told the Board that the Fire Academy is making him a staff instructor.

6. John Halter asked Joseph Sarcione to reconsider his resignation as a Special Deputy. John Halter moved and Margo Santoro seconded to send a letter to Brad Simpkins to have him reconsider Joseph Sarcione's resignation as a Special Deputy, the board approved unanimously.

7. John Halter moved to rescind the letter from the Board of Selectmen to Brad Simpkins. There was no second. Margo Santoro asked John Halter why he would do so and John Halter said because the public asked the board to.

8. Joseph Sarcione asked that the Board of Selectmen were going to do about the outburst from Steve McGerty at the first meeting where the issue was discussed. No action was taken by the Board on the conduct of Steve McGerty at that meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Stoddard v. Holland (Wilder) Notice of Decision grant's Town's Motion to Dismiss Counterclaim of Ben & Tonya Wilder – The Primex's Attorney notified the town that the counterclaim for \$50,000 was dismissed. Margo Santoro noted that the attorney from Primex was included in the premium the town pays so this legal action cost the town nothing.

2. Non-Public Session (RSA 91-A: 3, II (a), Discuss candidates to be submitted to the NH Division of Forest & Lands for Forest Fire Warden

9:05 – the Board entered into a Non-Public Session as allowed by RSA 91-A: 3, II (a)

John Halter – yes

Steve McGerty – yes

Margo Santoro – yes

9:09 – the Board came out of the Non-Public Session

John Halter – yes

Steve McGerty – yes

Margo Santoro – yes

Steve McGerty moved and John Halter seconded to seal the minutes indefinitely, the Board agreed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request from Industrial Communications LLC to extend present building permit for their cell tower. – This is the cell tower that is being built on Richer Road. John Halter moved and Steve McGerty seconded to extend the building permit for one year, the board approved.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Utility Assessment Report – the town's values were reduced slightly.
2. Eversource L-163 Transmission line maintenance
3. Correspondence from CC member Paul Crosby supporting CC's position on Antrim Wind Project – noted during Geoffrey Jones' presentation
4. SWRPC Highlights
5. Water Test Results from DES (3).
6. Letter from Senator Jeanne Shaheen offering her services to anyone in town at her office in Keene.
7. Shoreland Permit Application - Map 120, Lot 22, Highland Lake – Thomas Beach for a septic system installation.

ADJOURN: Steve McGerty moved and John Halter seconded to adjourn at 9:30, the board approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia E. Putnam
Administrative Assistant

Approved:

John Halter

Stephen McGerty

Margo Santoro

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
AGENDA
August 22, 2016**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

APPOINTMENTS: 7:00:

1. Harry Power, permits
2. Trustee of Trust Funds - Karen Bell
3. Cemetery Trustees, Access Road Issue & Maintenance Problem
4. Geoff Jones, Conservation Commission, Antrim Wind Presentation

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OLD BUSINESS

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SELECTMEN'S ITEMS

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE

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