

# **SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2012**

Submitted by stoddard on Wed, 04/25/2012 - 5:25pm.

## **SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**

April 23, 2012

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

Attending were Selectman John Halter, Selectman Louis GrandPre', Harry Power, Compliance Officer, Jim Coffey, Town Administrator and Patricia Putnam, AA.

Arnie Stymest was excused due to being just discharged from the hospital. A few folks were in attendance at meeting also.

### **TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED**

1. Pistol Permit (1) not presented
2. Minutes of April 16, 2012
3. Accounts Payable Manifest

Other items signed.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

7:00 Harry Power - presented a building permit for a shed at John Clark's place. Harry felt that any further building would require a new curb cut for entrance onto Route 123 North as the present driveway causes water to flow out of their property and ice forms on the discharge during cold weather. That notice was added to his building permit so he is informed. The board approved the building permit.

Harry then brought up the Jennison/Willard building permit. It was noted that the court has

mandated that the septic system be installed and an approval for use has been sent by the State prior to issuing the building permit. The board noted that the applicants and the Board of Selectmen have signed the road waiver for the property. A check will be needed in order to record the waiver at the County of Cheshire Registry of Deeds. (A message has been left on Gordon Jennison's phone to letting him know of the need.)

Harry Power also noted that he has 3 sales in progress that will be sold far below the assessment on each parcel.

7:15 Joe Sarcione and PJ LaMothe brought the board up to date on the brush fire off Turtle Rock Road on Thursday, April 19, 2012. They said that the reason the fire was detected so quickly was because the Pitcher Mountain Fire Tower was manned by Karen Cote (all class 4 or higher danger days will find the tower manned). If she had not been in the tower, the fire would have been much worse. Because of the extremely dry conditions about 2 acres burned and the attack was very hard as the fire was climbing a slope of 50-60%. When the fire company arrived they found a golf cart fully involved and it was next to a 500 # Propane Tank. The paint on the house was scorched and the wind was blowing embers across the road. As the wind shifted direction, it drove the fire away from the house and up the slope. There were a couple minor injuries reported that would be handled by the state. They presented bills covering manpower, apparatus and meals for the approximately 6-hour fight. The state will reimburse the Town for 50% of the costs. Joe Sarcione asked if the reimbursement would be applied to the Fire Warden's line. The general requirement is to have the refund go against the general fund. Joe has a few minitars ordered that cannot be cancelled. Jim Coffey assured him that the funds would be found to pay for them.

When asked if the rain of Sunday/Monday had alleviated the fire danger, Joe said it had not. He will be monitoring the future rainfall to ascertain when he can allow burning once more.

PJ LaMothe said she has talked to Tom Humphrey, of the Fire Marshall's office, and, due to the high volume of structure fires around the state, the town's structure concerns are in low priority. PJ asked for a letter concerning her letter to the board and any plans for correcting the issues she pointed out. She is also asking for the clubs that are meeting in the Gould House and the number of people present, along with times and dates.

Dick Briere asked about the sections of wood fencing (8 sections) that have been thrown into a

ditch behind the parking lot. He also mentioned that the door to the "play house" is down too. Louis GrandPre' said to have David Vaillancourt clean up the site. The septic system for the Gould House was discussed. A pipe that is sticking out of the ground between the Gould House and the Town Hall, which is in question about it's intended use. Dick Briere reported that he was told the pipe was to be a sleeve for the new septic field. Louis GrandPre' said he was of the opinion that it was to allow venting of the D-Box for the Gould House, instead of placing a "candy cane" in the middle of the parking lot.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss with Administrator application to DES for septic system for Town Hall - Meridian needs an application check for \$300 to go with the septic plans for consideration by the State. John Halter moved and Louis GrandPre' seconded to authorize Jim Coffey to sign the application.
2. Copy of letter to Attorney Spear of Orr & Reno relative to a RTK request from AT&T. - Jim Coffey reported that he has written a report to Orr & Reno on the issue of the RTK that Anderson & Kreiger requested, as AT&T's representatives. In a nutshell, he could find no documents on any of the computers that the town has that refers to the AT&T case that have not been turned over in the original submission.
3. Cover letter to Society for the Protection of NH Forests for the Stoddard Rocks parking and trail MOU, Email from Geoff Jones to Jim Coffey and the returned MOU, signed by the Forest Society.
4. Fire Marshall's report for the Stoddard Hall. Discuss an initial response. At the next Selectmen's meeting the board will appoint a Joint Loss Committee of 4 members with 2 non-management people. That committee should work up responses to the Fire Marshall and Department of Labor items of concern. Louis GrandPre' said they have to respond to JP LaMothe's report on the Fire Marshall's behalf and check with the Architect for information he is addressing in the reports, with the new plans. John Halter wants to put together a preliminary response to have the Board address at the April 30th meeting.
5. On the issue of fire extinguishers at the Transfer Station, Waste Management will be replacing both of the extinguishers. The board requested a letter be sent to Dave Marcoux thanking him for the replacements.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of meeting between Diane Frechette of NH DRA Property Appraisal Division and Jim Coffey. Discussion was on property equalization ratios. A summary of the report to have ratio used for dividing up the county share of Expenses to towns, for one thing, indicates that the weighted mean is 103.6%.
2. NH DOT Bridge Inspection Report - This is the same report that has been sent to the town over several years. We have ordered 2 E-2 signs for one bridge and 2 one lane bridge signs for the other bridge to comply with the state's request.

3. BTLA A-9 and A-12 from Audubon Society - John Halter moved and Louis GrandPre' seconded to accept the Audubon Society (Nye Meadow) BTLA, A-9 & A-12 as submitted.
4. Stoddard Congregational Church BTLA A-9 - John Halter moved and Louis GrandPre' seconded to approve the Church's BTLA A-9 report.
5. Notice of driveway culvert replacement for 2458 Valley Road - reviewed.
6. Louis GrandPre' suggested that the board check with Moderator Eaton on who would be called upon to motion, second and defend each petitioned article. Copies will be given to Lou to take to the Moderator.
7. It was noted that bids for the town hall work are due by 4:00 pm on April 30, 2012. Dan Scully will bring in the bids to be opened at the April 30, 2012 meeting.

#### OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Chief LaMothe regarding brush fire on April 19 on Turtle Rock Road. Addressed at the 7:15 report.
2. Recycling Conference June 4, and 5.
3. Copy of Keene Sentinel article posted on April 19 concerning the Town Hall warrant articles. .
4. Notice of temporary driveway permit on Route 123 from NH DOT, District 4.
5. Appointment of Ruth Ward to a three-year term on the Contoocook River Local Advisory Board by NH DES. The board commended Ruth on her interest in serving on that board.
6. Minutes of the Stoddard School District Meeting. - no action taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Putnam

Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

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Arnold Stymest

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John Halter

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Louis GrandPre'

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**AGENDA**

**April 23, 2012**

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7:00 Harry Power

7:15 Joe Sarcione – brush fire report and bills

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