

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2012

Submitted by stoddard on Fri, 03/23/2012 - 4:51pm.

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2012

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

Attendees included Arnie Stymest, Selectman Chair, John Halter, Selectman, Louis GrandPre', Selectman, Harry Power, Compliance Officer, Jim Coffey, Town Administrator and Patricia Putnam, Administrative Assistant. Several attended the meeting as on lookers.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

7:00 Harry Power updated the board on the continued cleanup of the Willard/Jennison property and provided new pictures of it. He said it is better but is still a work in progress.

He also reported that Maria Gavin, Atty with Bradley & Faulkner has reviewed the Court order and says the order still stands. Louis GrandPre' suggested the board go to the attorney for direction on the court order. Jim Coffey will call Sam Bradley for a follow-up.

Harry Power also updated the board on a new house bill that will allow the regulation that allows septic systems to be replaced "in kind" (now called "permit by kind") but that the system still has to be inspected by the state.

7:15 PJ LaMothe and Joe Sarcione brought their budgets in and notified the board that they would be recording the meeting. PJ asked if the Southwestern Dues are in the budget. Louis GrandPre' moved and John Halter seconded to have the dues would be separate but in the operating budget, the board approved.

PJ then addressed the condition of the Old Fire Station. She wanted to know when the tree removal and roof repairs would be done. She was told to solicit 2 bids to replace the entire roof and the inside roof panels that have white mold on them. Joe Sarcione agreed to handle getting the quotes. That amount will be included in the operating budget.

PJ LaMothe then said the Fire Department needs an active, dependable Internet service. They presently have Radius North and cannot depend on having active service to send their reports on. Arnie Stymest asked Ed Saleski to contact Fair Point to see if they plan on doing cable work to upgrade available wires this spring. He suggested Ed double check with Fair Point's Engineering Department to check on cable work progress to get the Fire Department reliable Internet service.

John Halter suggested the Fire Department procure a couple of lap top computers so they could take them to the library

or town hall to use their Internet Services, if theirs is down and add the projected purchase price to their budget.

PJ LaMothe then reported that the Fire Department's office section is badly in need of cleaning. The renovations to the building's doors created a lot of dirt and dust that needs to be cleaned up. The trash is not being taken away regularly and is smelling bad. The janitor, David Young, needs to clean and take away the trash at least twice a week. Louis GrandPre' said he would look into a cleaning service for the building and would have David Young in to talk over his duties.

PJ LaMothe then addressed the salary line in her budget. She reported that Arnie Stymest had attended a Fire Department meeting and suggested giving the workers \$11.00/hour while on calls. PJ said she would like to put that figure in the new budget. She has checked with the Hillsborough Chief and will have written amounts being paid there for support for the increases. Right now the officers also get a stipend for their extra duties.

The vehicle maintenance budget has taken a hit and is over the budgeted amount by at least \$3,000. Louis GrandPre' told PJ to go ahead with the \$11.00 pay rate in her budget.

She also reported that she needs an Administrative Assistant to take care of the paperwork generated and needed in the department. She would like to have Margo Santoro and Joe Sarcione share those duties and earn a rate of \$12/hour.

Arnie Stymest said he needs to have reports including # of vehicles, # of staff, location, description of incident and with or without transport.

Joe Sarcione told the board that there is a 50/50 grant out there for Forestry equipment and he would like to try for the funding. His Forestry unit needs daypacks, backpack pumps and portable radios. The Selectmen agreed to have the money put into his budget. John Halter cautioned that Joe would need to put the entire amount in the budget with the understanding that, if the grant were not awarded, the budget line would not be spent.

7:30 Geoffrey Jones advised he hasn't received the letter to Sweet Water Trust concerning the parking lot and trailhead portion of the access to Stoddard Rocks (Pioneer Lake). Jim Coffey reported that he has processed a Memo of Understanding, suggesting some changes. Jim gave Geoffrey a copy of that paperwork.

7:45 Dan Scully presented an update on his progress on the design work for the Town Hall project. He told of codes that call for 8% of a room's area must be provided with natural light or bright artificial light, 4% of the room area must have ventilation or windows that open. He is proposing leaving the building about 1 foot higher than it now rests and drop the grade to allow horizontal 4' X 2' windows. He wanted to know if he should allow for electrical feed wire to be buried. He said that the electrical panel would have to be moved to the lower level as the stairs, projected in the second phase of the project, and would be in front of the present location of the panel. The electrical service will have to be beefed up to allow for the lift and the pumped up septic system for the

toilets on the lower level. He has decided that the foundation walls should be included in phase 1 but that there be a vapor barrier and crushed stone over it instead of pouring the slab. The reason to hold off on pouring the slab

is _____ because water, sewer and other lines have to be placed in the cement and it doesn't make sense to pour the slab in phase 1 and then dig it up for running the lines in phase 2.

Richard Garipey agreed with holding off on pouring the slab.

Ben Wilder asked about the power needed to run the lift.

Dan Scully said he is providing drawing and specs - does the town want him to handle the notification and bid package? He is pretty sure he can provide the bid list of qualified contractors.

John Halter said the general feeling at the last Town Meeting was to use local contractors for a significant amount of the work.

Louis GrandPre' agreed the have the package ready and to go to bid and get back to the Town. The board was in general agreement to have Dan Scully handle the entire bid project.

Dian Mathews asked about the steps outside. Dan Scully said he would have to inventory the existing granite, which is being replaced with the foundation, for future use, possibly for the steps.

8:15 Joan Read presented her budget and told the board she plans to step down from the Town Clerk position on April 30, 2012 and have Linda Clark, her deputy, take over. Joan would act as Linda's deputy. She suggested that the salary for Linda be \$12,000 plus fees. The board agreed with Linda working her way back up to the \$14,000 Joan now earns. Joan Read said she would like to get rid of Wild Blue and get DSL through Fair Point Communications. She said Fair Point has quoted 15M speed for \$33.99/month for the first year. The Town Clerk's phone costs should drop about \$500. with these changes.

Joan Read also presented the Election and Moderator's budget. It has an increase because there is an extra vote scheduled for the primary in September and the general election in November.

8:30 Frank Stuckey asked the Board if they could help pay for the flags that are on the electric poles every summer. There are 13, and all of them are in poor condition. He proposed replacing the flags, their poles and holders and swivels to prevent the flags from wrapping around themselves and or the poles and causing damage to the flags. The price for the replacements is \$337.09 and Jim Coffey said he would find the money, the board approved.

8:45 John Cucchi brought the board up to date with the AT&T program. He reported that the FCC has pulled the permit they had issued to AT&T for the tower and he feels that an alternate location on Everett Richer's property

should be acceptable by AT&T. He is calling on AT&T to withdraw their frivolous lawsuit and he thinks they will withdraw. (See attached Cucchi letter to the board.)

OPEN TO COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

Angel Nicoletti reported that Fred Ward has resigned from the ZBA and Ruth Ward is not asking to be re-appointed so there are 2 open positions on the board. She recommended Mario Zamaripas and Ed Saleski be appointed to the board as full members. Arnie Stymest moved and John Halter seconded to approve the recommendations, the board approved. Angel will check with Stephen McGerty to see if he will accept an appointment to the ZBA as an alternate.

Ed Saleski reported that Jim Coffey has been found not guilty in the lawsuit by the Town of Hillsborough and he wanted that to be reflected in the minutes due to some people being concerned with Mr. Coffey's employment in Stoddard during the lawsuit process.

Carole Briere asked about the State Dam on Shedd Hill Road. Richard Gariepy said the work order was placed after the flood. The state is preparing for a 200 year flood and is reinforcing the existing dam with a power operated spillway. They have poured concrete and it is curing.

Ben Wilder asked what vehicles could travel over posted roads. The answer is School Bus, Fuel Trucks and Emergency Vehicles. Also, others can pass with the permission of the Road Agent.

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED

All items were approved and signed.

OLD BUSINESS

Correspondence from Bradley & Faulkner to the board concerning Stoddard vs. Willard & Jennison - taken under advisement.

Letter from John & Anne Cucchi - discussed during his visit to the board.

Correspondence from Jim Coffey to Meridian Land Services, Inc

NEW BUSINESS

Letter from Stephen J. McGerty volunteering to fill a full position on the ZBA. Angel Nicoletti will handle.

Letter concerning abandoned vehicles on Dead Brook Road - gave to Harry Power to investigate.

Letter from Irving Energy asking to quote heating fuel and propane for town buildings - Jim Coffey will follow up

A quote of \$225 for another rug to protect the floors was received. The Selectmen agreed to purchase it to be placed on the landing in front of the Handicapped ramp door.

Received a courtesy copy of a petition Fred Ward is presenting for the warrant concerning eliminate the Faulkner School and to tuition all students to other schools.

Received 3 petition articles - 2 of which address the Compliance Officer position and 1 addressing Site Plan Review regulations. All taken under advisement.

There was a request to learn if the Selectmen supported the City of Keene's request to support the armored personnel carrier at \$100/year - the Selectmen do not support the request.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Copy of letter to SPNHF for Pioneer Lake parting and trail
2. Candidate filing notice - 21 positions available
3. Other miscellaneous items

All were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

John Halter moved and Louis GrandPre' seconded to adjourn at 9:15 PM, the board agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia E. Putnam
Administrative Assistant

CC: Cucchi letter

APPROVED:

Arnold Stymest

John Halter

Louis GrandPre'

Letter from John & Anne Cucchi:

Dear Selectmen,

We understand that the FCC has temporarily pulled AT&T's permit until they deal "Government to Government" with the Flandreau Dakota Sioux Tribe and the FCC. This process could take a lot of time and cost a lot of money for AT&T. We suggest having Orr & Reno make a call to Anderson and see what AT&T want to do at this juncture. Why spend money in Federal Court for their lawsuit against Stoddard when they appear denied at a higher level? Jeff should ask them if they want to continue down this path or work with Stoddard on other potential sites, there are vary adequate alternatives that will actually serve the town better in the long run, including not only most citizens but the Police and Fire Departments as well as the Town Hall. That is what their initial application was for and Melville Hill does not bring provide these services to Stoddard.

This will be better long term for Stoddard and will also have Geoffrey Jones' approval on the behalf of the Stoddard Conservation Commission. This will not have negative aspects related to Munsonville's aesthetic & historical gripes. Why should Stoddard have to endure hiring Orr & Reno on the local level, expended money while AT&T has been held up on the Federal level?

Sincerely,

John & Anne Cucchi

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Agenda

March 19, 2012

APPOINTMENTS

7:00 Harry Power

7:15 PJ LaMothe – FD wages and expectations 2012/2013 &
hiring Administrator Assistance
7:30 Geoffrey Jones – letter to Sweet Water
7:45 Dan Scully
8:15 Joan Read, Budget
8:30 Frank Stuckey – flags for telephone poles
8:45 John & Anne Cucchi AT&T

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED

1. Appointment slip for Harry Power – Planning Board Alternate
2. Appointment slip for Matthew Wheeler – Conservation Commission
3. A/P Manifest
4. P/R Manifest
5. Primex Multi-Year Discount Program – Workers' Compensation
6. March 5, 2010 Minutes

OLD BUSINESS

1. Correspondence from Bradley Faulkner to the Board, Stoddard v. Willard & Jennison
2. Letter from John & Anne Cucchi
3. Correspondence from James Coffey to Meridian Land Services, Inc.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter from Stephen J. McGerty volunteering to fill a full position on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
2. Letter concerning abandoned vehicles on Dead brook Road.
3. Letter from Irving Energy
4. Discuss purchase of entry rug for town hall
5. Fred Ward's Petition, courtesy copy
6. Three petitions for Town Meeting

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Copy of letter to SPNHF for Pioneer Lake parking and trail.
2. Candidate filing notice (21 positions)
3. Other miscellaneous items