

Minutes  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
**Tuesday September 9, 2014 @ 7:00 PM**

Selectmen Present:  
Colin Stubbings and Ernest Hartley

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00pm by Chairman Stubbings.

Chairman Stubbings announced that the meeting was being recorded solely for the purposes of preparing the minutes and that others inside the meeting may also be recording the meeting.

**Emergency Management** – Bernie Marvin noted the Board should be receiving a quote shortly for the cost of cleaning the rug in the Police Department. Mr. Marvin noted that he had attended a Hurricane Class. The class showed Mr. Marvin how to track storms that may be coming our way and provided him with some free software that he could use for this purpose as well. Mr. Marvin stated that he has been in contact with Casey Gordon at the State in regards to E-911 and as he gets more information about it he will fill the Board in. Chairman Stubbings noted that he feels that Mr. Marvin is the correct liason for this project. Mr. Marvin has also been in contact with Senator Jeanie Forrester in regards to cell towers in the Lakes area. There will be a meeting September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm in the Old Church Building to discuss this issue.

**Highway Department** – Frank Rodimon stated that he is making pretty good progress on Rodimon Lane Bridge and they will be pouring concrete tomorrow afternoon. He hopes to have the project completed within another week. Then he plans on making sure the roads are in good shape for the winter and then grading the land by the Fire Department. Mr. Rodimon talked about his original plans for the bridge on Bean Brook Road; noting that he originally wanted to put in a precast section to replace what was currently there. He estimated that this would cost the Town around \$20,000. However, there is a logger currently working on a property on Bean Brook Road and he needed the bridge to be more secure. The logger had access to some hardwood mats made out of 12x12 timbers that were 16 feet long and he put three of them on the bridge. The logger is willing to leave them in place for a cost to the Town of \$2,000 if the Town is agreeable. Mr. Rodimon noted that this should last between 8-15 years. Mr. Rodimon feels that this is a good idea and is substantially less than what he was originally planning on doing. The only thing is that Mr. Rodimon had not budgeted for this item so they would need to look for some money in the budget to pay for this. The Selectmen agree that this would be a good idea. Selectman Hartley noted that there was a washout on Piermont Heights Road that resulted from a beaver dam. Chairman Stubbings asked Mr. Rodimon if he had spoken to the gentleman on Barton Road about an issue he was having with some poles on the road. Mr. Rodimon said that he thought that Selectman Lang was looking into this issue.

**Fire Department-** Chief Henry stated that they had one call for a structure fire. Chief Henry noted that the no parking areas around the Fire Department needed to be redone and he will look around and get an estimate for the cost to do this. The Board said to look into getting all the paved area spaces redone as well. Chief Henry wanted to know how things were going with the Mazzilli Fire Pond. Chairman Stubbings noted that they hadn't seen anything on this yet. Most of the other ponds are working right now. There are still some issues with the one on Indian Pond, but maybe this can be done when they are working on the bridge project next summer. The springs on the tanker have been repaired. They had some potential new members attend their meeting last night. The bylaws are done and can be sent to the attorney for review. The Fire Department still has free smoke detectors available for the public. Chief Henry asked about the insulation at the Fire Department. Selectman Hartley said that he has one quote at this time and it waiting for two more to come back, but they are not responding to his calls.

**Landfill** – Mr. Metcalf noted that Northeast Ag had sprayed the knotweed at the landfill.

**Bean Brook Pool** – Mr. Metcalf said that they have started the cleanup at the pool, but it is not going as well as he had anticipated. He thinks they are going to have to take more sand than they anticipated.

**Cemetery** – Mr. Metcalf stated they are still mowing and the work on the fence is well under way. The trustees would like to see the fence done all along the front of the cemetery as well. Mr. Metcalf also stated that they would like to look into pulling up some of the tar and replacing it with staymat. Selectman Hartley asked Mr. Rodimon what the plan was for the water line that they plan on putting in at the cemetery and if it would run under the road. Mr. Rodimon said that it would run along the fence line. It was noted that the Town had not heard anything more about the waterline project either. Mr. Metcalf noted that when they are done tearing down the fence at the cemetery they would like to donate a post and 6 feet of fence to the historical society. The fence dates back to around 1920. Mr. Metcalf noted that Mr. Rodimon had helped them clean up some of the area outside the Rodimon/Cross Cemetery and will help clean up some of the inside as well.

**Town Grounds** – Mr. Metcalf said that they are still mowing the Town grounds and they will start trimming the shrubs and lilacs when the weather gets a little cooler. Mr. Metcalf asked what the library wanted to do with the old library sign. Helga Mueller noted that they wanted to put it back up in another location and were going to ask the Board for permission to do so. They would like to put it up by the handicap ramp in front of the picture window in the Selectmen's office.

**Sewer** – Samples are still testing within the limits set by DES. The State has received the letter that the Board sent requesting a change to the Certificate of Operation as it relates to the certification of the sewer operating. Mr. Metcalf said that it looks promising that the changes will be made as requested. Mr. Metcalf noted that they have been brushing back the nitrate

area near the discharge bed. They are getting ready to pump out the manholes as well. Mr. Metcalf noted that he wanted some concrete work done on some of the manholes and has an individual that is willing to look at the project and provide the Town with an estimate if it's something that he wants to do. Selectman Hartley gave Mr. Metcalf another name to consider.

Selectman Hartley wanted to know if the pipes have been removed from the pool and Mr. Metcalf said that they had been removed and were placed under the EMD's trailer.

**Treasurer** – Erik Wagstaff noted that reconciliations are all caught up. There is a school payment due in October, but we have plenty of funds available.

**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee** – Abby Metcalf wanted to know if she could take the Town's Charter over to the school for the kids to look at as they prepare for Charter Day in November. The Board suggested that she take the photos of the charter instead of the actual charter. The photos are available through the Historical Society. Ms. Mueller said that Ms. Metcalf could get them when she needs them. Ms. Metcalf noted that the committee plans on have a couple more suppers this year. Chairman Stubbings asked if the 250<sup>th</sup> was planning on doing something for Halloween. She noted that the Plant Pantry will be doing the pumpkins but that was it. Chairman Stubbings will decorate the Christmas tree with Halloween lights.

**Manifests** – The Board reviewed and signed the manifests.

### **New Business**

**Acceptance of Unanticipated Funds** – John Metcalf presented the Board with check from the Piermont Mutual Fire Insurance Company in the amount of \$3,600.00. These funds will be used for the fencing at the South Lawn Cemetery and up to 100' of the roadway. The Board voted to accept these funds.

### **Old Business**

**NH DRA Forms and Tax Rate** – The MS-4 has been completed and submitted to the DRA. The MS-5 and the MS-1 have also been submitted. These forms help the DRA to set the Town's tax rate and hopefully we will get our tax bills out in time.

**Town Owned Property** – Since the last meeting the Board has acquired by tax deed a property of a delinquent taxpayer. They will have 90 days from the date of the tax deed to buy back the property. In addition to the back taxes, interests and penalties already accrued on the property, the former owner must pay a 15% penalty as well. If this is not done then the Town can auction off the property. The Town can do this as of December 5, 2014. On August 29, 2014 tax deeded and served an eviction notice on another taxpayer. The next date of action on this property is September 30, 2014. Chairman Stubbings said that we have to take action on these properties. The Town can't continue to allow these taxes to remain outstanding.

**2013 Audit** – The 2013 audit has been submitted to the Selectmen. The management letter that the Town received this year is very similar to what the Town has received in previous years. The Board will be acting on the recommendations that the auditors have put for in this letter. Chairman Stubbings noted that he finds it very difficult that he is constantly being told that reconciliations are being done. He suggested that there may be some issues that need to be looked into and wants to know why it is taking so long to do the reconciliations. He is concerned with some of the items that that auditors have recommended over the years and wants to resolve these issues. One issue that the auditors pointed out is that they want a receipt book completed for money that is received by the Town, particularly at the Transfer Station. This is a way for the Town to control the receipt of money and it is not a negative reflection on the Town’s employees. Chairman Stubbings also noted that the Town will be responding to the Management Letter this year. Mr. Metcalf wanted to know if the Cemetery will need to issue receipts. Chairman Stubbings said that going forward he will need to issue receipts. The Town currently has the receipt books, but they need to get the procedures in place and then they will roll it out.

### **New Business**

**Financial Reports** – The Town Clerk’s report is available on the front of the table. Ms. Collins did not supply the Tax Collector’s report, but if anyone would like a copy of that report they can let Chairman Stubbings know and he will make sure that they get a copy.

**Comcast Corporation Consent to Change Control** – Comcast took over Charter and the Board needs to sign a new agreement with Comcast. The Board voted to sign the agreement. The Board signed the agreement.

**Tax Abatement** – The Board had not received a copy of the abatements. They are small amounts and are the results of timing issues. The Board will review them and sign them on Thursday morning.

**Senator Jeanie Forrester**- Senator Jeanie Forrester will be in Town on Tuesday September 23, 2014 at 5:30pm to discuss cellular issues at the Lakes area and she will also be attending the BOS meeting that night as well. The 5:30pm meeting will include Senator Forrester, the Board of Selectmen, Bernie Marvin EMD, Carlos Manrique and other emergency service personnel. Terri Mertz asked if this would be a public meeting. Chairman Stubbings said that it would be open to the public, but there would be no public input allowed. It will be held at the Old Church Building right before the Selectmen’s meeting. The Board noted that Ellen Putnam should probably also be present for this meeting. Mr. Marvin said that he will contact her about the meeting. Chairman Stubbings also noted that Ms. Putnam had contacted him after the last Selectmen’s meeting about an incident that had happened in Town in which there was a delayed response time. She was surprised that the Board had heard about the incident and pleasantly surprised that the Board had already taken steps to help prevent something like that from happening in the future. Chairman Stubbings wants to do whatever he can do to try and get better cellular service in the Lakes areas as he sees this a the bigger concern for that area

rather than the issue with response time. The Board will continue to work on the issue with the response time, but there is nothing further that the Board can do on their end. It will need to go before the Town at Town Meeting in March.

**Office Hours – Mike Scala (Senator Ayotte)** – Mike Scala, a representative for Senator Kelly Ayotte, will be at the Town Office on Monday September 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am – 10:30am to speak with anyone who wishes to attend.

**Public Input** – Tim Cole noted that the Fire Department will be taking one of their trucks out this coming weekend to Cottage Lane to see if they can fit down it. Chairman Stubbings said that Mr. Cole came with him to the Lake Armington Association Annual Meeting and he was very helpful. Since the meeting he has taken one of the fire trucks out to the Lakes area and driven it around. Helga Mueller noted that Chairman Stubbings had told her that the meeting originally scheduled by the Piermont Police Advisory Committee to gather the public’s input on the future of the Police Department had been cancelled. She wanted to know if it had been rescheduled. Chairman Stubbings said that it had not and he wants to look at rescheduling it. Chairman Stubbings wants to hear what the Town has to say before announcing the committee’s recommendation. The date and time will be posted and sent out on the listserv. Greg Stelzner asked the Board if they had received the report from the Police Advisory Committee. Chairman Stubbings said that he had. Mr. Stelzner wanted to know if the financial reports would contact all the figures relating to Bob Garvin’s resignation. Chairman Stubbings said that everything would be shown in the reports. The August reports would be available at the next Selectmen’s meeting.

**Minutes** – The minutes from the 08/26/14 meeting were reviewed and changes were made. Selectman Hartley moved to accept the minutes as amended. Chairman Stubbings seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor of this motion.

Selectman Hartley moved to adjourn from the regular meeting at 8:22PM. Chairman Stubbings seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor of adjourning from the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer L. Collins

Board of Selectman  
Colin Stubbings, Chairman

Approved:

Members of the Public Present at the general meeting as recorded by “sign-in sheet” included:  
E. Wagstaff, S. Belyea, J. Metcalf, A. Metcalf, H. Mueller, G. Stelzner, T. Mertz, B. Henry, T. Cole