

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2016

At the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, September 16, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. the following people were in attendance: Mark Lufkin and Wendy Hersom

Members of the public who were in attendance: Edie Worcester, Marsha Lombardi, Katie Lombardi, Frank Lombardi, Dick Harris, Sondra Brekke, Mina Adamovage, Fred Ingerson of the Water Department,

Fred Ingerson has some proposals for trucks. Fred wants the Chevrolet truck. It is \$48,620. Mark said he thinks if we are going to do this we want an aluminum body not a steel body. We can get twice the life out of an aluminum body than a steel body. Fred said he doesn't like the Diamond plow, which is on the Ford truck. The current water department truck is too small. He has been looking at ¾ ton trucks, which is more in line of what he needs. Shawn's truck is a one-ton truck. The ¾ ton truck will hold valves and parts. Dick Harris asked if he had looked in to a Dodge truck? Fred said he had not. Dick said they are quite a bit cheaper. The one he wants is from Quirk. Wendy asked about a double cab truck? Fred said it is an extended cab truck. It is not four doors—it is two doors. The Berlin City price quote did not include the plow—it just included the plow package. Dick just bought a stainless steel plow for \$6,000. Dick said he runs a nine-foot plow on his truck. Fred likes the Reading bodies. Dick said they are expensive, but they are good. Mark said you are better off to go with an aluminum body. Dick said they are more money, but you can put them on another truck. They run about \$6,000 to \$7,000, but they last a lot longer. You wouldn't mind putting it on another truck, but you wouldn't be able to do it with a steel one. All the prices are around \$48,000. Mark was wondering about getting a price for a Dodge. If you get a Dodge, don't put a Meyers on it. Mark said he might be able to get a good quote. Fred would prefer a Chevy. Dick said Berlin City can quote us a Dodge. Berlin City doesn't do the bodies. What if we just bought the truck? Dick said you are better off to buy your body from a dealer, because a dealership would mark up the cost of the body. Dick said you can go right to Hughes and get a municipal discount. Wendy is wondering if we would be better to just buy the truck and then go and get a body somewhere else. Mark said he personally likes Fisher plows. Dick has an authorized Fisher plow dealer at this garage. Dick thinks we should price out a Dodge. Mark said they are all compatible. Dick said you want to deal with someone who is going to take care of you. Dick said Berlin City doesn't have a good reputation for repairs. Dick said buy as much warranty as you can buy. Pay more for the warranty now if they will sell it to municipalities. Wendy thought North Country Ford had a good price quote as well. The Board asked Fred to get a price for a Dodge and Mark will speak to someone in Vermont for a quote. Wendy said see what the lowest price Littleton Chevy will give you on just a truck, no body or utility trailer. Dick said the warranties are well worth the money, and a lot of times you have to ask for it. They are not going to throw it at you. Cab and chassis and a pick-up are two different trucks. It is going to be used to haul tools, etc. for the Water Department. There is not much difference between a 250 and 350. If you are going to carry a plow, then you want a heavier front end. There is a lot of things he can do if he has it. Wendy said we are looking at \$45,000 through Ford. You can call Hughes and see if they will sell us a body. Wendy said to check out the numbers for a Dodge. Dick said 8 foot truck bodies are scarce. Dick said the new Ford trucks are aluminum. When you buy a Ford. you are getting an aluminum truck.

The little well house on Route 115 (Cherry Mountain) needs to be rebuilt. Mark said this is one of our deficiencies. Fred got a quote from Ingerson Builders for \$5,600. Bill Donahue was about \$800 cheaper, but he is unable to do the job as he has some health issues. Shawn was going to speak to the Board about having Tom Clark come back to work on October 1<sup>st</sup> so we could use him to work on the downstairs. Judy said the After School Program does not have a room to use at the school. They are in the gym currently, but once basketball starts they won't be able to be in there so they would like to get the downstairs done as soon as possible so they can use that for the after school program. Wendy spoke with Shawn White on the phone about using Tom Clark to do this for the Water Department. Shawn said he could have him do the well house as it is outside work and then do the downstairs. Fred said it doesn't matter to him who does it. It needs to be done, and it needs to be done before winter.

Wendy made a motion, which was seconded by Mark Lufkin, and unanimously approved to bring Tom Clark back to work as soon as possible and have him work on the well building and downstairs.

Fred said he fixed a couple of leaks on Shirlaw Drive. There is another leak at Hagan's as well. Dick Harris said there is a leak up on Route 3 as well. Mark said the only way we will know is to dig it up. He did the phosphate test, and it definitely changed colors. Fred said he spoke with the leak detection guy who came last week and he said it wasn't a leak on Route 3 just before Hall Road, on the Hall Road side of Route 3. Dick said there is a leak on Hall Road just below his second driveway on the hill. Dick said it has been there all summer, and it has been a dry summer. Dick suggested testing that water as well.

The Board discussed adopting an addendum to Section 6: Cross-Connection Control Program of the Rules & Regulations for the Whitefield Water Department Ordinance. Fred said the Town was in violation for backflows. There are certain backflows that have to be checked twice a year. The Mountain View did not have their done at all last year and Weeks Hospital did it only once last year. Fred spoke with the State, and he said it is on the Town to enforce it and be sure they get done. Dick Harris say a guy from Gorham comes to his place twice a year. Dick said he doesn't ask him to come—he just shows up. Fred said that he has done Weeks Medical Center and Mt. View in the past. Sondra Brekke asked what they are testing? Fred said everyone has backflow preventers by their meters. The test ensures that nothing can backflow back into the water source. Dick said if they are not getting their tests done then they are not getting paid. Weeks and Mt. View Grand has someone different doing their testing now. Fred said this addendum had to come about because of the violation. The state required the Town have some kind of protocol in place in case this happens again. If it happens again, then the Town will be fined. They both are in compliance at this time. They did their first round of testing, but they have not done the second round of testing again. For just those two places, they had to be required to give the Town the results. The first round is in June and the second round is in October. The guy from Gorham puts together a whole pamphlet with all the ones he did and all the results which he gives to the Town on a yearly basis. If he finds something that fails, he notifies the Town right away. Wendy said we are adding teeth to the program. The addendum provides for notification verbally and if no response a written notification and if nothing is done then there will be notification that their water service will be disconnected. Frank was wondering if the RSA should be included, and Wendy said the state recommended this to us. It is mostly for people with more hazards. Dick thinks it is more for the larger hook-ups. Wendy made a motion, Mark seconded the motion, and unanimously approved to adopt the following Addendum to Section 6: Cross-Connection Control Program for the Rules & Regulations for the Whitefield Water Department Ordinance:

**Existing Backflow Preventers – Testing:**

E. Failure to Comply: In the event that an owner fails to test backflow prevention devices the following protocol will be followed:

1. Verbal notification will be given to comply within 7 days.
2. If no response, written notification, certified mail return receipt requested, to comply within 7 days and notify owner that testing **shall** be done twice a year in June and October.
3. After 14 days, said owner will be notified, certified mail return receipt requested, that water service to the owner's premises will be terminated within a period not to exceed five (5) days.

Wendy made a motion, which was seconded by Mark Lufkin, and unanimously approved to budget \$45,000 for Horizons Engineering to amend/update the 2012 Water System Study and for them to do the Preliminary Engineering Study for the Wastewater Treatment facility in preparation for a bond vote at the 2017 Town Meeting. This expenditure will be project eligible late to count toward the Town's loan contribution.

Dick Harris asked if we had heard when we would be testing the pump station. The Board said we have not heard anything yet. We will follow up with Horizons.

The Board reviewed a memo from Christine Fillmore, Town Counsel, on Northern Pass. The Town will have an opportunity to present testimony directly to the SEC on the impacts of the Northern Pass on our Town. This will be in the form of Pre Filed Testimony, and is essentially written statements from various officials or staff including attaching any relevant ordinances, regulations, or policies enacted by the Town that relate to the written testimony and the project as a whole. Christine needs our material no later than October 31, 2016. There is a list of nine items.

Katie said it is a hard prove that the Northern Pass will affect property values. Wendy said appraisers look at recent sales and compare your property and make adjustments. They base it on what the homes sold for. Wendy said until the homes have sold after Northern Pass goes through, you really don't know. Wendy said what could happen take look at another community where a power line has gone through. Katie said Northern Pass says that may have happened, but this hasn't been built here and there is no proof that would happen here. Wendy said if you look at two or three other communities who have had a power line go through. Sondra said there have been people who have not been able to sell their property because of Northern Pass. Very few people want to live next to a power line. That would be good to have those people give written statements to the fact that they can't sell their house because of the Northern Pass.

Duncan said he attended a meeting today about this, and all the companies that were discussed are from outside of N.H. They are supposed to hire N.H. people first for some jobs.

Wendy asked if anyone was interested in being on a sub-committee to work on this. Katie and Duncan offered to help.

John Ross, Jr. attended the meeting. Wendy asked John if he was o.k. with being the Acting Fire Chief? John Ross said yes he was. Mark said the general consensus was to go with a stipend Fire Chief and figure out the EMS from there. Mark said we met with the EMS people. Mossy said he feels we need a

full-time EMS person to do calls and paper work. He would like to see an advanced EMT-A. What does a full-time EMT-A make these days? We can check around other towns. John thought that is how Twin Mountain started as well. John would be interested in the stipend position. John said it would still be under the Fire Chief because someone has to take head of it. The Fire Chief would take responsibility over the EMS. If you have two EMS people, you would need to have someone in charge. Wendy said she doesn't understand that entirely. Couldn't we hire them with job descriptions and say which duty is whose. What do they need, the billing, reports to the state, fire reports, stock the ambulance, training, keeping up with EMS files for the other members, contact for the hospital. Mark asked about restocking and keeping up with that. Mossy said there is people who are volunteering. There are not EMT-A's. EMT-B's are Bryan Glidden, Tom Ladd, John Ross, Jr., and Matt LaDuke. Matt is a per diem who comes down and fills in shifts. He is going to school to be an advanced EMT-A. Lori is a first responder. Shawn Sherwood is a first responder. The Board appointed John Ross, Jr. as acting/interim Fire Chief for the Whitefield Fire Rescue effective September 12<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed to pay him an additional \$2,500 on top of the \$1,500 until the end of the year. Lori Comeau is doing a lot of extra duties. John said there is some painting and cleaning he would like to do at the station. The Board authorized John to authorize people to work up to 40 hours a week at \$12.00 an hour to do these needed duties. This is a per diem type of job—not a full-time job. The per diems are currently \$75. Mark was wondering if he could get more people to sign up with \$75 and then \$25 a call. You would get paid for the call as well, and they are usually less than 2 hours. They have been answering the calls, six since Saturday. Mossy said he would rather have the per diem than the 40 hours a week.

The Board approved allowing 2 per diems per day for 10 hour shifts and the per diem includes one call and then pay them the hourly level rate for any calls after the first call at the per diem rate of \$100.

We have not decided what direction we are going to go yet. Mark said he would like the stipend Chief and we will work on the EMS side of it. Tom Ladd said since Jay gave his notice as far as he knows they have had, other than help from Dalton, mutual aid in here only once, and that was Lancaster for a motor vehicle accident and that would have happened anyways.

Mossy said he is leaning towards a full-time EMS person. John said he would come up with a list of what exactly the person would be doing. Billing is important as well.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.