

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 11, 2018

At the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. the following people were in attendance: John Tholl, Stanley Holz, and Peter Corey.

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to approve the May 14, 2018 Selectmen's Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by John Tholl. All in favor, 3-0. Motion passed.

The Board discussed the Trustee of Trust funds vacancy. The person written in for the position at town meeting does not want the position. RSA 669:73 states that vacancies in the office of trustee of the trust fund shall be filled by appointment made by the Board of Selectmen for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Board asked Tom Ladd, who was in attendance at the meeting, if he was interested in the position, and he said that he would be. A motion was made by John Tholl to appoint Tom Ladd as a Trustee of Trust Funds, pursuant to RSA 669:73. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. All in favor, 3-0. Motion passed.

Frank & Lynn Gee of 62 Pine Street attended the meeting to discuss an issue with their neighbors. Mr. Gee said that first off there was issues with grass and he said over and over they burn at 11:00 p.m. at night. They have some video footage of them burning materials they should not be burning. They are burning anything they can get in their backyard. Peter said we can certainly have the Fire Chief check on that issue and make it clear to them what they can and can't burn. Mr. Gee said there were also issues he has reported to the police department with people riding by his home. Mr. & Mrs. Gee are also questioning if the neighbors are encroaching on their property. Mr. Corey asked if they knew where their boundary line was, and they said they did not. The Board explained that boundary line disputes are civil matters. The Selectboard does not get involved in civil matters. Mr. Holz suggested that they have a survey done so you know where the boundary is. Stanley said you actually have to get a surveyor in to do a survey to determine where your property is. The first thing they should do is get a copy of their deed to give to their surveyor. The surveyor will research the deed and delineate where the line actually lies.

Mr. & Mrs. Gee said they also have a concern with the sewer grate that is in back of their house. He said it looks like it is falling in. The Board said we can have our Public Works Director go down and take a look at it for them. If it is a town issue, we will take care of it.

Mr. Gee said that someone hit a gravestone in Pine Street Cemetery with a vehicle. We will let the cemetery trustees know about that issue.

Selectmen Committee Reports:

Stanley said the WEDC met on May 16, 2018. There was a presentation of the bids for the timber contract made by Greg Ainsworth. Timberwolf Logging's bid was accepted in the amount of \$73,100. Rick Wright opened an account at the Bank of NH, and there is \$4925 in the account. An update was given on the acquisition of the Downtown Whitefield buildings. Stanley said that in addition to the town buildings currently under review, two more buildings were added. Stanley said the Fiske Barn is being discussed as well. Bob Stiles is working with the owner to see what he would be willing to sell the barn for. Stanley said a source of grant funding has been approved for the feasibility study. Scott Burns received a quote that contains one million dollars worth of liability coverage for \$1100 a year. The WEDC

asked Scott to try to get at least one more quote. The WEDC is working on revising the By-Laws, and all members signed a "Confidentiality Agreement" and "Conflict of Interest Agreement".

John said the airport has another meeting this Wednesday, but they are concentrating mostly on the fly-in scheduled for June 23rd. There has been interest in two people wanting to build hangers. One is a hanger that is probably the size of Presby's hangar or a little bigger and there is another person interested in renting one. There is interest in improving the airport. We talked about trying to make it easier for pilots flying in and they land and there is no ground transportation. Working with Enterprise about having rental cars out there. It might be too much for them to be involved. See if we can find a vehicle to use as a courtesy car. John spoke with Brian Laperle who runs North Country Tire and he expressed an interest in helping out. He has indicated he is willing to go to the auction and find a vehicle and sell it to the airport at his cost plus maintain it. They are working on this.

Peter Corey said at the last Planning Board meeting they had a moment of silence in memory of Everett Kennedy, a long-time member of the planning board who recently passed away. The Board put forth a nomination to appoint Tim O'Neil as a full-time member. They have problems with people living in campers. That has become an issue. We are aware of at least four locations. Joyce was going to reach out to other towns to see how they deal with similar problems and get some thoughts. They did get a response from one of the people who turned her shed into a living space, and she came back with a permit request to build a house. Whether or not she ever does that, remains to be seen. The time frame for permits is three years. Joyce said we are looking for alternates, and Steve Laroza is interested. That will go in front of the Board tomorrow night or if anyone has anyone who might be interested. Stanley asked if the planning board is citing the camper violations, and Peter said the planning board still needs to determine how to approach this. We have nothing in the code to address this. We have to figure out how other towns deal with it. People are living here, and we have no idea what their sanitary situation is, they are not paying taxes, and are utilizing our town services.

The Board of Selectmen approved the Designation of Authorities for the Clean Water SRF loan.

The Board reviewed two emails received re: water bill abatement requests. One was there was a frozen pipe and they had a water leak. It went through the meter. The way the ordinance reads anything that goes through the meter is charged. Can we ask Fred if he knows where the water went? John Tholl made motion to abate a portion of the sewer bill such that it is in line with their six month average usage if Fred can confirm the water didn't go in the sewer. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. All in favor, 3-0. Motion passed. Stanley said a partial abatement is reasonable if the water did not go through the sewer system.

The next one was for someone who had an issue with a running toilet that they did not know about. The Board agreed that we cannot do an abatement in this situation.

The Board discussed a complaint received about a burnt-out structure on Brown Street. Peter thinks the Town needs to raze the burnt-out structure that the town owns on Brown Street. The Board asked Judy to direct the Public Works Director to raze the structure and dispose of it and make it a clean saleable lot before winter.

Peter feels we need to move forward with RSA Chapter 155-B that authorizes the select board to order the owner of any hazardous building to raze or remove hazardous structures/buildings. Hazardous

building is defined as any building which, because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, physical damage, unsanitary condition, or abandonment, constitutes a fire hazard or a hazard to public safety or health. The Board asked Judy to reach out to Christine Fillmore, town counsel, and see what the process is we need to do. The following properties we have received numerous complaints about and need to be addressed: 86 Union Street, 36 Brown Street, 33 Elm Street, 5 & 11 North Street.

The Board asked Judy to speak with the Public Works Director about getting some blinds for the meeting room.

The Board asked Judy to schedule the July 9, 2018 Selectmen's meeting to be held at the Whitefield Public Library.

A motion was made by John Tholl to enter into non-public session at 7:10 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(c) matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. Roll call to enter non-public session: Corey-Yes; Tholl-Yes; Holz-Yes.

The Board adjourned from non-public session at 8:00 p.m.

A motion was made by John Tholl to enter into non-public session at 8:00 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II(d) consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property, which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. Roll call to enter non-public session: Corey-Yes; Tholl-Yes; Holz-Yes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.