

Town of Washington
Board of Selectmen
MINUTES
MAY 14, 2009

1.0 ASSEMBLY

1.1 Meeting called to order at 7:00PM.

1.2 Members: Guy Eaton, Rich Cook and Ken Eastman
Visitors: Jeff Barrette, Ethel Jarvis, Greg Chanis, Ben Nelson

2.0 MINUTES

Cook motioned that the Selectmen's minutes of May 7, 2009 be accepted as written. Eastman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Important Dates -

May 19th – Forestry Committee 9AM at Town Hall

May 20th – Conservation Commission 7PM at Town Hall

May 23rd – Marching Band Concert, Camp Morgan Lodge at 4:00PM

May 25th - Memorial Day Ceremony, 9:30-9:45am on the Town Common

May 25th – Cemetery Trustees, 7PM at Town Hall

May 26th – Municipal Task Force Meeting, 9AM at Town Hall

May 29th – Carolyn Russell will be assisting residents in completing the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief Forms at Town Hall from 9-12PM (first come first serve)

Did You Know?

The Washington Seniors are starting a Senior Bowling League, no ringers. Contact Bob Fraser for information.

Thayer advised that the Town can no longer take dimensional (i.e. 2 x 4) lumber in the brush pile. This wood will only be accepted in the #3 container C& D for recycling. Any questions please see the attendant for clarifications.

3.0 BUILDING AND PARKING PERMITS

3.1 Steve Williams: TM#14-460, proposed to construct a 10 x 16 shed and to replace an existing front entryway to make it an 8 x 20 farmers porch. Cook had inspected and found that the 10 x 16 shed met the setback requirements but that the proposed change to the existing entryway did not conform to the right-of-way setback requirements. Cook motioned to approve the shed portion of the building permit and to send the farmers' porch request to the Board of Adjustment. Eaton seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

3.2 Kerry Jassen: TM#15-080, proposed to replace and redesign existing roof. Eastman had inspected and found that all of the setbacks were in accordance with the Land Use Ordinance. Eastman motioned to approve the application. Cook seconded the motion. All voted in favor, permit #2327 was approved.

3.3 Ed and Jane Thayer: TM#09-019, proposed to construct a 12 x 20 compost shed and a 12 x 24 deck off the rear of the home. Eaton had inspected and found that the proposed deck was in accordance with the Land Use Ordinance but that the compost shed did not meet the required setbacks. Eaton motioned to approve the deck portion of the building permit application. Cook seconded the motion. All

voted in favor. The compost-shed proposal was forwarded to the Board of Adjustment for a variance request.

3.4

Inger and Ralf Barden: TM#16-118, requested that building permit #2244 be amended to include a 25 x 10 deck off the rear of the home. Eaton had inspected and found that all of the setbacks were in accordance with the Land Use Ordinance. Eaton motioned to approve the requested amendment. Cook seconded the request. All voted in favor, the amendment was approved.

4.0

APPOINTMENTS DURING THE DAY AND PREVIOUSLY

4.1 Brother Peter, of the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, updated the Selectmen on the status of the camp program and the bridge that had previously been constructed. Eastman asked about the status of the applications and the size of the proposed docks. Brother Peter stated that there is a variance for a lake with the shallow waters to allow more than one dock. Eaton asked for the plans for future building on the property. Brother Peter advised that there is a need for a shed, gazebo, one building for an aid station and an arts and crafts and a covered shooting range. The nurse's station would only be constructed if a donation was received. Brother Peter provided the Selectmen a copy of the site plan for their review of the proposals. Thayer asked Brother Peter about the road bond and advised that a formal request must be received for the Town to return of the bond when the construction is complete.

4.2 Alan Treadwell phoned to request that his approved rental application for Camp Morgan Lodge be amended to an approval to have a private party with the use of alcohol. He had provided the necessary documents and the additional fee. (See 9.1)

4.3 Eaton was contacted by Joyce Borey asking about the status of the Town holding a farmers' market. Eaton said that the Town does not sponsor the Farmers' Market that we just provide the space. The secretary will contact interested parties.

4.4 A resident made a complaint regarding the condition of his neighbor's property. The Selectmen will send the Health Officer to the property to see if any action needs to be taken.

4.5 Jennie Bruno requested a rental form for the use of Camp Morgan Lodge for the Hillsboro-Deering 8th grade dance. Eaton provided the application. Bruno took the application for the school to complete.

4.6 Ron Max asked Eaton regarding the process on building a garage on his property. Eaton informed Max on the process.

4.7 Carolyn Russell advised that a final report would be coming from the Future of the Town Hall Committee.

4.8 Jim Gaskell thanked the Selectmen for the cleaning of the Camp Morgan Lodge pantry. Gaskell asked if the Selectmen see the Camp Morgan Lodge checklist. The Selectmen said that they do not see the forms that the custodian handles them.

5.0

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS

5.1. Chief Marshall:

5.1.1. Provided the logs.

5.1.2. Advised that he would try to coordinate a police officer to attend the marching band concert as requested by the Park and Recreation Commission.

5.2 Ed Thayer:

5.2.1. Advised that the pre-construction meeting for the Halfmoon Pond Road Bridge Project will be held Tuesday May 19th at 10:00AM at Town Hall with the Selectmen, contractor and engineers. A site visit is to follow.

5.2.2. Thayer provided a copy of the formal request of the State for the 50% partial reimbursement for the Halfmoon Pond Bridge Project.

5.2.3. Advised that he would be filing for a Hazard Mitigation Grant for the removal of the hazardous tree limbs left from the December ice storm.

5.2.4. Thayer said that he started working on the East Washington Road project. Thayer said that he is tentatively scheduling the overlay project for the last week of June.

5.2.5. Advised that he was approached by Ron Jager this week regarding the choice of the color of the guardrail for the Halfmoon Pond Bridge. Jager had suggested painting the guardrail a dull red. Thayer said that the guardrail could be painted but it would be cost prohibited. Thayer said that the rust layer would have to be sandblasted and did not have the money in the budget to paint or prepare the guardrail. Thayer said that he has no preference to the color but the better option would be to purchase galvanized steel guardrails so that they may be painted in the future. The galvanized rail would be less costly. Thayer stated that the original thought was for the guardrail to blend into the bridge but would need a decision from the Selectmen in order to order the correct guardrail. Eastman said paint means maintenance. Cook agreed and said that the guardrails blend in. The Selectmen agreed to let the project proceed with the previously agreed upon guardrails.

5.2.6. Eastman and Thayer walked over to the look at the tree behind the church. The Public Works Department will remove the tree.

5.3 Carolyn Russell:

5.3.1. Requested a letter to authorize her the ability to purchase office equipment at the upcoming State auction. She was provided the requested letter.

6.0

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

6.1

Greg Chanis, Sullivan County Commission Administrator and Commissioners Ben Nelson, Jeff Barrette and Ethel Jarvis all met with the Selectmen to discuss the Sullivan County services. Jeff Barrette said that he would like to make this meeting an annual event. Barrette said that the Commissioner's just completed the budget process with only a slight increase expected. Barrette advised the Selectmen of the services provided by the Sullivan County Commission, the jail for low risk offenders, nursing home, and sheriff department. Eastman asked about the jail expansion budget. Barrette advised Eastman of the expansion system which is to help low risk inmates. Eastman asked if the Sullivan County Commissioners provide a balanced service to the communities and asked if these services could be turned over to the State. Barrette answered that the services could probably be turned over to the State but the efficiency would probably suffer. Eastman said that the 20% increase last year was a hard hit in the taxpayer's taxes. Barrette said that in the past ten years the average increase in 2.5%. Chanis said that some years the increase was zero and hurts the taxpayers in the following years. Nelson advised the Selectmen regarding the jail and the expansion system. Eaton said that we had four inmates assist the Town after the ice storm. Nelson said that if the nursing home were to be privatized the taxpayers would have to pay for this as well. The Commissioners invited the Selectmen to a Commissioner's Meeting. Chanis said that the Public Safety issues are a shared responsibility. Barrette said that the Commissioner's have no control over the reimbursement rates for the nursing homes and Federal money is left on the table to keep their budget low. Eastman asked if they are looking into any of the stimulus monies. Barrette said that they are going after some of the money for staffing in the new portion of the jail but we cannot rely on this money for future budgeting purposes. Barrette said that the Commissioner's need to make smart decisions to cutback on the sharp tax increases. Chanis invited the Selectmen to the pancake breakfast at the new prison facility. The Selectmen thanked the Commissioner's for coming.

7.0 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

- 7.1 Spring 2009 Coordinator Connection, - Forward to the bookkeeper
- 7.2 Approval from NHDES to the Town of Washington for the minimum impact wetlands permit for the Mill Pond project. – Filed
- 7.3 A copy of a letter from DOT to Andrew and Katherine Lafferty TM#16-049-01 for their driveway permit. – Filed
- 7.4 Invoice from the Town’s attorney. – Forward to the bookkeeper
- 7.5 A copy of Legislative Bulletin, #19. – Public reading file
- 7.6 A copy of the RPC Newsletter, Spring 2009. – Public reading file
- 7.7 A Thank you, letter from Project Lift for the 2009 support from the Town of Washington. – Filed
- 7.8 Invoice from Richard M. Monahon, Jr. Architects. - Forward to the bookkeeper
- 7.9 Letter from the State of New Hampshire Department of Safety advising the Town of Washington advising of the FEMA monies that will be forwarded to the Town of Washington. – Filed
- 7.10 Email from Sullivan county Delegation Executive Finance Committee meeting advising of two upcoming meetings. – Public reading file
- 7.11 Email from Bob Thompson, Chairman of the APDVD, advising the Selectmen that the upper gate of the Ashuelot Pond Dam was closed. – Filed
- 7.12 Email forwarded from Eastman regarding the drilling under Town buildings to test for ledge. – Forward to the Planning Board.
- 7.13 Email from Everett Connor regarding a letter he received for building without a permit. – The secretary responded and a permit should be received shortly.
- 7.14 A debris management resource guide for residents and small businesses. – Public reading file
- 7.15 A copy of the Meridian site plans for the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Saint Benedict Center, Inc. – Filed
- 7.16 An invitation to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission Annual Dinner. – Filed

8.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8.1 Cook advised the Selectmen that he had attended a site visit to the Antrim and Hancock Town Halls with members of the Municipal Task Force and the Planning Board.
- 8.2 The contractor for the Camp Morgan project has completed the screening of the propane tank.
- 8.3 The Selectmen received a phone call from the attorney of the Fire Department landowner. The secretary advised that the Town could not purchase the property without approval of Town Meeting. The secretary will send a formal letter with this information.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1 Eaton motioned to approve the request of Alan Treadwell for the use of Camp Morgan Lodge with alcohol. Eastman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

10.0 DISBURSEMENTS APPROVED

- 10.1 The Board approved cheques for payroll of \$5732.78 and vendors \$36444.68 for the week of May 15, 2009.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

11.1 There being no further business before the Board; Cook motioned for adjournment. Eastman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49PM

Respectfully,

Michelle Dagesse
Secretary for the Board of Selectmen