

October 9, 2012
Selectmen's Meeting/Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen: R.P. McGinnity Chairman, A. Richards, C. Moser & A.A. Milkovits

Also present: Treasurer Pat Letourneau & Deputy Treasurer Garth Fletcher
One resident

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM. The check manifest was reviewed and approved.

Agenda:

Appointments:

1. Todd Hayward, Granite Hill Municipal Services, met for his interview as town assessor. He has been in business since 2004, started with Rye. He started his assessor's training in 2000 with Avitar. His client list includes: Hooksett, Strafford, Lyndeborough, and Rindge. He has also done revaluation work for his own clients. He is a certified assessor/supervisor and is in his third term on the Assessing Standards Board. Chairman McGinnity stated that the town is looking for responsiveness and timeliness. The assessor must be responsive to AA. Since the town has semi-annual tax billing, Mr. Hayward will get the assessing work done by May 1st. He is also available by email on his cell phone. He has 2 certified employees. He will maintain work in the Selectmen's office and work on an as needed basis. His references described Mr. Hayward as professional, responsive; his work is done efficiently and accurately. Chairman McGinnity made a motion to hire Todd Hayward as of January 1, 2013. This motion was seconded and voted in the affirmative. Selectmen signed his contract which Mr. Hayward will email to DRA for their approval before he signs the contract.
2. Jeff Belanger, NRPC met with the Board to explain the Regional Plan that is in process. This plan is similar to a municipal master plan as it is done every 5 years. There has been some opposition to the Regional Plan because the money for the plan was granted from the Federal Government. Some are concerned there may be hidden strings. Mr. Belanger explained that NRPC is only an advisory body, with no regulatory power. The money can only be used for compiling the regional plan. The NRPC will be gathering ideas from public input through "opinion" boxes placed in the town office and by links to websites. The questions are what do people in their towns want and need. The Plan will not be finished until 2015. The first phase is the outreach, then holding planning workshops with intensive information gathering, and then the plan is formed. The Commissioners of NRPC will stamp their approval on the plan, *Granite State Future* with its legal and technical planning issues. Mr. Belanger stressed that the NRPC wants to make a useful document. NRPC also wants to hear from different groups in town. Chairman McGinnity suggested contacting the Conservation Commission.
3. Alfred Stauble, Depot Road, appealing his timber tax. Mr. Stauble was a "no show" for his appointment. A motion was made, seconded and voted in the affirmative to deny his timber tax abatement appeal due to lack of evidence or support.
4. Robert Larochelle, Chairman Cemetery Trustees. Mr. Larochelle was a "no show" for his appointment. Another appointment has been set for the Cemetery Trustees for October 23rd. Reminders will be sent to the Trustees.
5. Patricia Cross, Merriam Hill Road, raised a concern for safety of families playing at the town common/gazebo. She is concerned for the traffic "flying through" the

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school zone as the families cross Darling Hill Road from the school. She did speak to Chief Hutchins to address this issue. She would like the Selectmen to investigate whether to put up School Zone signs to slow down vehicles. The Board will request the Road Agent to check on regulations and prices on these signs. It was stated that the Police Department cannot enforce the speed limits unless there are signs stating the limits. Chairman McGinnity also reminded Mrs. Cross that the Selectmen will be setting a policy for the use of the gazebo. He suggested that the families use the school playground but Mrs. Cross said that the school does not allow the use of the playground during school hours. Mrs. Cross stated that the families are enjoying picnicking and playing on the Town Commons/gazebo and if the gazebo is off limits then the families will be playing at the bench and Bode statue.

6. Barbara Devore, Conservation Commission member, requested a date for the hearing for the Selectmen to formally accept the quarry land gift. Selectman Moser set the wording for the public notice for the hearing. The notice may be changed to reference the correct RSA. The hearing was set for Tuesday, November 13th at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall. At that time the Conservation Commission will plan a program for the public to explain the land gift.

Selectmen reviewed the following:

Old Business:

1. Re: Minutes – Selectmen Meeting minutes from September 11, 2012 were approved.
2. Re: Written opinion from Attorney Drescher on the procedure for funds received by the Recreation Commission for events – This was again tabled for a later date.
3. Payment received for sale of scrap sander \$1,628.00
4. Police Detail issue – tabled for a later date.

New Business:

1. Letter from New Ipswich Selectmen concerning the formation of a committee to study the feasibility of creating a regionalized police force. The town would like a reply in 30 days. Selectmen will send a letter to New Ipswich to state that there is no interest in a regionalized police department and that the town of Mason is happy to remain with our own Police Department and Police Chief.
2. From BTLA: Appeal from Calpham's Bedford Holdings, LLC owner of lots A-22-3, A-22-9 and A-22-10 for 2011 taxes. The BTLA will be contacted as there was no cover letter with the copy of the appeal.
3. Completion Certificate: Gary Rolfe, lot G-42, 89 Townsend Road, electrical service
4. Police logs
5. State Primary Minutes
6. Request for use of Town Hall by Bernie O'Grady, Campbell Mill Road for music "jam" sessions. Mr. O'Grady stated that this activity will be sponsored by the Recreation Committee. Selectman Moser stated that while this seems to be in the province of the Recreation Committee, the Committee needs to be present for these events. A letter so stating this will be sent to Mr. O'Grady.

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7. From NRPC: DRED is looking for "stranded areas of neighborhoods that are not served by FairPoint DSL." Notice of this request has been placed on the town bulletin boards.
8. Stumpage Value list from the DRA for October 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013
9. From LGC-HealthTrust: Healthcare Reform Compliance information
10. From Primex: Certificates for the 7 attendees of the Safety training session on Back Injury Prevention.
11. Other:
 - Selectmen, Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer discussed procedures for transfer of funds to town accounts. Directive for the transfers will be signed by the Selectmen on recommendations from Administrative Assistant and then forwarded to the Treasurer for her to do. Discussion ensued on the use of debit/credit cards by departments. It was decided that a separate debit/credit card account will be established with a "working" amount of \$5,000 for the use of departments. Peoples United Bank will alert the Selectmen's Office on any charges over \$500. Selectmen will approve these purchases.
 - From Primex: offering assistance in reviewing current insurance coverage and possibly changing to Primex.
 - From Primex: Information about workers compensation coverage for individuals volunteering to assist their communities during times of crisis or emergencies.
 - Notice from the town of Jaffrey: site plan hearing for location of wireless antenna.
 - Request from CASA for \$500 to be included in town's 2013 budget.
 - Request from Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Western New Hampshire to be included in the town's 2013 budget.
 - Other correspondence

Selectmen signed the following:

- Warrant for General Election: Selectmen set the polling hours: 7 AM to 8 PM. Voting will be at the Mason Elementary School
- 2012 MS-1 – Town valuation dropped by \$618,250
- Intents to Cut: Doonan Family, LLC, lot B-18 and Robinson, lot K-3

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara L. Milkovits
Administrative Assistant