

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, March 17, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Austin, Jack Zeller, Clayton Stalker

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.
2. A motion was made by Jack Zeller, second by Clayton Stalker to nominate Russ Austin as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Motion passed.
3. Clayton will serve as the Selectmen representative on the Planning Board, Jack will attend the Hazard Mitigation update meetings and Russ will serve as the Selectmen representative on the Budget Committee.
4. Selectmen Russ Austin, Jack Zeller and Clayton Stalker, along with Treasurer, Jo Ann LaBarre will be signers on the town's checking account at TD Bank. All checks written require two signatures.
5. Approval of Minutes: March 3, 2016. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed.
6. Guests:
 - A. Bernie Gaudreau of Popruk Road was present to update the Selectmen on the removal of the carports at the town-owned property at 161 Hurricane Road. He plans to bring in a dumpster to dispose of the trash under the carports and thinks that an electrical wire to the house will be in the way. A phone call will be made to Eversource to see if power is still on to the house and to have it disconnected if it is. Jack stated that if there is an expense involved, Mr. Gaudreau would be responsible.
 - B. Gary Hudson, Road Agent:
 - a. Gary would like to proceed with the purchase of the new highway truck. He will write up the specifications and it will be put out to bid. There will be two bids – one for the cab & chassis and one for the equipment (plows, etc.).
 - b. Gary will call Henry Underwood at Southwest Region Planning Commission to discuss the proposed culvert project. The town has over 300 town-owned culverts.
 - c. Jack asked Gary what his knowledge of possible work being done on the Class VI portion of Old County Road. Jesse Ross has made cuts in the road for drainage off his property. The cuts have made ruts in the road that are hard to drive over. A letter will be sent to Mr. Ross stating that no work can be done on a Class VI road without the approval of the Selectmen. Mr. Ross has also blocked off the area on his property that the town was using for a turn-around. Gary is using Bill Fosher's driveway to turn around in now and has no problem with doing that.
 - d. Russ asked how the dirt roads were holding up with mud season. Gary reported that the East roads were good so far. Poocham and Paine have soft spots and stone has been added to a portion of Aldrich Road.
7. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Jack Zeller, second by Russ Austin to approve manifests of \$9,434.03 for the Highway Department and \$3,667.20 for all other bills for a total of \$13,101.23. Motion passed 3-0.
8. Old Business:
 - A. Cheshire County request for Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots: Nothing new to report
 - B. Town Hall Survey: Nothing new to report

9. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Intent to Cut Timber: R12-15

Veteran's Credit

- A. Richard & Joyce Cate wish to appeal the decision made by Health Officer Lloyd Draper that an outdoor boiler installed on property owned by Brian & Melissa Hoffman meets regulations and is not a problem. The Cate's believe that the smoke from the furnace is a health issue. A determination from an attorney at the NH Municipal Association states that there is no appeal process in this matter and if the Cate's wish to pursue their concerns, it would be a civil matter.
 - B. Per RSA 31:95-b, a motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller, to accept a \$50 donation made for the posts on the town common. Motion passed.
 - C. The Selectmen approved the following appointments:
 - Conservation Commission for 3-years: Richard Schmidt, April Ferguson
 - Conservation Commission for 1 year: Mary Bradley, Selena Gallen (Alternate)
 - Recreation Committee for 3-years: Lisa Huckins
 - Wantasket River Sub-Committee for 3-years: Richard Schmidt
 - Building Inspector for 1-year: Larry Muchmore
 - Fire Chief for 1-year: Harry Nelson
 - Road Agent for 1-year: Gary Hudson
 - Zoning Administrator for 1-year: David Wirth
 - D. Current Health Officer, Lloyd Draper, is no longer a resident and will have to be replaced. The position of Health Officer is nominated by the Selectmen and appointed by the NH Dept of Health & Human Services. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller, to nominate Richard Paul as the Westmoreland Health Officer. Motion passed 3-0.
 - E. Selectmen signed Personnel Action Forms for employee raises.
 - F. Pothole & Roadway Issue Policy (Primex): The Selectmen do not feel a policy is necessary.
10. Richard Cate expressed his disappointment that the County took the money out of their budget to take down the old jail.
11. Correspondence: A letter from the City of Keene inviting Selectmen to attend an upcoming meeting of the Legislative Delegation on March 29th.
12. A motion was made by Jack Zeller, second by Russ Austin to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Jack Zeller

Clayton R. Stalker

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, April 7, 2016 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES