

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, January 7, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: June Hammond, Russ Austin, Jack Zeller

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman June Hammond.

2. Guests:

Road Agent Gary Hudson was present to review his proposed 2016 budget with the Selectmen. Gary had recommended a warrant article for \$310,000 to pave all of River Road in 2016. With what he has had in prior budgets, he would not have enough to finish the road in one year and as a warrant article, the voters could decide if they wanted the road completed in one year or not. The other option is to put \$275,000 in the Highway budget to finish paving Glebe Road from 2015 (approximately one mile) and to do as much of River Road as he could with the remainder of the funds. The Selectmen selected not to include a warrant article for \$310,000. Gary is also requesting the replacement of the 2002 Int'l with a new truck for an estimated cost of \$185,000. After discussion, it was decided to put \$275,000 in the operating budget for paving and to include a warrant article for a new truck. Financing the new truck will be discussed at a later date. The remainder of the highway budget was completed with minor changes.

Gary also reported that the Jersey barriers for the post office will be put up the following morning prior to the opening of the post office. The barriers are to keep people from parking too close to the building to avoid the possibility of snow falling off the roof.
The new furnace at the highway garage is currently being installed.

3. Approval of Minutes: December 17, 2015. A motion was made by Jack Zeller, second by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.

4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Jack Zeller, second by June Hammond to approve manifests of \$6,841.62 for the Highway Department and \$201,737.58 for all other bills for a total of \$208,579.20 and manifests for the remainder of 2015 bills for \$8,615.29 for the Highway Department and \$66,630.71 for all other bills for a total of \$75,246.00. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Old Business:

Town Hall survey: Selectmen signed an agreement to have the Town Hall land surveyed for a cost of \$850 by David Mann, Land Surveyor.

6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Timber Tax Warrant: R19-8

Timber Tax Warrant: R2: 4-8A

Current Use: R10-17

License to Sell Pistols & Revolvers: Zeller

- A. Groundwater Management at landfill site: The annual Periodic Summary Report of the well testing at the Recycling Center is available for review.
 - B. Keene Recycling Center Hazardous Waste Collection Days: The cost to be included is \$2,181. The Selectmen decided not to participate as residents can take hazardous waste to Keene on any Hazardous Waste Collection Day.
 - C. Cheshire County request for Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots: the County wants to unmerge properties which would add nine more separate properties. More information will be needed and the Selectmen might want to meet with County officials and their attorney. The Selectmen agreed to table the request until the budget process is completed. A letter to the County will be sent.
 - D. June Hammond reported that she had received calls regarding the Town Clerk not being available for several weeks. She replied that the Town Clerk does not have a deputy when she is out, that she sets her own hours and complaints should be made to the Attorney General's office. The Selectmen have no say in how the Town Clerk's office is run.
 - E. Cheshire County update: June distributed reports from the past County Commissioners meeting.
 - F. Russ reported that due to the highway department being without the third person until February, Gary has talked to some people about helping out during a snow event. They will be paid the regular part time rate of \$13.73.
7. Correspondence:
- A. Susan Wright sent a letter of resignation from the Recycling Advisory Committee. A thank you was signed to send to her.
 - B. Melissa Lemnah sent a thank you for the use of the town hall.
 - C. Thank you letter from the Community Kitchen for the town appropriation.
 - D. Thank you letter from Monadnock Family Services for the town appropriation.
8. Selectmen will check their calendars to set a date to work on the budget.
9. A motion was made by June Hammond, second by Russ Austin to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June Hammond, Chairman

Russ Austin

Jack Zeller

<p>NEXT MEETING – Thursday, January 21, 2016 6:00PM MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p>
