

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

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Austin.
2. Guests:
 - A. David Mann, Surveyor: Dave reviewed the Town Hall survey with the Selectmen, showing the lines based on deeds and a Boundary Agreement done in 1947 by the Town and Paine/Britton. If a previous survey of the property was ever done, it was never recorded. The survey helps in showing if the town has enough property for possible future expansion of the fire station and/or parking. The possibility of purchasing other land will be addressed at the next meeting.
 - B. Sam Greene, DRA & town appraiser, Steve Allen: Mr. Greene explained the purpose and procedure of the town revaluation that is being done this year. Sam & Steve do not foresee a large change in assessments. The Selectmen will receive a report when the revaluation is completed. Preliminary letters will be sent to all property owners with their new assessment(s) and informal hearings with owners will be held upon request. Steve plans on doing most of the hearings on the telephone from his home office.
 - C. Graham Gitchell, Fire Department: Graham offered his assistance with the feasibility study for the fire station.
 - D. Forest Fire Warden Ed Johnson and Fire Chief Harry Nelson: Cort Cary of 57 Owls Hill Road sent a letter to appeal the bill sent to him from a permitted out-of-control fire at his residence. Ed explained that the permit issued states that the fire must be kept in control at all times. Ed added that if a neighbor hadn't called in the fire, it could have been much worse. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller to support the decision of the Forest Fire Warden to bill Mr. Cary for the fire. Motion passed 3-0.
 - E. Road Agent, Gary Hudson: Gary was present to update the Selectmen on the Spofford Road restoration project. Gary will supervise the job and be on-site. He will be hiring a local contractor to do the excavation work that is needed. He does not have a price for the excavation or the other materials that will be required yet.
Clayton stated that his concern is that we stay within the parameters of town policy. He added that he had hoped that Gary, out of courtesy, had talked to the Reeder's about the work that will be done. The Reeders own the property where the restoration will take place. Gary stated that he will talk to them when he knows when the project will be starting.
Clayton asked Gary the procedure for driveway permits. Gary stated that he used to do the permits, but now the property owner will fill them out and he will approve them or not.
Gary reported that he will be on vacation the following week and three weeks in August.
3. Approval of Minutes: June 16, 2016. 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 Clayton Stalker, second by Jack Zeller to approve manifests of \$121,738.41 for the Highway Department and \$286,032.84 for all other bills for a total of \$407,771.25. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Old Business:
 - A. Popruk Road cars – Emerson Towing will be asked to tow the cars at the Selectmen’s request. At the end of 6 months, Emerson can file with the DMV for ownership. There will be no cost to the town and it will help in cleaning up the property.
 - B. Feasibility Study: The RFP is almost ready to be sent. The goal is to find a consultant who understands fire codes and the needs of a small town.
 - C. Planning Board Clerk: There was no response from the ad in the Shopper.
6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:
Timber Tax Warrant: R5-6:2

 - A. Selectmen signed a form from the DRA that the town will not be doing inventories this year.
 - B. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller per RSA 31:19, to accept cemetery trust funds in the amount of \$400. Motion passed 3-0.
 - C. Russ will not be able to attend the Selectmen’s meeting scheduled for July 21st. Following the recent practice, the meeting will be rescheduled for July 22nd at 10:30am so that all three Selectmen can attend.
7. Correspondence: A letter was received from DES regarding a violation by the County in not submitting emission reports for boilers and generators located at the Nursing Home. No action was need by the Selectmen.
8. The Selectmen adjourned the meeting at 8:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Jack Zeller

Clayton R. Stalker

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, July 22, 2016 10:30AM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES