

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Friday, July 22, 2016

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:30am by Chairman Austin.
2. Approval of Minutes: July 7, 2016. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:

Donna Cary of Owl's Hill Road was present to discuss the brush fire bill that she and her husband received from the town for an out-of-control fire on June 18, 2016. The Carys feel that, due to the dry conditions, a permit should never have been issued by Forest Fire Ed Johnson. She added that the fire went out of control very quickly and she was about to call 911 when her husband told her that someone had already called.

Jack Zeller told Mrs. Cary that while Ed gave the permit, it is ultimately the responsibility of the property owner to decide if conditions at that given time were safe to ignite a fire.

Clayton Stalker added that it was not a Class 5 day and giving the permit was allowable.

The Selectmen had talked at length with the Fire Warden and Fire Chief and stand by their decision that the fire should be billed.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Jack Zeller to approve manifests of \$4,600.60 for the Highway Department and \$20,049.43 for all other bills for a total of \$14,650.03. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
 - A. Popruk Road cars – Emerson Towing will be picking up the cars.
 - B. Feasibility Study: The possibility of purchasing additional land is being looked into.
 - C. Planning Board Clerk: a replacement has not been found yet.
 - D. Spofford Road restoration plan: work will begin on Tuesday, July 26th. The required plants and seed have been purchased. Art Chickering will be doing the excavation. Gary has met with the Reeder's to go over the plan and how the work will progress.
6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:
Intent to Cut Timber: R7-40 & 40A, R14-42
Forest Fire Report/Bill: Stoddard
State Forest Land Reimbursement

- A. Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2016: A 10-day review period for public comment will begin on July 25th. Any further changes, if any, will then be sent to Southwest Region Planning Commission. Following FEMA approval, the plan will be approved by the Selectmen at a Public Hearing.

- B. The County Commissioners have asked to meet with the Selectmen. They will be invited to the August 4th scheduled meeting.
- C. Russ Austin reported that he received a complaint the prior week by phone from a citizen who observed a Westmoreland truck tail-gating and driving at an excessive speed on Route 10 in Keene. This will be passed on to the Road Agent.
- D. Russ received a call from a resident on Cross Road regarding car tires and rims that were left by the road. He picked them up and took them to Dube's Tire at no cost to the town.

7. Correspondence: None

8. The Selectmen adjourned the meeting at 11:49am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Jack Zeller

Clayton R. Stalker

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, August 4, 2016 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES