

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MARCH 22, 2016

PRESENT: Becky Doyle, Chairman, David Lage, Timothy Johnson, Joanne Meshna

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Troy Shaw: Mr. Shaw's family owns has frontage on Porter Hill Road and extends behind the Old Town Pound. He was present to discuss putting a driveway over the Town-owned land that would eventually extend to a house he plans to build. His access to the lot is quite steep and the Town land is flatter, and it would be less expensive to build the driveway off the Town land. Mr. Shaw stated the driveway would go from the road that is already there to the stone wall. He would take over maintenance of the road and culvert and would fix a parking area for 2-3 cars to park. There are three oak trees that should come down and Mr. Shaw stated he would remove the trees at his cost.

Selectman Johnson stated he would like to view the site. The Board also advised Mr. Shaw to meet with the Cemetery Trustees.

Director Mindy Buxton: Director Buxton is proposing a summer festival to be held on June 11, 2016. From 4:00-8:00 p.m. there will be various activities going on such a food and drinks being served at the café, music, open swim at the pool and an opportunity for families to sign up for the season, vendors selling goods, field day style games and activities, truck and equipment expo featuring some of the DPW equipment as well as local businesses for the children to explore. Summer Movie Night will kick off at 8:30 p.m. The Selectmen were in favor of the activities.

Also discussed was putting the Pool Department under Parks and Recreation with Director Buxton being in charge and the hiring of a Pool Coordinator. Selectman Lage will review the budget.

With regard to soccer at Smithville, Selectman Lage noted the placement of equipment needs to be carefully decided because of the ongoing issues there.

Director Buxton stated Dick's Sporting Goods donated \$400 in gift certificates and a bag of coupons to Parks and Recreation. Also, the Greenville Knights of Columbus donated \$50.00. Selectman Lage made a motion to accept the donation from the Knights of Columbus with thanks, and to accept with gratitude the gift certificates and coupons from Dick's Sporting Goods. Selectman Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Director Buxton noted she will be meeting on Friday with Mike Martel to discuss the dugouts at the Babe Ruth field.

Director Jim Hicks: Director Hicks referred to a letter the Board received from Southwest Region Planning Commission on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is to be updated every five years. One of the advantages of having a Hazard Mitigation Plan is to the opportunity to receive funding through various federal assistance programs following a disaster which it would not otherwise qualify for.

Homeland Security Emergency Management (HSEM) is making funding available for the Town to update its plan. The grant will fully cover the work necessary and there is no financial match requirement for the Town; the only commitment required of the Town is to provide a team of individuals to serve as a review committee in order to meet the soft match requirement. In order to assist HSEM with the contract for this update, they require the Town submit a letter of commitment for selecting Southwest to update the Town's plans. Selectman Lage made a motion to sign the letter of commitment. Selectman Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Director Hicks also expressed his interest in being considered for the position of Health Officer. He noted in many towns the Emergency Management Director is also the Health Officer. Director Hicks commented the position can be proactive or reactive and with the small budget for Health Officer, it would be reactive. He also suggested the position of Deputy Emergency Management Director could be combined with a Deputy Health Officer. Selectman Lage noted he would like to review the RSAs and further discussion was tabled until next week.

Virginia Notter: Mrs. Notter stated she understood the Conservation Commission was hiring Rick van de Poll and she noted the Pipeline Task Force wants to look for a scientist that looks at more than wetland mitigation including wildlife corridors, endangered species, etc. She added she felt that would be a better use of taxpayers' money by having it all done together. The Board noted the question should be directed to the Conservation Commission. Selectman Lage stated the Conservation Commission can hire a professional to delineate the NRI along the pipeline as long as the funding does not come from the budget. Mrs. Notter continued that the Pipeline Task Force was considering having volunteers locate vernal pools and then have the findings verified by a wetland scientist which would save quite a bit of money.

The Board suggested the Pipeline Task Force meet with the Conservation Commission with their questions. Selectman Doyle added she will attend the next Conservation Commission meeting.

On another matter, Mrs. Notter wanted to point out that the ideal temperature for paving of roads is 50 degrees and the Town's paving seems to happen late in the season. She suggested the Board consider hiring a third party to do culverts so paving can be done earlier.

Conservation Commission: The Board received a memo from Bob Boynton recommending Lisa Oden be appointed for a 2 year term on the Commission and Karen Miller for a 1 year term. Selectman Doyle made a motion to appoint Lisa Oden for a 2 year term and Karen Miller for a 1 year term. Selectman Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Lower River Road: The Board discussed a police report on Lower River Road. A driver heading east on Turnpike Road attempted to turn up Lower River Road as he was unable to see that it was a one way road and another car was coming down the road. The Board agreed the signage for the one way street needs to be better placed on Turnpike Road.

The Board also discussed a request to have the road returned to its original status and not a one way or reverse the one way. It was noted the road is narrow with no shoulders making it difficult for cars to

pass one another. The Board noted reversing the one way would cause problems at the top of the road with sight distances. The Board agreed not to change their decision and to leave the road as it is, and to improve the signage.

Ordinance Governing Work in Public Ways: The discussion on the ordinance was tabled until a later meeting in order to give Chief Carpenter time to review it.

Minutes: Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2016 meeting. Selectman Lage seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Cemetery Trustees: Selectman Lage reported the Cemetery Trustees had met to discuss drafting a response to the Attorney General's office regarding Smithville Cemetery. Options discussed were subdividing the Morrill annex and offering a portion as a staging area or giving a portion of the ballfield land.

Selectman Lage also reported the Planning Board had approved the Dollar General application.

Road Committee: Selectman Johnson suggested since Selectman Lage is liaison to the Department of Public Works that he be the liaison to the Road Committee. Selectman Lage agreed.

15 Temple Road: Selectman Doyle reported she had spoken to the owner of 15 Temple Road today. The lessee is moving and should be out of the house by the end of the week. Within the next week or so the owner will have a dumpster on site to pick up anything that needs to be cleaned up.

11 Temple Road: Selectman Doyle reported she had spoken to an auctioneer regarding the property and he will visit the site on Friday and get back to her with his findings. Selectman Lage noted the intent had originally been to sell the property to someone who would restore it rather than rent it. The Town can put stipulations on the sale.

Fire Station: Selectman Johnson commented on the high cost of electricity at the Fire Station. He will do a cost comparison of providers in the area.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanne Meshna, Town Administrator

March 22, 2016 Board of Selectmen minutes approved by:

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Rebecca M. Doyle, Chairman

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David S. Lage

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Timothy Johnson III

