

**August 24, 2010
Selectmen's Meeting**

Present: C. Guiry DMD Ch., A. Richards, R. P. McGinnity, & A.A. Milkovits

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM.

Vendor checks were discussed and signed.

Agenda:

Appointments:

1. Public Informational Meeting concerning the lowering of the pond/dam adjacent to Briggs Road by pond/dam owner Ray Baldwin. Abutters and other residents present: Thomas Mitchell, Barry Hutchins, Bob Bergeron, Robert Doyle, ConCom Chairman Robert Larochelle, ConCom member Liz Fletcher. Mr. Baldwin established the history of the pond and displayed two photos from Google earth showing how the pond has been shrinking in last six years. He has spoken to several pond authorities in NH and Massachusetts. The vegetation has been choking the pond. The plan is to draw down the pond to freeze and dry out the vegetation. Mr. Baldwin will remove as much of the vegetation that he can before re-building the dam to allow the water in. Mr. Mitchell stated that he had lived on a pond in MA and that was the recommended action that was taken every 4 years to re-establish the pond. However it's nearly impossible to eliminate all the vegetation. Mrs. Fletcher was concerned that too much of the sediment would flow downstream if the dam was disturbed. Mr. Baldwin assured her that the dam would be taken down in a controlled manner, two weeks or less. After more discussion, a motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to allow Mr. Baldwin to drain the pond, continue his program on improving the pond and keep the Selectmen informed as needed.
2. Conservation Commission – update on Japanese Knotweed. The ConCom has been marking areas where this invasive species has been growing around Mason. Unfortunately the mowing of the sides of the road promotes more growth. Herbicides are the only antidote for this plant. After more discussion, it was decided that the ConCom would seek bids for licensed individuals to use the herbicides to eliminate the knotweed and other invasive plants on Town land, host another public program on invasive plants. Chairman Guiry also volunteered funds from the Forestry Committee to help with this issue.
3. Barbara Schulze, Wilton Road, discussed an issue with her properties. She would like to increase her house lot with the adjacent lot to allow better access to her driveway. Chairman Guiry explained the process for a lot line adjustment. Ms. Schulze will make an appointment with the Planning Board for an informational meeting.
4. Road Agent David Cook expressed his concern for the inspection failures of the HD vehicles, stated he was suffering from “tunnel vision” concerning the state of the vehicles. Chairman Guiry explained that once the Board was informed of safety violations, they had to take action. He informed Mr. Cook that the County Attorney's office would be contacted on this issue tomorrow. Mr. Cook discussed the status of some of the vehicles: two trucks had new stickers, dump truck needs

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work, truck from Fort Drum needs rocker panels, and one ton truck is needed for work in the Cemetery. Chairman Guiry instructed Mr. Cook to do a cost analysis on the equipment with vehicle life expectancies and lease or subcontract options. The Board needs to know all the options and to prioritize the vehicles. There needs to be a plan to replace the vehicles as needed.

Mr. Cook discussed the Hazard Mitigation grant for a box culvert. An engineering study must be done showing permits pulled. Chairman Guiry suggested contacting Town Engineer Dennis Labomba to review the area. This grant is a 75/25 match which could involve a "soft" match with work done by the Town.

Selectmen reviewed the following:

1. MS-1 Total Town value is \$171,725,245 lower than 2009 which was \$172,047,629.
2. From DRA: Community Action Reports
3. Complaints: Farrell, Brookline Road – concern for poor construction of swale and would like an update on the matter. A memo will be sent to Mr. Farrell that this is a civil matter and not the Town's issue.
4. Mr. Farrell is concerned that individuals are going to the quarry for swimming and camping and are leaving trash, etc. His letter has been forwarded to the Police Department for action.
5. Legal: Re: Blair – Assented Motion to Continue the hearing on August 30, 2010.
6. 2010 Abatement application – Ziemiecki, 101 Nutting Hill Road – this will be forwarded to Town Assessor Richard Rockwood for timely response.
7. Building Permits: #10-13 Hemmer, lot D-34-1, deck, #10-14 Sherman, lot F-16-7, deck, #10-15 Grigas, lot J-61-2, barn, #10-16 Wilson, lot G-75, yurt deck
8. Completion Certificate: Sherman, lot F-16-7, deck
9. State Approved Septic: McClellan, lot H-63 & Fifield lot D-10
10. Police logs
11. From NHMA – 2011-2012 Legislative Policy Conference
12. Bankruptcy paperwork on Fletcher Granite – Chairman Guiry is concerned that there may be some hazardous materials still on the site as well as large equipment. DES will be contacted to do a site inspection.
13. Other correspondence

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Barbara G. Milken
Admin. Assistant