

SELECTBOARD MEETING MAY 20, 2013

PRESENT: Chairman Paul Rooney; Board Member Denise Lindahl, Board Member Drexell White; Town Administrator Barbara O'Leary; Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker; Finance Director Vicki Eugley and resident Mark Humphreys.

Northport Village Corp.:

Maureen O'Keefe had stated at the last Board meeting that she would not be present at this meeting. No other representatives attended in her absence.

Roads & Bridges:

Street Sweeping:

Administrator O'Leary informed the Board that Road Commissioner Amon Morse would not be able to attend the meeting either. Morse did update O'Leary on road related matters. He had stated that street sweeping should start first thing in the morning and that it would have begun today but was held up due to the rain. Morse wanted to know if the Board had any roads they would like added to the list; Chairman Rooney replied that the plan should include all of the paved roads in town.

Priest Road:

O'Leary updated the Board on the 25 mph and Children Playing signs located on Priest Road. She stated that the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) informed her that they have three signs placed on Bay Street; Broadway and Sea Street for 15 mph zones and one sign on Knights Pond Road for a 30 mph zone. O'Leary said that she was informed by the MDOT that the signs on the Priest Road are a Northport issue and the MDOT strongly advises against the use of 'Children Playing' signs.

O'Leary had written the person who had placed the complaint about people speeding through that area a letter informing her that the signs need to be removed. The recipient came to the Town Office and spoke directly to O'Leary. They claimed that the sign has been in that location for many years and it had not been placed there by them. O'Leary stated that Morse will be removing them this week.

Board Members Denise Lindahl and Drexell White asked O'Leary to re-check with MDOT about signs and speed limits on Shore Road, both members believed there was a document that listed Shore Road as a 40 mph zone.

Old Sand/Salt Site:

Rooney asked O'Leary to have Morse find another contractor to take care of the remaining work at the old sand/salt site as well as grade the dirt roads. Rooney noted that it appears as though F.C. Work & Sons may be busy with a project on Route 3 for a while.

Bird Hill:

Rooney asked O'Leary to remind Morse about the shoulder on the Bird Hill section of Beech Hill Road. He stated that with recent rains there has been some serious washout damage.

Shaw Brook Bridge:

O'Leary had received and provided the Board with copies of a notice she received from MDOT about Shaw's Brook Bridge. She stated that she had also informed Morse about the notice; he

said he would take a look at it. Rooney commented that a recent report they had received stated that the condition was satisfactory and that he was surprised by the letter from MDOT.

Islesboro Letter:

O’Leary had received a letter stating that the Islesboro Selectmen are in agreement with the Islesboro Trust about the proposed dredging in Searsport needing to be placed on hold until an environmental study can be completed. The letter mentions concerns about possible contaminants being stirred up during the dredging and had been sent to all of the contacts that were on the former tank opposition listing. Recipients were urged to petition for a study and public hearings.

Under motion by Chairman Rooney second by Board Member Denise Lindahl the Board voted 3-0 to take no action.

Code Officer:

Lannan Appeal:

O’Leary informed the Board about an appeal of a building permit issued to Michael Lannan from George & Judy Metcalf and Patricia Wright. O’Leary told the Board that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the hearing on Thursday June 13th at 6:30p.m.

Blake Vet/Canine Inn:

O’Leary updated the Board on the progress of Dr. Blake’s Site Plan Review process. She stated that on May 14th the Planning Board had deemed the application as being complete. She continued by explaining there will be a silent site visit of the facility by the Planning Board on Wednesday May 29th at 6:30p.m.; immediately followed by a public hearing at the Town Office to review the materials and make a determination to grant or deny the application. O’Leary mentioned that it is the same night as the public hearing for the Withdrawal from RSU #20.

O’Leary told the Board that she; the Code Officer and Town Attorney Bill Kelly have received many calls and e-mails from abutters about the process of this particular matter, as well as many request to delay the public hearing to allow abutters more time to review the materials prior to the hearing. Kelly spoke with O’Leary and informed her that the guidance of the Planning Board and it lies solely in their hands. Kelly informed O’Leary that the Planning Board is aware of possible septic concerns and that a request for a variance may be needed.

She informed the Board that Blake is attempting, to the best of his ability, to comply with the consent agreement and explained the reasoning behind some of the complicated delays. Kelly had not included any type of policing clause in the agreement as the Code Officer would not be able to determine whether an animal was at the facility for medical reasons or not.

Lindahl stated that even if the Selectboard had any influence over the Planning Board a delay on this matter would not be a good idea and there is no real cause to postpone.

Temple Heights:

New Well:

O’Leary had received a call from Mrs. D’Agostino regarding information she was given about a well that was drilled in a right-of-way. D’Agostino wanted to know if the well had been permitted. O’Leary said that she had spoken with Plumbing Inspector Toupie Rooney and was told that permits are not required for wells but the driller needs to know for sure that the well will be at least 100 feet away from any septic system. Chairman Paul Rooney asked O’Leary to

have surveyor Dan Small check to see if it is in the Town right of way since he did the survey for the Temple Heights agreement and knows where the markers are.

Dangerous Building:

O'Leary spoke to the Board about the dangerous building on High Street. She informed the Board that the building appears to be slipping from its foundation. Code Officer John Larson had been discussing the matter with Town Attorney Bill Kelly who has prepared necessary documents to take the case to a judge so that the building may be legally declared a dangerous building. Rooney stated that a lien could be placed on the lot to cover the cost if the Town has to have the building removed, but added that the money necessary has not been built into the budget. White suggested that notices be mailed to the bank and property owner of record to see if they would either enter into a consent agreement for cleanup or if they would prefer to turn the property over to the Town. Lindahl stated that if the parties do not respond by the date certain then the Town should go the court route. Lindahl also questioned where the Board would find the funds necessary if the Town has to remove the building; Rooney explained that it would have to be done at a special town meeting.

June 3rd Meeting:

The Board decided that no business would be scheduled; only accounts payable and payroll warrants would be reviewed for the June 3rd meeting as it would be immediately before annual Town Meeting.

Withdrawal Public Hearing:

Rooney stated that the public hearing to discuss the withdrawal proposal would be a reminder of the public decision to establish a committee to investigate the possibilities and this is what that committee has discovered. He added that it will be up to the public to decide if they are for or against the proposed agreement.

White asked Rooney what was decided with the proposed independent auditor review of the figures; Rooney replied that the auditor was unable confirm any findings on such short notice and respectfully declined to perform an audit. Rooney stated that former Superintendent Bruce Mailloux had demonstrated the process by which the figures were arrived at and the auditor reportedly stated that is how he would have done it as well. Mailloux asked if the auditor would put it in writing but the withdrawal committees have not seen anything yet.

Rooney also mentioned that if the proposed numbers hold up the savings for Northport could be \$249,000.00.

Town Clerk:

Binder Contract:

Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker had received a contract renewal for the binding machine purchased last year. Tucker informed the Board of the cost of the contract and added that the contract is not mandatory and covers all parts, labor and travel during regular business hours for a cost of \$299.00 per year. The Board respectfully declined to renew the contract.

Election Clerks:

Tucker asked the Board for approval of two new Elections Clerks for the upcoming Municipal Election and School Budget Referendum.

Under motion by Board member Denise Lindahl second by Chairman Paul Rooney the Board voted 3-0 to appoint Georgene Coombs and Paul Sheridan as Election Clerks.

Finance Director:

Website:

Finance Director Vicki Eugley provided the Board with reports showing Town website visit activity. The reports showed over 770 visits each month for March and April.

Warrants:

Accounts payable and payroll warrants were reviewed and approved.

Fire Department SHAPE Inspection:

Rooney stated that the Fire Department SHAPE inspection for annual renewal would be on May 24th. He added that if all goes well then the department would be all set for two years. He explained that the inspection involves going through training and personnel records in great detail.

Minutes:

Minutes of the April 22, 2013 and May 6, 2013 meetings were reviewed.

Under motion by Chairman Paul Rooney second by Board member Denise Lindahl the Board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes as corrected.

Under motion by Chairman Paul Rooney second by Board member Drexell White the Board adjourned at 8p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanine Tucker
Town Clerk