



Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Attendance: Peter Washington, Sam Park, Richard Harriman, and Margaret Harriman

Absent: Jeff

- 6:00 - Call to Order by Chair, Shelly Gobeille
- Open meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance
- Sign A/P and payroll warrant
- Sign previous meeting minutes

NEW BUSINESS

- Plowing Complaint from Debby Colwell regarding the Lack of plowing/scraping town roads on the 11/16/2018 storm. Shelly explained that both she and Jim have read the complaint. It was regarding the 11/16/2018 storm; she indicated that she was not in town during that storm. Shelly did indicate that she has researched about the conditions and also indicated that it was the first storm of the season. Shelly paraphrased the complaint; at about 5 pm on the 16th she left Kennebunk, and went through the towns of Lyman, Waterboro and Shapleigh and the roads were good and once she got to Newfield they were not. Shelly indicated that she has spoken to both Casey and Jr. They indicated the storm started on Thursday night and went into Friday. It sounded like the storm stopped around 2 or 3 ish. In talking to everyone they said they went around and plowed it and put the sand down and salt and have it sit there for a while to melt and went back out between 5 and 6. Shelly indicated that Jim had spoken to somebody. Jim indicated that he had spoken to Michael Bryant the weekend after the complaint. He was down on Bridge Street plowing the night of the complaint and it was clear around 7 or so. Not clear but scraped. Shelly provided the complaint to Casey and he is aware of it. It seems like an instance where the sand and salt had to work and then he needed to get back out and scrape it. Shelly indicated that both Casey and Jr. are aware; what she feels we need to do is get an email right back to Debby as her letter is dated 11/19. Please let her know that we have not had a few meetings and that she did speak with Jeff about it and we want to get back to her. Shelly went on with the complaint that sand had been dropped when she left her house that Saturday morning she believes around 3 or 4 am, so at 7:30 am these roads were slushy. Shelly indicated she had spoken to Casey about that and the roads were icy so again he put salt/sand down. She indicated on the complaint that both Casey and the Selectmen get paid a lot of money to oversee. Shelly indicated that she would like the letter to say that the three selectmen have talked about the letter and talked about the letter with Casey and Jr. about it. They are aware of it, and Casey said that he will do his best to keep the road scraped. Jim asked if Sam had anything to add; Sam indicated that he didn't come here for this and did not know this was going to be discussed. But it is hard to turn a blind eye to every other surrounding town is treated and scraped a lot better than our roads. Every other town deals with slush and scraping it. Again I am not here to complain or file a complaint. Shelly explained that she was not here in town for the three storms, but she has spoken to Casey about verbal complaints about the slush; more the slush than the snow. It was explained to Casey that once there is slush he needs to get back out there to scrape. Shelly indicated that he knows that they are going to go out and check on it and call him if there is an issue. Sam indicated that Limerick just went through a huge increase in the cost of plowing. He thinks that maybe the "two inches" is taken to the extreme; like when it snows for 8-9 hours before reaching the two inches and the roads hasn't been touched. Sam said that some of these town plowing contracts require that once the snow starts trucks maintain on the road until it's over; probably not the whole fleet. Jim and Shelly indicated that the contract really needs to be looked at. Jim mentioning that the contract states that is must be started at 2 inches and plow or scrape all roads at least once every four hours. Jim said sometimes the route will take 3-4 hours. Sam agrees but when you start off when there is two inches and then it is snowing 3-4 inches an hour there is sometimes 6 inches in the road before reaching the other end of the route. It doesn't look good when you drive past and the truck is parked and there are 2 inches and it is snowing hard it doesn't look good. How much snow was on the Garland Road Hill at 7- Shelly indicated that she was at the safety Building then? Sam said over two inches- and the state had already plowed-but you can really not judge town roads

against, but our roads had not even been touched. Shelly indicated they would be more on top of the plowing. She doesn't mind the complaints that is what they are there for-she is out plowing and wants to know and then she can go and see. Sam asked what the plowing was up to for a price. Shelly said shy of \$200K. This is nowhere near what Limerick is for the 36 miles of road we have versus the 40 miles they have. Shelly asked about straight salt and his opinion-on paved roads not dirt. Sam explained it is different in Limerick as the contractor is responsible for paying for the salt but then they could not apply to save money. Waterboro's road commissioner gives the "order" as when to apply straight salt; that way there isn't a conflict-except if the plowing contractor is the road commissioner. If the town pays for the salt the contractor could apply more heavily to get job done quicker. Using straight salt might help with the roads and bridges budget that is used mostly for ditching each year. Sam explained that there is a precedence set with the price for plowing. Not going to go down. Jim indicated that we did increase the amount of salt that we put up this year which could result in slushier roads.

OLD BUSINESS

- PSB Roof update- The material that dripped onto the building was successfully removed by power washing. Jeff and Jim both viewed the building and were satisfied. The company also re-shingled the two roofs on the door overhangs.
- Richard and Margaret Harriman were in regarding the road not being plowed to their driveway at 125 Stevens Corner Road (discussion from 11/6/18 meeting). The Harriman's believe the vote that took place in 2009 that again approved (previous votes in 1991, 1981, and 1971 also approved) from 136 Stevens Corner Road through to the Lost Mile Road was a clerical error. The Harriman's asked how to go about getting this changed. The Selectmen had asked Nichole to check with the attorney regarding this at the last meeting. Nichole explained that due to this issue affecting the winter maintenance of a road no changes can be done between October 1st and April 30th. The current vote that took place on July 28, 2009 is set to expire on July 27, 2019 at which time the town will need to hold a special town meeting to re-vote the closing of winter roads. The Harriman's can get a petition signed by 10% of the number of voters at the last gubernatorial vote to have the wording of the article to include 125 Stevens Corner Road. Shelly indicated that the Harriman's can get in touch with Nichole for a possible petition example and the correct number of voters required.
- Photo copier Lease is expiring. Kyocera provided Board new Lease for updated machine. Board discussed at previous meeting. Jim had asked about purchasing the machine that we have and a cost comparison. This was provided. Discussion will continue at next meeting.
- Discussion on cameras at the Transfer Station. Board received quote from WirePro for the installation of 5 cameras \$2656.50. Jeff and Shelly had researched cameras and found 14 for \$3200 but would still have to pay to have installed. Board would like to think about this further before making decision. The issue being items going missing from the Transfer Station and people accessing the property when the Transfer Station is closed. Discussion to continue at next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Heating Assistance Guidelines. A recent application for heating assistance from an individual that is not a resident of Newfield but was planning on moving into a home in Newfield was received. This brought about the question of whether or not they should be approved as the individual is not a resident. After reviewing the guidelines and policy set by the Board of Selectmen in 2009; there is no indication that applicant must be a Newfield resident. Board would like to amend the Heating Assistance Policy indicating that applicant must be a Newfield resident for 3 months prior to applying. Also the Board would like to add that all applications approvals or denials are at the discretion of the Board. The Board agreed that the income limitations seem adequate. Nichole to amend policy and guidelines.
- Discussion on memo from Justine regarding elections. The Board agrees that Justine should purchase some additional voting booths as election participation continues to grow. An increase in the annual stipend for registrar would need to be voted on and approved at Town meeting. Board approves putting on warrant an increase from \$1000 annually to \$1500. Increase is due to the added work load due to ranked choice voting. The increase in hourly wage for the Warden which is currently minimum wage. It was explained in the memo that the Warden is in charge of the voting process at the polls, the job is very demanding and you have a lot of responsibility. Marion Bryant is the current warden and has devoted many years to do it and to get someone to replace her when she retires will be difficult for the current pay and responsibility. Justine proposes increase to \$20/hr. The minimum wage will be going up to \$12 in a little over a year. Board agrees this pay wage is more in line with the duties and responsibilities. The last item discussed was closing the office on Election Day. Office personnel will help at the polls and the town will not have to pay election intake workers. Looking into the surrounding towns their offices are closed for regular business on Election Day and employees work at the polls. The Town Office will be closed on Tuesday the 25th of December for Christmas and Tuesday the 1st of January for New Years. Nichole to post on website. Selectmen's meeting scheduled for the 1st will be moved to the following Tuesday, the 8th. Board will also meet on the 15th (normally scheduled meeting).

- Nichole to run ad and post on website; nomination papers are available and due back by January 8th. Positions: Selectman, Road Commissioner, School Board Director, Treasurer and Town Clerk/Tax Collector- all for 3 year terms. Dog license ad to also go in paper- already on website.

Meeting adjourns 7:28


Shelly Gobeille


Jeffrey Cuevas


James McLaughlin