

**Board of Selectmen
14 September 2009
Minutes**

6:00 p.m. - Chairman Rachel Hatch called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Hatch, Selectmen Betty Ann Abbott and Don Guarino, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Also in attendance was Jim Presher.

After attendance, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Justin Leavitt joined the meeting.

Jim Presher – Concord Regional Solid Waste – Mr. Presher was present to discuss, what he perceives to be the advantages of Single-Stream Recycling.

Mr. Presher informed the Board that the Co-op (Concord Regional Solid Waste/Resource Recovery Co-operative) consists of 27 municipalities in central New Hampshire, Gilmanston being one of its members. They are trying to get Co-op members to commit to single-stream recycling; so far 11 of the communities that are co-op members have committed to single stream. The Co-op has the land to build on, but needs commitment from more communities to generate enough recyclables to make it worthwhile to build the center. (They need to be able to secure commitment of a minimum of 25,000 tons.) Mr. Presher is going to the various communities to present the advantages of single-stream recycling.

Mr. Presher explained the basic concept of single-stream recycling, and he felt that by not having to separate the recyclables, more residents would recycle more of their trash. He said he felt this would save the Town money in that less trash would go into the compactor, and we would save on tipping fees to have the compactor emptied. Mr. Presher said the contract we have with Wheelabrator expires in November and the tipping fees will go up from \$37 a ton to \$46 a ton; he feels these fees will continue to rise, and would be \$60 to \$65 per ton in 2010. He also felt that we could probably eliminate a position at the center, and save money on personnel.

Mr. Presher felt other benefits from single-stream recycling is that it uses less energy, both for collection and processing of recyclables, it is more convenient for residents and businesses. It would be a municipally owned facility, there would be stable annual tip revenue/fee, a guaranteed acceptance of recyclables for 15 years, and it would be a state-

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of-the-art “green”, LEED certified facility, and there would be an on-site environmental educational component. It would also provide permanent employment for up to 50 people.

When asked what he felt the objections to single-stream recycling would be, he responded that people find change difficult, people consider it dirty recycling, i.e. contamination of the recyclables. He assured the Selectmen that didn’t happen. There is also the concern of what the cost would be to make changes at the recycling center, and giving up the revenue that is generated by the current way we recycle.

Smith Meetinghouse Road – George Roberts addressed the Selectmen regarding the way the cracks are being filled on Meetinghouse Road. He said whoever is doing the filling is not doing a good job, and there are large sections that have been missed.

The Selectmen will check into the matter.

Chief Lockwood

Safety Building – Chief Lockwood said he had seen a steel building that he had liked, and asked the person for information on it. He said he received an email from Super Steel Buildings, Inc. regarding a 95’ X 95” steel building that a customer had ordered, but had to cancel. Rather than restocking the building, they said they were taking 40-50% off the price. The cost would be about \$62,000, not including doors and windows, and the company would hold the building for a year.

There was considerable discussion on the size; it is a little smaller than the one we currently have a plan for, but it was felt it could work. He has discussed the building floor plan with the police chief. Selectman Guarino stated that he thought the steel building in Gilford that had previously been considered, but was decided against because they couldn’t find a plan with an engineer stamp on it, was still available, and he thought they had found the stamped plan, and it was also cheaper. He felt they should check that building out before making any decisions on the building Chief Lockwood was presenting tonight. Don and K G will ask Chief O’Brien to look at the building in Gilford with them, and will also get more information on the new building.

Radios – Chief Lockwood had a letter from the State of NH, Dept. of Safety regarding Public Safety Interoperable Communication (PSIC) Grant that was sent out to Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, and High Sheriffs. This grant is for reprogramming all P-25 Compliant Radios Statewide with “Zone H” for Statewide Interoperability.

The letter stated that when Fire and EMS radios were issued, a standard zone, “Zone H” was installed using a naming sequence that worked for New Hampshire, but local programming has encroached on the interoperability band and has hurt some response communications. The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) has

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come out the National Naming Nomenclature for the interoperability channels, and all of the Fire and EMS radios will have to be changed and the “H” zone incorporated into the Law enforcement radios.

Chief Lockwood briefly explained the way the zones on the radios work. He said he would like to start changing over now to spread the cost out over a few years so there wouldn't be a large expense in one year; FCC requires that all the radios have to be compliant on or before January 1, 2013. All existing licensees must convert their existing wideband (25 kHz) systems to narrowband (12.5 kHz) operation. Any equipment not capable of operating on channels of 12.5 kHz or less will need to be replaced. He said he has been working the grant administrator in Concord, and the town needs to designate a person to run the program; KG, as Emergency Management Director, could be designated. Chief Lockwood asked permission to be named as the designated contact and for the Select Board chair to sign the grant application.

There was a consensus of the Selectmen that Chief Lockwood be appointed as the contact, and Chairman Hatch signed the grant application.

Public Input – Linda Hudzeic joined the meeting.

Single-Stream Recycling – Recycling Manager Justin Leavitt said he had spoken with Jim Presher of the Co-op out in the hallway about the single-stream-recycling; Mr. Presher is going to visit the recycling center on Wednesday to look over the center and discuss single-stream recycling further. Justin felt the Town would lose money if we go to single-stream recycling because of the revenues we take in. He said he had briefly spoken with Mr. Presher about that.

Tim said we would have to revamp the facility and buy another compactor if we go to single stream. Selectman Abbott added that in addition to the cost of doing that, we would also lose the revenue we currently receive. Don said the co-op had said the savings would be that we could do with one less employee, but that doesn't save what would be lost by the revenue we would lose. Justin said Mr. Presher had agreed single-stream recycling might not be beneficial to a town with a population as small as Gilmanton's. Mr. Presher will go be the center on Wednesday to discuss the matter further.

Meetinghouse Road – Selectman Abbott asked if anyone knew about the cracks on Meetinghouse Road. She was concerned about paying to have the job done. Don said it looked like they had run out of asphalt. Tim also felt that was what had happened. He said he thought Paul had said they had run out of asphalt, and were trying to get more to finish the job. Tim will discuss it with Paul. Payment will be withheld until the job is completed properly.

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Recycling Projects – Justin presented the Selectmen with a list of projects he hoped to have done before winter. Some of the things included getting rid of the glass pile, digging out all drains, reroofing the shed over the compactor, adding a back wall to the glass bin, along with other grounds maintenance.

Justin was asked how he was making out with the vacant position. He said that members of the fire department had been filling in when needed, and he would like to wait until the 2010 budget before filling the position if he can.

6:00 p.m. Public Input -Tim informed the Selectmen that next week public input would be held at 6:00, rather than the usual 7:00. The Selectmen from area Towns are meeting with the Selectmen to discuss the Belknap County Commissioners forum results, and 7:00 is the most convenient time for them to meet. Tim was asked to have the police and fire chiefs and the road agent attend the meeting, if possible.

Mr. Burchell – Noise Ordinance – Mr. Burchell said he has been a life-long supporter of the Boy Scouts, and had been in favor of Camp Bell, but is becoming an adversary. He said he has been to see the police about the noise from the camp, late at night, sometimes after 9:00 p.m., and was informed there wasn't much they could do because we don't have a noise ordinance. Tim said it falls under the obnoxious use ordinance, but there is not a specific noise ordinance. Chairman Hatch said they have spoken with the Police Chief about coming up with a noise ordinance. Tim asked what kind of noise Mr. Burchell was referring to. Mr. Burchell said he had gone through the ordinances and didn't find anything governing shooting ranges, but the person he had spoken to at the police department had said they wouldn't be firing anything more than 22's at the Scout Camp, but that is not the case.

Mr. Burchell said they are firing shotguns, and asked why anyone would be firing shotguns, and especially after dark. He felt it was irresponsible. When asked what time they are firing these guns, he responded that he was told by the scout camp they go to 8:30, but many nights he has heard them after 8:30, and after dark. Mr. Burchell feels there should be some oversight on the part of the town, and the Scouts should have to erect some sort of a sound barrier.

Mr. Burchell was told that we are trying to establish a noise ordinance, and that the Selectmen want to meet with the Scouts to discuss other issues, so would bring this matter up at the same time.

7:43 p.m. – Break

7:46 p.m. – Back in Session

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Approval of Minutes – The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of their last meeting.

MOTION- Selectman Abbott moved to approve the minutes of August 31, 2009 as amended. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Bids – Repairs Corners Library - Tim said Phyllis Buchanan had requested bids to repair rotted wood at the back of the Corners Library. She received two bids. They were as follows:

Michael Cappelluci	\$2,250
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This is for the damage he could see. If he finds more rot, it would be done at a cost of \$30 per hour.

J R Stockwell	\$590
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Tim was asked if Phyllis had enough money in her budget to cover the repairs. Tim felt there was. He will forward the bids to Phyllis.

Committee Appointment Procedure – Selectman Abbott commented that there may have been occasions when there might have been confusion regarding appointment/reappointment letters to committee members, and felt we should have some system in place.

Lois explained the way it is currently handled. Paula, in the Town Clerk’s office keeps track of all appointments to the various boards on a spreadsheet on her computer. When there is a new appointment to a board, Paula does an appointment letter, which is signed by the Selectmen. It is then sent out to the person along with a letter asking them to bring the appointment letter to the Town Clerk’s office to be sworn in. After they are sworn in, Paula keeps a copy of the letter and one gets put into a personnel file in the Selectmen’s office.

Paula keeps track of when a member’s term is due to expire, and prior to the expiration date, the Selectmen’s office is notified, and the clerk of the particular board is notified that the term will be expiring, and is asked to find out if the member wishes to be reappointed. If they do, the procedure is the same as for a new member; they are sent an appointment letter signed by the Selectmen along with a letter to come to be sworn in. Paula also keeps track of who has and hasn’t come in to be sworn in, and if time is running short, the clerk of the Board of which the person is a member will be notified, and asked to remind the person to come in to be sworn in.

Paula regularly checks the list, and does a very good job keeping track of the appointments, so the clerk of a particular board knows when a member’s term is coming due for renewal, and if they have brought their appointment letter back to be sworn in.

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Class VI Road Policy - Selectman Abbott asked where we stand on the Class VI Road Policy. She said the Chairman of the Class VI Road Committee is going to be gone for an extended length of time, and Selectman Abbott would like to see it adopted before Ella Jo leaves. Tim said he had sent the draft to Town Counsel for review, but hasn't heard back from him. Tim will call Town Counsel.

Planning Board - Selectman Abbott asked about the Planning Board's request to meet with the Selectmen. It was agreed that the Selectmen should meet with them for half an hour to discuss their needs for the future and moving forward. They will not discuss the personnel issue. They will be interviewing applicants for the Planning Board Clerk position on Wednesday. Chairman Hatch said she had spoken with Town Counsel, and he had said it would not be in the best interest of the Town to have a former employee attend the meeting, and the Selectmen should keep the discussion solely on the future needs of the planning board, and how they could move forward, and the fact that they are not legally allowed to discuss a personnel issue. Selectman Abbott asked if this is whether or not they have approval from the employee involved. Chairman Hatch said Town Counsel would not recommend that, as she is a former employee.

Selectman Abbott said they had also received an email from the Planning Chair regarding procedures for handling inquires for the planning board. Tim said he had informed the office staff to take the caller's name and number, why they are calling, and to pass that information on to the Planning Board Chair by phone.

Tim will notify the Planning Board.

Street Lights – Don informed Tim that he had received a call about three streetlights being out on Allens Mill Road. Tim will notify the village district.

Estimates – Electricity New Highway Shed – Tim reported that Paul Perkins had received three estimates for installing electricity in the new highway shed in the Iron Works. The Bids were as follows:

Hebert Electric	\$6,950.
Kerry Clairmont	4,700.
Ogni Electric	3,575.

Tim stated that Ogni Electric would also replace the photo eye at the recycling center for \$325; he would do that job at the same time as the highway shed, because he would have the lift.

Chairman Guarino reviewed the bids.

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MOTION – Selectman Guarino moved to award Ogni Electric the contract to install the electricity at the highway shed and the job at the recycling facility. Selectman Abbott seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Praise – Highway Department – Tim read a letter (copy attached) from Art Brown regarding the problems he had from water runoff due to lack of ditching. He phoned Paul Perkins, and within one hour, he (Paul) had gone to Mr. Brown’s house to observe the situation. Two days later, the road crew corrected the situation. He was pleased with how expedient and professional Paul had been, and thanked the town for providing Paul with such good equipment and men.

Gilmanton –Average Income – Tim had some information Chief Lockwood had gotten from Carol Shea-Porter’s office regarding the method used to determine average income of a town.

After reviewing the information, the Selectmen didn’t feel it was clear how they had calculated their findings.

Christie – Conservation Easement – Tim presented the Selectmen with a magazine article that Nanci Mitchell thought might be of interest to them. It was regarding the conservation easement that Nancy Christy had given the town, and land that she and her sister, Muriel Robinette are preserving for conservation easements through the Five Rivers Trust.

GAT - Tim reported that the tonnage sent to Penacook in August was 133.77 tons. We are still down 35 tons from last year.

Independent Building Inspector – Selectman Abbott asked if Tim had heard any more about the independent building inspector coming to inspect for the ZBA. Tim said he had not heard any more.

Belknap County Commissioner’s Wrap-up Forum - Tim presented Chairman Hatch with a copy of the Belknap County Commissioner’s wrap-up forum.

Budget – Tim distributed copies of the budget. He said we have used 70% of the budget year to date, which is right on track. Selectman Abbott asked about the revenues. Tim replied that we are a little low, but not drastically; he added that we had received unexpected reimbursement from some residents who had received assistance from us in the past.

Letter of Interest – Tim informed the board that he had received a letter of interest from John Weston to serve on the ZBA, or possibly on the Planning Board.

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Access from Mary Butler Lane – Tim said he had spoken with Laura Specter from Town Counsel’s office about the request that the Gordons had made to allow them to continue using Mary Butler to access the property they bought on Allens Mill Road after they build a new house on the property. He said he had called Laura because the RSA he had been cited by the LGC hadn’t made sense to him; he didn’t feel it addressed the particular question. Tim said Laura was more concerned with the RSA 674-41 issue of not being allowed to build on a Class VI road.

There was considerable discussion on the issue, including the necessity of bringing the road up to a Class V road standard to obtain a building permit, and the fact that the property owners have enough property on a Class V road to access their property.

The Selectmen agreed that they did not want to set a precedent, so would not allow the access from Mary Butler Lane.

Budget & Finance Workshop - Tim informed the Selectmen that there would be a Budget & Finance Workshop on September 24th if anyone wished to attend. He stated that he and Town Clerk Deb Cornett would be attending.

Budget – There was a brief discussion on what percentage of an increase the Department Heads should be held to for next year.

Interviews – Tim reminded the Selectmen that interviews would be held for applicants for the Planning Clerk position on Wednesday starting at 8:30 a.m.

There was a very brief discussion of the job description and hours.

9:07 p.m. – MOTION – Selectman Abbott moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne

"Liquid Gold from the Maple Mines of New Hampshire"

WEATHERVANE MAPLES

Arthur R. Brown
P.O. Box 520
Belmont, NH 03220
603-267-6945

RECEIVED
SEP 01 2009

BY:.....

Gilmanton Selectmen
Gil, N.H.

Good morning,

I have had annoying rain road runoff into my front yard for a long time as there was no ditch to handle, therefore constantly ruining my front yard and lawn causing my tractor repair.

I phoned our road agent Paul Perkins and within one hour he was at my house to observe. Two days later I heard equipment motors, looked out, and the towns heavy equipment and employees were busy with the back-hoe digging a deep trench and then back-filling with crushed stone for the length of my yard. Amazingly the next night we received heavy rain from hurricane Billy! I went down to the driveway and the water was gushing thru in true manner: ie: an excellent job done by Paul Perkins and his crew.

I wanted you folks to know how expedient and professional Paul Perkins was. KUDOS!

Sincerely,
Arthur R. Brown
Sept 1, 2009

P.S. Thank you for providing Paul with such good construction equipment: ie: the back-hoe and 2 very good trucks, plus of course the 3 men.