

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
19 March 2012
Minutes**

6:00 pm - Selectman Rachel Hatch called the meeting to order. Present were Selectmen Rachel Hatch, Ralph Lavin and Brett Currier, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Also in attendance were Roger and Elena Ball and Bernadette Gallant.

Each year the Selectmen appoint a chair and accept appointments as representatives on various boards and committees.

MOTION- Selectman Lavin moved to appoint Rachel Hatch as Select Board Chair. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Hatch accepted the position, but did not vote.

The Selectmen will serve as representatives on the following boards:

Planning Board – Selectman Lavin
Historic District Commission – Selectman Currier
Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) – Selectman Lavin
LRPC – TAC – Selectman Lavin
BCEDC – To be determined
Planning Board – Alternate – Selectman Currier
Budget Committee – Selectman Lavin
LRPC Rte 140 Corridor Study Committee – Selectman Currier

Interviews for Planning Board

Nate Abbott – The Selectmen interviewed Nate Abbott, who had served as the Selectmen's representative on the planning board for several years. After the allotted time for the interview was up, Selectman Currier expressed an interest in speaking with Nate in depth, so will speak with him further on his own time during the week.

Felix Barlik – The Selectmen interviewed Felix Barlik, who had previously served 13 years on the planning board, and expressed an interest in being appointed again. Felix said Dave Russell, who has requested not to be reappointed to the board, had asked him to consider serving on the board; Dave felt the board needed someone like Felix.

Laurie Sanborn – The Selectmen interviewed Laurie Sanborn, who expressed a desire to serve on the planning board; she was interested in attracting suitable business and about controlled growth of the town. Now that her children are getting older, she felt she would have the time to be able to serve and give back to the Town.

7:00 pm – Public Input – No members of the public present had any input at this time. Chairman Hatch said the Board would continue their business, but she would leave public input open until 7:30 should the public have anything they wished to discuss.

FYIs & Other Business

Current Use Request - Tim reported that our assessor, George Hildum, had received a request from Marshall Bishop to enroll 5.43 acres of land into current use, under a section that allows a person to put less than ten acres into current use, if you sell \$2,500 worth of crops that are produced on that land.

Tim said the assessor had written to Mr. Bishop informing him that he doesn't qualify because the products he is selling are not derived right off the soil; they are processed and changed before they are sold. i.e. the grapes are processed and converted to wine, so he is not selling the grapes, and the wool from his alpacas does not qualify.

There was a brief discussion of things that would qualify, such as grains, fruits, etc.

GAT – Gilmanton sent 72.01 Tons of solid waste to Penacook in February. In February of 2011, the tonnage was 76.15 tons. 2012 year-to-date total is 264.16 tons; 2011 year-to-date total thru February was 252.09 tons.

Building Inspections – Tim asked, now that we no longer have a building inspector, how the Selectmen wanted to handle inspections until he could be replaced. They discussed getting an interim inspector through MRI, a placement firm, but due to the cost decided against doing that.

There was considerable discussion during which it was agreed that the position should be advertised, but there are plenty of knowledgeable contractors we could hire to do inspections in the meantime. Brett, being a licensed septic installer, will review septic designs before they are submitted to the state for approval. Brett and Ralph will come up with a list of contractors they feel would be capable of doing inspections until the position is filled.

During discussion Brett stated that we have more inspections than are needed, and felt there should be a disclaimer on the permits, such as the state has. Elena Ball pointed out that you want to be careful not to do too few inspections, so that it becomes a safety issue. Brett said he did not want to cut back on critical inspections such as electrical and

plumbing, but felt there are too many inspections in the beginning stages of construction. Wayne Ogni suggested there be rough and finish inspections.

7:30 pm – Chairman Hatch closed public input.

Interview-Land-Use Board – Wayne Ogni, a licensed electrician, submitted a letter of interest in serving on the planning board. After the interview, Mr. Ogni was told there were three other applicants wanting appointment to the planning board, and asked if he would be willing to serve on the ZBA. Although he preferred the planning board, Mr. Ogni said he would be willing to serve on the ZBA if that is where he is needed.

There were no decisions made tonight on the applicants for the board appointments; the decision and appointments will be made next Monday.

More FYI's & Other Business

Approval of Minutes

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to accept the minutes of March 14, 2012 as amended. Chairman Hatch seconded. Motion passed. Selectman Currier did not vote, as he was not a Selectman at the time of that meeting.

Muddy Roads – Chairman Hatch read a copy of an email (copy attached) the selectmen and road agent received in regards to the muddy road conditions in Gilmanton.

There was discussion of the email and the road conditions. Chairman Hatch stated that the closing of roads was not a decision made strictly by the road agent; all the town and school officials who deal with the roads arrived at the decision. It was stated that this was an incredible year in that the frost came out of the ground all at once, and then it rained. It was also stated that although it is unfortunate that people were getting stuck, the conditions were no one's fault, all the towns around are going through the same thing, and it was felt that the road agent is doing a good job. Due to the mild winter, the road agent will be using the money saved on plowing to attend to the roads.

When asked what to do if someone were stuck in their house and needed to get out, they were told that if such an occurrence were to take place, they should call the fire department.

Household Hazardous Waste – Chairman Hatch received an email from Dave Jeffers of LRPC informing us that LRPC had received a grant from DES to pay for printing a batch of alternatives to Household Hazardous Waste; the information would be in the

form of flip booklets. Mr. Jeffers asked if the town is interested in having any of the booklets, which give tips and recipes to be kept around the house. The LRPC will be giving demonstrations on some of the tips, and asked if Gilmanton would be interested in having a demonstration in the community. The recycling manager also has the information.

Road Paving – Tim said he had received phone calls asking if the Selectmen would be willing to approve the paving of Sargent Road to Caney Hill Road.

Recycling Center Fees – Chairman Hatch stated that last week the Selectmen had approved a new fee schedule at the recycling center; when are the fees to become effective? The consensus was that the fees should be initiated April 1st.

The new fees were the result of the recycling manager finding a new vendor to dispose of items containing Freon. Selectman Currier felt we should get a certificate of insurance from the new vendor.

Firearm Training – Selectman Lavin reported that he had been informed of shooting on Geddes Road. He said someone was training women to use handguns, but residents in the area were concerned because they were not aware it was to happen. Ralph said he could check into it.

Procedures – Chairman Hatch reminded the board of procedures for handling resident's complaints; all the selectmen get calls and sometimes people stop by their homes to speak to them about issues. She said when a resident calls her at work, she gives them her home phone number, and asks them to call her at home. When she speaks to them she asks them to put the complaint in writing, or at least be willing to give names so the complaint can be brought before the board. She never promises to "fix" or "take care" of an issue; the Selectmen work as a board, not as individuals. If an individual is unwilling to put it in writing, or at least give her names and dates, she will not act on it.

Selectman Currier said he would like it if, each of the selectmen could use his/her own knowledge of what the board will and will not talk about, and not pit neighbor against neighbor.

Chairman Hatch stated that she just wanted the selectmen to all "be on the same page" when it comes to handling complaints.

Budget Wrap Up – Chairman Hatch stated that the budget had been decreased at Town Meeting on Saturday, and it was now up to the Selectmen to decide where the cuts could be made. She asked each selectman to review the budget to determine where cuts should be made, and prepare to discuss it next Monday.

8:18 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a) - Dismissal, promotion or setting compensation for public employees or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected has a right to a meeting or requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

8:45 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to seal the minutes of the above non-public session. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

8:47 pm – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk

From: C. Hollingsworth [mailto:thechixncoop@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 6:12 PM
To: highway@gilmantonnh.org; bwarren@gilmantonnh.org
Subject: Gilmanton Mud

Dear Sirs,

In recent days the school buses have been stuck on Guinea Ridge Rd, Stone Rd, Loon Pond Rd and Sargent road, not to mention countless cars and delivery trucks. Here on Sargent Road I see many of my neighbors parking their cars at the end of the road or other neighbors driveways and slogging thru the mud on foot to get home because the road is un-passable for them. It is also slightly insulting to hear Mr. Perkins, say it's just, "mud season" and to wait, "We need a few days of dry weather and some wind to dry things out a bit.", in the the Laconia Daily Sun article. It would seem that year after year our dirt roads get worse. My question is, when will the town stop throwing money into the mire by dumping gravel into these mud pits that cause huge ruts and then grading or smoothing out the mud twice a day, which fixes the road for 15 minutes? If it rains most of us will not be able to get to work or get help from first responders, we will effectively be on islands. I have an idea, instead of all the hard work (which make no mistake, I appreciate) by putting band-aids on the roads, why don't we hire engineers to address the causes and be done with the problem this year and never have to revisit it. Thanks for your time.

Craig Hollingsworth
Gilmanton, NH

