

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
17 September 2012
Minutes**

6:00 pm - Chairman Rachel Hatch called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Hatch, Selectmen Ralph Lavin and Brett Currier and Recording Clerk Lois Dionne. Town Administrator Tim Warren was on vacation.

Also in attendance were Jean and Harold Martin, Paige and Neil Totman, Laval and Nicole Beauregard and Michael Teunessen.

After attendance, everyone stood for the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Crystal Lake Road – Members of the Crystal Lake Association were present to address concerns Crystal Lake Road.

Mrs. Martin had forwarded information to Tim Warren pertaining to the increase of traffic due to campers’ arrival and departure at the Boy Scout camp, and conditions established by the zoning board (ZBA) when they approved a special exception for the camp, including the maximum number of campers allowed at the camp at any given week. She had requested that this information be given to the Selectmen before tonight’s meeting to give them time to review it. There was also a list of concerns the association had wanted to discuss tonight. The Selectmen received the information on the traffic counts done on the road and the ZBA decision, but had not received the email with the list of concerns they hoped to get answers to tonight.

Most of the concerns dealt with the speed of the traffic and the increased traffic due to the arrival and departure of campers to and from the Boy Scout Camp. Also of concern was the Town’s maintenance of the road regarding sanding and clearing of vegetation within 25 feet of the lakes.

Chairman Hatch stated that our interim police chief Bill Robarge had met with the Selectmen and had given them a “heads up” of what is going on. She said she thought some of the concerns had been addressed in the past, and she thought that the Town had an understanding with the Daniel Webster Council that they would use Mountain Road every other weekend to alleviate the traffic on Crystal Lake Road. This year the signs to use Mountain Road were ignored by repeat campers because they know Crystal Lake Road is better and shorter.

Mr. Martin said they have had conflicting reports as to whether the 25 mph speed limit could be enforced. They wanted the 25 mph speed limit to be from Rte 140 the whole length of the road. Lois Dionne said the former board of Selectmen had been told that we could not post the state-owned portion of the road, which is from Rt. 140 to the dam on Crystal Lake Road. The state said the 30 & 35 mph limits are the lowest they would post. There was also a brief discussion about the Town taking possession of the whole road, and what that might involve; there is the possibility that the ownership of the dam might be a factor to consider.

Mrs. Martin said a number of property owners along Crystal Lake Road have deeded ownership of the land the road occupies; the road is a public right of passage. They are concerned about the salt and sand that is spread in the wintertime, and that it is swept to the side of the road in the spring so it runs into the lake rather than be picked up. She asked that the Selectmen speak with the Conservation Commission to find out what the law is regarding the clearing on the side of the road and the dumping of salt and sand.

Selectman Currier responded that some salt has to be added to the sand to prevent the sand from freezing; it would freeze in the sander. Mrs. Martin suggested that they use less sand, and asked that the vegetation at the side of the road be cut no lower than three feet.

Mr. Martin asked if the 25 mph speed limit could be enforced, and if there could be more police visibility and ticket a few people; this would make people more aware.

Police Chief Collins said he didn't know why the speed limit couldn't be enforced, and the police department could do more radar enforcement.

Selectman Currier was concerned because he said residents on the road walk in the middle of the road and don't move over. It was said people do this to try to slow the traffic down. Selectman Hatch said she didn't want residents in the road trying to slow the traffic or to take matters into their own hands because they get frustrated.

There was discussion of the agreement with the Scout camp to alternate weekends using Mountain Road and Crystal Lake Road. Doubt was also expressed that the Scouts were sticking to the agreement of no more than five hundred campers a week at the camp; would the Town try to maintain the five hundred maximum.

Lois stated that when Places Mill Road was upgraded a few years ago, these issues had been addressed. The Council, at that time had submitted a list of the number of campers each week for the past three years. She didn't know if we had received any reports the last few years.

Chairman Hatch stated that in the ZBA decision registered in the Registry of Deeds one of the conditions is that the total number of campers at Camp Bell and Hidden Valley be limited to 500 per week.

There was more discussion of the speeding issue.

Chief Collins said they could do radar enforcement; he agreed if a few tickets were issued, word would get out. He didn't know why the 25 mph speed limit couldn't be enforced on the town portion of the road. Mr. Martin asked if the 25 mph signs could be bigger. Chief Collins replied that he could get larger signs. Chief Collins was asked if he could put the radar signs on the corner near Heath Drive rather than past the dam. We can't put the radar signs because we don't own that portion of the road, but they could put the "radar ahead" sign there.

Conservation Commission Chair Tracy Tarr was in the building, and Chairman Hatch asked her to attend the meeting for a few minutes. Chairman Hatch explained that they had been addressing the use of the salt/sand spread in the winter being pushed to the side and entering the lake in the spring. She asked if this had been an issue with the conservation commission. Tracy said they hadn't addressed it recently, but from a biological standpoint, salt and sand in the lake isn't good; it can't be treated once it is in the water, so the Town should be balancing safety and environment. Chairman Hatch said it had also been mentioned that we should keep the vegetation at the side of the road higher. Tracy said we should work with the road agent to see what is feasible. Tracy said they could put the issue on the next conservation commission agenda.

Chairman Hatch said they would get the road agent involved and keep the conservation commission posted.

Chairman Hatch assured the residents that they (selectmen) are going to try to assist them.

Chief Collins said he would have police presence there this fall and would try to get there different times and different days.

Mrs. Totman told the chief that the woman answering the phone at the station was very rude when they called the station, so they didn't call any more. He told her they should call, and if they see anyone who habitually speeds to get their plate number and call the department and they will talk to the individuals.

Chairman Hatch recapped that the police chief would get larger speed signs and have radar details, the selectmen would speak with the road agent and keep the conservation commission updated.

Chairman Hatch said the Selectmen would be speaking with the Boy Scouts because the Town has other issues with them.

7:30 pm – Public Input – No one had any input at this time.

Grant Funding - Chief Collins stated that the Speed and DWI grants are only for \$1,500 dollars, so he felt they hadn't been done in years; he felt you could get up to \$3,000 now. Lois stated that we have to apply for them every year. Chief Collins said the man at the state said we hadn't gotten them in years. Chief Collins felt the amount should change every year. He said he would get the amount from the state. Lois said Tim would be back on Wednesday and suggested we speak with him about how the grants are currently obtained.

There was a brief discussion of other grants.

National Incident Management System – Chairman Hatch stated that the Emergency Operations Plan Committee has been meeting and updated our EOP (Emergency Operations Plan). She had a copy of the Resolution Adoption of the National Incident Management System for the Selectmen to sign. She explained this is necessary to have in place to enable the Town to get any money in the case of an emergency or disaster situation. We currently have a plan in place, but it needs to be updated every five years.

The Selectmen signed the resolution.

Approval of Minutes – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 2012 as amended. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

Abstain from Voting – At the last meeting there had been discussion if a selectman could abstain from voting or if he/she had to vote either yes or no. Selectman Lavin said he had called LGC and was told that a selectman could not be forced to vote on any issue; they could abstain from voting.

ZBA Applicant - Mike Teunessen asked how you go about becoming a member of the ZBA. He said he had been at the last ZBA meeting, and ZBA member Nate Abbott had suggested he apply to be on the board.

Usually a letter of interest is sent to the Selectmen, and an interview is set up with the Selectmen. Since he was present the Selectmen interviewed him tonight. He said the Chair of the ZBA knew of his interest in becoming a member.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to appoint Mike Teunessen as a full member to the ZBA. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-Yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

Lois will see to getting an appointment letter to Mr. Teunessen and will also inform the ZBA clerk of his appointment.

Background Checks – Selectman Currier stated that all new employees (full and part time) have to get background checks before they could be hired. He asked if that also applied to any part-time employees who might move up to a full-time position. He said the full-time police officer we just hired has been working part time for us, and he had to have one; does this apply to all employees.

There was a brief discussion of the issue. It was stated that the personnel policy could be amended to include the background check for part-time employees who move up to a full-time position. Selectman Lavin asked what a full background check involved and how much it cost. Selectman Hatch said it includes a state police check and a driving record check; she thought it cost around \$55. Selectman Lavin said he would be in favor of the background check if that were the price.

MOTION – Selectman Currier moved to amend the personnel policy, if not there now, to require employees who move from a part-time position to a full-time position to have a complete background check. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

Lois will check with Tim Warren about the cost of a background check.

Planning Board Issues – Selectman Currier asked if Selectman Lavin had addressed the issue of the septic setbacks and the sign ordinance at the Planning Board Meeting. Selectman Lavin said he had brought Brett's questions forward, and because he felt Selectman Currier knows more about the issues than he does, Selectman Currier was invited to attend the next planning board meeting to address the board. He said the planning board is inviting the conservation commission and the zoning board to the next meeting because there are a lot of issues about warrant articles and they would like Selectman Currier to be there to present the issues.

Lois was asked to speak to the zoning board clerk suggesting members of the zoning board attend the meeting. She will also inform the planning clerk that Selectman Currier will be present at the meeting.

Fairpoint – Selectman Lavin informed the board that he had been served notice from the sheriff's department that Fairpoint intends to appeal for an abatement of taxes. They don't feel they should be taxed on the telephone poles.

Compost Pile – Recycling Center – Lois said she was asked to get permission from the Selectmen to have the Road Agent turn over the compost pile at the recycling center. Their machine is not big enough to turn it over. The Selectman said the road agent could turn the pile over. Lois will notify Paul.

Haas Appeal – Lois gave the Selectmen a copy of an article Joe Haas had brought in that he said proves the statewide property tax is unconstitutional. Mr. Hass is appealing the school portion of his tax bill.

8:15 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) - Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person unless such person requests an open meeting; however, this cannot be used to protect a person who is a member of your Board, Committee or Subcommittee. Selectman Carrier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Carrier-yes.

The Selectmen discussed a tax issue.

8:24 pm - Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Carrier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Carrier, yes.

8:24 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) - Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person unless such person requests an open meeting; however, this cannot be used to protect a person who is a member of your Board, Committee or Subcommittee. Selectman Carrier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Carrier-yes.

The Selectmen discussed a tax issue.

8:30 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Carrier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Carrier-yes.

8:30 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) - Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person unless such person requests an open meeting; however, this cannot be used to protect a person who is a member of your Board, Committee or Subcommittee. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Carrier-yes.

The Selectmen discussed a tax issue.

8:40 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. – Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

8:40 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.

9:30 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

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

9:31 pm – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Currier seconded. Motion passed 3-0. – Chairman Hatch-yes, Selectman Lavin-yes, Selectman Currier-yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk

