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September 28, 2010
Selectmen's Meeting

Present: C. Guiry DMD Ch., A. Richards, R. P. McGinnity, & A.A. Milkovits

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM.

Vendor checks were discussed and signed.

Agenda:

Appointments:

1. Roseanna Dube, Townsend Road, met with the Board to further discuss the "tower issue" from the last meeting. She recanted what she knew as facts concerning Radius North's operations on Matthias Strelow's ham radio tower and insisted that the Board's intention was to shut Radius North down. She claimed that it had cost about \$14,000 to set up the tower and could possibly cost more than \$5,000 to do the Site Plan Review and also that there was a group that met with a former Selectmen years ago to discuss all this. Mrs. Dube insisted that the tower was a special case and should be considered as such. The Selectmen disputed her claims explained that the Town was not trying to shut the internet down but that Mr. Strelow needed to comply with the Ordinance and apply for a Site Plan Review. The Board explained that they were acting in the best interest of the Town and can't override and make an exception for any person or business to the Town Ordinances. Mr. Strelow's towers are acceptable for amateur ham radio use only. Chairman Guiry stated that Mr. Close, owner of Radius North had met with the Board at one time but Mr. Close had explained that he was broadcasting from Monadnock not in Mason. After more discussion, the Selectmen thanked Mrs. Dube for her input but maintained their position about the tower.

Chairman Guiry shared information from the FCC that any equipment hung on a ham radio tower caused a change in the exempt status of that tower and would require a commercial license. The Selectmen will request written information from the FCC on this matter.

2. David Morrison, Interim Road Agent , met with the Board to discuss the following:
 - Patch – more patching needs to be done but the budget line is already overspent. There is one proposal for \$114,000 from All States Asphalt. After some discussion, the Board recommended that a decision will be made on whether to do more patching or chip sealing based on a consensus from the Roads Evaluation Committee and after attendance by Mr. Morrison at the Pavement Restoration Conference.
 - Interview process – Mr. Morrison would like to be included in the interviewing of the Road Agent applicants. He stated that there have been many comments to have a "working" road agent. Selectmen feel there may be at least a 50% managerial portion to the job. The new road agent will be a conduit to Selectmen and residents.
 - Vehicles - Discussion on different trucks and repair issues. Mr. Morrison reminded the Board that the Highway Department will need another truck for salting.

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- Old vehicles – what to do with older vehicles? Selectmen advise having Highway Vehicles Committee check all vehicles and decide which should be sold for scrap.
 - Calcium Chloride – there is still some calcium chloride left that is currently dry and kept in the Highway barn. If there is room, the Board suggested keeping the material in the barn for next year's application.
 - Vacation Time – Both Mr. Morrison and Fred Greenwood, full-time Equipment Operator have vacation time left for the year and are unsure when they will be able to take it due to the HD short handedness. Selectmen advised them to find out exactly how much vacation time is left and report back. An exception may be made for them to roll the hours into next year.
 - Update on Personnel – The Highway Department is down four employees and there is concern for managing the snow removal with few employees. Selectmen requested Mr. Morrison to outline the Highway Department's needs for the winter season and report back to them.
3. David Baker, acting Fire Chief, met with the Board on the following:
- Personnel issue – Non public session was called at 8:30 PM. Present: Selectmen, A.A. Milkovits & FC Baker. After some discussion, it was decided to terminate a firefighter, with cause. Chief Baker will send a certified and regular mail letter to the individual. Session ended at 8:32 PM.
 - Fire Department drills – there has been a good turnout for fire drills, 15 to 19 firefighters have been coming.
 - Antenna/communication site – some problems with the generator. Chief Baker will keep the Selectmen informed.
 - Fire Station floor – Chief Baker is planning to have the floor sealed and painted.
 - Gear – The average cost of gear for a firefighter is about \$1600 per set. Chief Baker would like to start a replacement program of 3 sets a year. Selectmen suggest that he do this by warrant article and to bring a set of gear to Town Meeting so the voters will be more informed.
 - Email address – Selectmen granted Chief Baker permission to use the "mason.nh.us for Fire Department email.
4. Jon Starr, Greenville Road, questioned the Board on the requirements for a Building Permit, specifically the inspection of the bounds. Building Inspector Kenneth Wilson was present for this discussion. He disputed the necessity of inspecting the entire subdivision versus just the lot to be permitted. He also inquired why the bounds inspection isn't done as a requirement for subdivision and lot line adjustment approval. After more discussion, it was decided that only his lots will be inspected at this time and that the owner of the rest of the lots will walk the bounds on those lots.
- Mr. Starr also questioned the purpose of using 2'x8' pressure treated boards on the top of foundation wall. He complained that it makes it difficult to square-up the board. Using that size board has been in the Ordinance since 1957 and no one knows why that size was designated. After more discussion, Mr. Starr was told to

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follow the Ordinance and use the 2'x8' boards. Chairman Guiry invited Mr. Starr to meet in December for more discussion.

5. Police Chief Hutchins had two issues for the Board:
 - Rifle Shoot in Sand Pit – Chief requested permission for the Boy Scouts to participate in rifle shooting in the Town Pit under his supervision. Selectmen granted permission.
 - Camera system and door locks for the Police Station – Monadnock security has offered to install the video cameras for free with no strings attached. Selectmen approved, provided Monadnock Security give a letter stating that. The Chief would also like to get a burglar system installed. Selectmen advised the Chief to get 3 estimates for the system.
 - The sheetrock damaged from the ice storm has still not been repaired. Chief Hutchins will get an estimate for this work.

Selectmen reviewed the following:

1. Legal: Re: Malouf – copy of served papers.
Re: Blair – new court date set, October 18th at 1:30 PM
Re: Radius North, Bob Close, owner sent an email rebuttal concerning the last meeting with the Selectmen.
2. From Building Inspector Wilson – copy of letter to Carol Iodice concerning violation of Permit ordinance. Reminder letter for permit renewal to Jason Finch, Valley Road. Question whether Pugliese, 14 Valley Road should have a hearing to build an undersized shed in the HP District. Selectmen will request that Mr. Pugliese submit a drawing of his shed for the Board to determine that the shed is in keeping of the Historic Preservation District.
3. Building Permit: #10-21 Gillis, lot H-35-1, remodeling bath and bedrooms, #10-22 Silva, lot G-48, barn addition
4. Old Business: Re: Stop sign on Brookline Road. Charles Andersen, Scripps Lane, requested that the stop sign be changed to a yield. He feels that Scripps Lane is not a high risk traffic area and due to the incline making a start from the stop will be more difficult. After some discussion, it was decided to leave the stop sign.
5. From FEMA – received \$5,963.10 for March 29, 2010 incident.
6. From UNH Technology Transfer – notification that Frederick Greenwood achieved Road Scholar One. Selectmen will send Mr. Greenwood a congratulations letter.
7. BOA Notice of Hearing for Special Exception for Miller-Grant, dog kennel/shelter.
8. Police logs
9. From NH Unemployment Security – determination of unemployment benefits
10. Minutes for NH State Primary
11. FY 2012 NRPC dues - \$1,128
12. From Mason Elementary School Superintendent: Question on \$79 invoice for mowing – does the Town want to do work swap: mowing for snow blowing? Donations of Office Equipment? Selectmen will invite Superintendent McCormick to discuss this issue at the October 12th meeting.

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13. Board gave permission to Soccer Organization to paint lines on Town field. The paint is nontoxic and will come off when field is mowed.
14. Health Alert – West Nile Virus case in Mason
15. Ballot for NHAAO
16. Bankruptcy papers – Fletcher Granite Company LLC
17. Other correspondence

Selectmen entered a non public session at 8:57 PM to discuss wages. Present were Selectmen and A.A. Milkovits. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to increase the hourly rate by \$2 for the interim Road Agent, retroactive to August 25th. This increase will remain until a new road agent is hired. The Board appreciates all the work Mr. Morrison has done. Session ended at 9:02 PM

Selectmen signed a Timber Warrant for \$340.50 for Sawyer and Phillips.

Selectmen reviewed 10 applications for Road Agent; five will be contacted for interviews. The five are Ted Jarest, Peter Bergeron, Mark Brackett, Thomas Plourde, and Benny Otero. The first interview process will start on Tuesday, October 5th at 7 PM at the Mann House.

Selectmen voted to change the staff meetings to the first Selectmen's meeting of the month at 6:30 PM. The Board will allow one hour for the meeting with a set format for the Department Heads.

Selectmen reviewed the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. It will be sent for Town Counsel's review.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM.

*Barbara H. Milkovits
Admin. Assistant*