

Selectboard Meeting July 24, 2019

Board members present: Brian Johnson, Kate Siepmann, Toni Pippy, Lauri Berkenkamp

Others present:

Lisa Bragg, Town Clerk; Jon MacKinnon; Ham Bone; Jennifer Brown for *The Herald of Randolph*; Gil Robertson; Phoebe Mix

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

1. Citizen Concerns:

Phoebe Mix would like to add soil and plant grass in the current parking area in front of the Historical Society and put an 8-foot-high fence between the brickstore and the town office. Toni suggested that Phoebe come back to the next meeting and we'll put this on the agenda so others can comment on it if they choose to.

Ann McLaughlin asked if there is a noise ordinance in town. There are no noise ordinances in Strafford.

Robert Campbell wrote to the road crew, asking about a culvert on Pennock Road. Jon answered him directly.

2. Town Highways and Equipment Update

Highway Department Projects update

Road crew is working on many projects. The Mundel Road project and Pennock Road projects are done. FEMA work is complete on Justin Morrill Highway and 90 percent finished on the Downer Forest Road. FEMA will come on August 19 for a recovery scoping meeting.

Mowing, grading, and crack sealing are commencing. Ditching work on the Brook Road is complete, and ditches are being cleaned out. The road crew received a quote for fog lines on six miles of roads. Cold patching is happening throughout the summer.

Jon said that the paving company estimates they'll start paving Justin Morrill around the beginning of September. Jon will get a price for paving around the Common.

Road Closure notices—what is the procedure?

In the past we have placed notice on the list serv and will do this in the future. Jon apologized for the lack of notice on Pennock Road this month.

Asset Management of Paved Roads update

Toni will come to the next meeting with a new spread sheet that includes an inventory. Some of the projects will be taken care of this year.

3. Correspondence

A) Email from Jenna Koloski RE: Four Towns Report

Board acknowledged receipt of email and report

B) Email from Kerri Juergens RE: Rogers Road

Board acknowledged receipt of email. Brian and PD went up individually and talked with her about the situation; the problem is taken care of.

C) Email from Kevin Geiger RE: emergency course in area

Board acknowledged receipt of email. Course will be at the Norwich police department regarding how to manage incidents.

D) Email from Bonnie Bergeron RE: culvert

Board acknowledged receipt of email and took care of the culvert.

4. Approve minutes of July 10 regular meeting

Board voted to approve the minutes of July 10.

5. Set the 2019 tax rate

Lisa presented the tax rate: the town tax rate will be .6600, which is an increase of 0037 over 2018, or for a \$250,000 house the tax will increase by \$9.25. The school rate is 1.5311 for residents, for an increase of .0653 over 2018. On a \$250,000 property this will increase taxes by \$163.25. The total tax rate is 2.1911 for a resident and 2.2065 for nonresidents.

6. Update to concerns of speeding South Strafford on Route 132

Traffic study began on Tuesday, July 16, and will last 2 weeks.

Ed Eastman did his own speed study—two hours on two different days. Early morning drivers go particularly fast. His presence and the sheriff's presence caused most people to slow down, but many people began to go the Mine Road instead. He also noticed that as soon as the traffic study cables were placed, people slowed down significantly. When the study is complete, the board will discuss next steps.

7. Other

a) Liaison updates

No liaison updates to report. Fire truck will be coming in a few weeks.

b) Unlicensed dogs

Certified letters were sent to four people; no one has licensed their dogs as a result. Further investigation into the dogs with no rabies certification is ongoing; action will be taken. Dog owners will be fined.

c) Town Office recycling

Board acknowledged receipt of email from John Freitag offering to pick up the recycling.

d) 9-1-1 address issue update

Lisa talked with Doug Hackett regarding planning a meeting for all people who will be affected by this. Tentatively scheduled for August 22 at 6 pm at Barrett Hall. Lisa will send a letter to all the people who this will impact. Shawn Harlow has also offered to attend.

e) Highway access application permits

The board signed off on highway access application permits that were approved by Jon MacKinnon.

f) Request to use Old City Falls Recreation Area

A resident asked to use Old City Falls for a private event. The board approved the request.

g) BCA grievance and checklist purge

This will take place on Monday, August 5 at 5:30 p.m.

No other business was reported.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauri Berkenkamp

Recording Clerk