

Sunderland Selectboard Meeting

Date: Thursday June 28, 2012

Board Members Present:

Joe Boutin, Mark Hyde, Jon French, James Ennis, Judy Edmunds

Others Present:

Pete Luca, Rose Keough

Note:

This meeting was not televised by GNAT-TV

Mr. Boutin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes of the June 18, 2012

Mr. Hyde made the motion and Mr. French seconded the motion to accept the minutes of this meeting. Motion carried.

FEMA Flood Plain Regulations:

The feeling of the board is that we should proceed with creating Flood Plain regulations so that townspeople will have the option of buying flood insurance if they so choose.

Mr. Boutin continued the discussion with the observation that we can either choose to adopt the regulations that FEMA has presented or look at what other models the surrounding towns have adopted. The FEMA model is the most restrictive; the Manchester model is the least restrictive. The board was concerned that if we adopt the most restrictive model, it may prevent townspeople from using their property in permitted ways. The consensus of the board is that we should make our bylaws as non-restrictive as possible.

The board also discussed whether or not the Selectboard should spearhead the FEMA Flood Plain regulations or have someone else do it. It was suggested that Mr. Bove, the new Zoning Administrator would be the best choice if the Selectboard chooses to have someone other than the board spearhead the effort. Mr. Hyde suggested that because of the time constraints and the amount of time necessary to devote to the task (work and meetings) it may be necessary to pay Mr. Bove. It was decided that Mr. Hyde would ask Mr. Bove if he was interested and if he had the time to devote to this effort. It was also suggested that Roy Johnson may also be a good choice to assist in this effort. Mr. Hyde will speak to him as well.

It was noted that the first goal is to have a finished document that can be warned for meeting for the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Select Board Meetings.

Pete Luca felt that setting these new bylaws should be a joint effort between the Planning and Select Boards. He felt we should use Manchester's plan (as it is the least restrictive) as a template, and then go over each section of the plan and adapt it to Sunderland's needs. In this scenario, the Select and Planning Boards will need to set up joint workshop meeting times to do this.

The board concluded the discussion by deciding to talk to Mr. Bove and Mr. Johnson, and discuss it further at the next meeting.

Kelly Stand Road Bids:

The board approved of putting the work out to bid. It was agreed that we need to set a date and time that all sealed bids must be received by. It was agreed that bids will be due by the 7pm, July 16 Selectboard Meeting, at which time we will publicly open all bids. Mr. Ennis made to motion to advertise the call for bids, Mr. French seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Road Liaison:

Mr. Ennis reviewed the work that was done by the road crew since the last meeting. He also informed the board that a new welder is needed and that new culverts were purchased. The Road budget was discussed at length. As we end this fiscal year, the Road General Fund came in under budget by approximately \$24,000. It was discussed whether we should move these funds into the paving fund, or if we should use it to help with the repairs needed for the Hill Farm Road Bridge. The other option would be to take the unused funds and apply them to the tax bills to offset next year's taxes. At this time it was also disclosed that the General Fund was also under budget. The budget surpluses were due to several factors: paving work not done due to Irene cleanup taking precedence, a light winter and reimbursements from the government for road crew work due to Irene. Because the paving work still needs to be done, Mr. Ennis and Marc will set up a report to estimate the paving costs and the board will then decide how the unused paving funds will be handled. It was recognized that we still have until the new tax rate is set to decide how to handle the carry over funds.

Mr. Boutin brought up the need for Marc to communicate more with the select board, even if by e-mail. Mr. Ennis will ask Marc to send an e-mail at the beginning of each week giving out an outline of the work that is scheduled to be done that week. Mr. Boutin mentioned how dangerous the intersection of Borroughs and North Road is due to overgrown bushes. Mr. Ennis will discuss this with the landowner and Marc.

Building Committee:

The Building committee wants to meet with the Select Board to discuss at length about the next steps need for the Town Hall building. This meeting will be set for July 2nd at 7pm at the Sunderland School.

Animal Control:

Mrs. Edmunds brought up the issue of the last animal control bill. It was explained that currently the \$200 per month, plus \$20 per month cell bill was considered a “retainer” and that actual calls were billed in addition to that fee. Mrs. Edmunds felt that that fee should cover a minimum of work per month or year. Mrs. Edmunds was concerned that the additional charges were not broken down other than by time and miles. Mr. Boutin agreed that the town has no formal agreement for a rate per mile or per hour. Mrs. Edmunds suggested that the job should have a detailed job description and a written policy of rates for work or miles done for the town. As the animal control job is a yearly contract, next year the town should offer the job with these additional details disclosed. There are others in town that are interested in the position that do not live so far away and would not need to charge time and miles for every call. Mrs. Edmunds feels this should be taken into account when choosing an animal control officer next year. Mrs. Edmunds will contact Mr. Salvo to ask for a breakdown of the rate per mile and per hour charged to the town on the last bill.

A letter that gives the Animal Control officer the right to destroy unlicensed animals was presented to the board. After some discussion, Mr. Hyde made a motion to accept the letter, Mr. French seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Casella Contract:

Marc compared the new trash rate to other companies servicing the area and found it to be comparable. Mr. Boutin made a motion to sign the new contract; Mr. French seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Correspondence:

There is an Emergency Management Workshop. Mr. Boutin expressed interest in attending.

Letter concerning Mr. Daden’s property: It was agreed that Rose would send a copy of it and a letter to the lawyer on Mr. Boutin’s behalf.

Misc.

Ms. Keough mentioned that the road crew’s pay for the last week in June crew is paid in the first week of July, after the pay rate increases. It was agreed that they would be paid at the higher rate for that paycheck.

With no further business, Mr. Boutin made a motion to end the meeting, Mr. Hyde seconded it. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Edmunds, Selectboard Clerk