

Select Board Minutes: June 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM as a public hearing by Chair Donald Burke. Present were Select Board members Scott Wiley, Donald Burke and Marlene Libby. Also present were Road Commissioner Curtis Starrett, Mary Starrett, Jen Pendleton, John Fenner, Lorie Costigan, Fred Brown, Paul Gagnon, Peter Beckett, Esther Gaudette, Attorney Jamie Levenseler, Aldeverd Robbins & Darren Robbins.

Minutes of the May 31, 2016 meeting were accepted.

Public Hearing:

A public hearing was held on the *Statutory Abandonment of the Miller Cemetery Road from Fishtown Road to the Barlow School House Lot*. Attorney Levenseler stated that he was representing his client (USDA) and was looking for clarification of the status of the above section of road.

The Town had chosen the *Statutory Abandonment* to clarify the road status. The MMA manual states "...a town way which has not been kept passable for motor vehicles at public expense for a period of thirty or more consecutive years is presumed abandoned." Also "If the (end date of) abandonment occurred on or after September 3, 1965, a public easement remains." Esther Gaudette submitted a statement that no maintenance had been done since 1962 and Donald Burke submitted a statement that no maintenance had been done going back to 1965. Aldeverd Robbins said that maintenance had been done during that time. Select Board member Burke stated that he was a County Committee member of the Farm Service Agency that is the lender involved, but had no financial, family or administrative interest in the property and offered to recuse himself from voting if anyone felt that was an issue. Burke made a motion to "determine that the Miller Cemetery Road from Fishtown Road to the Barlow Schoolhouse Lot be presumed abandoned." The motion died for lack of a second.

Road Commissioner:

The Board discussed the proposed 2016 Paving Bid Packet. The revised bid packet was not ready for review. Further discussion was held on the pros and cons of seal coating. Burke noted that on the far end of West Appleton Road the rocks from the old stonewalls that were used for fill when the road was rebuilt are now coming to the surface.

Select Board:

Warrants # 92, 93 & 94 were signed.

An “Abutter Property Owner Notification Policy” was presented. Burke questioned which account the certified mailing fees (\$3.77 or \$6.47 return receipt requested) would come out of. The *town expense* account was suggested. Upon a motion by Libby and seconded by Wiley the policy was approved. The vote was 2-0 with Burke abstaining.

The Board agreed to recommend that \$260,000 be taken from surplus at town meeting (Article 21) as well as adding \$100 to the *fuel assistance* line in article 14.

The revised personnel policy was not available and members of the Board indicated they were not ready to vote on adopting.

A discussion was held on where to install the bat house made and donated by the girl scouts.

The Board determined that it was a good idea to remove the flags on veterans’ graves in cemeteries after Memorial Day, as is the practice at Arlington National Cemetery and the Maine Veterans’ Cemetery.

The OK was given for the library to install raised beds for gardens on the lawn of the Town Office.

The assessors’ agent will be in the office on June 16th & 17th.

Peter Becket questioned the meaning of a paragraph from a personnel policy.

Upon a motion by Burke and seconded by Wiley the Board went into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Vote: 3-0. Upon a motion by Burke and seconded by Wiley the Board went out of executive session. Vote: 3-0.

As there was no more business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.

Prepared by D. Burke