

Appleton Select Board Meeting Minutes: July 12th 2016 , 7pm

Select Board members present: John Fenner – Chairman Peter Beckett Scott Wiley Lorie Costigan	Others Present: Curtis Starrett – Road Commissioner Mary Starrett Jen Pendleton Pam Smith Fred Brown Ricky Starrett Darlene Starrett Steve Lucas
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1. The meeting was opened by John Fenner at 7pm.
2. John reminded everyone that the meetings are being recorded and being put on the town web site.
3. The minutes of the July 5th meeting were unanimously approved after some corrections. Proposed by Lorie Costigan and seconded by Scott Wiley.
4. Proposal to abate past due personal property taxes for Earl Norwood III for years 2008, 2009, 2010 totaling \$621.34. was discussed and approved. Earl recently passed away. John recused himself as he was a personal friend of Earl and Johns son is Earls attorney. Proposed by Peter Beckett and seconded by Scott
5. **Town Office renovations.** John mentioned that there is a moveable sound proof partition wall available free that might fit to divide the office windows from the main room. It is 12ft long and 9ft high. John and Peter to go and look at the wall to see if we can use it. Discussion took place about not being able to hear the selectmen due to noise from customers at the office window and the general acoustics in the room. Also discussed holding it on a day when the office is not open. John hoped if we can get the soundproof moveable wall it would solve the problem. Suggested getting a couple of local carpenters to give us a quote.
6. **Town hall driveway water issue.** John said that we need to fix the problem of water going down the side of the town driveway and we should get quotes to fix this. Mary Starrett said we could ask Curtis to do the work. A lot of discussion about the best way to address this issue was held. Also discussed was the need to ditch at the top of the driveway where the sand from the sand shed is collecting. Curtis mentioned that to fix the water problem permanently we need to do the whole parking lot and guide the water away from driveway. In the meantime, he suggested ditching out where the sand is collecting but was concerned that people would drive into the ditch when they park there. John suggested getting some low concrete barriers to stop people doing this. Lorie proposed and Peter seconded to ask Curtis to come up with a solution and give the town a quote. All approved.
7. **Dust control on Appleton ridge.** John mentioned that the calcium chloride was applied to the ridge and it appears the lower end was dusty but not dusty near Denise Pease. Curtis mentioned he applied the rest of the 38 bags mostly at the Searsmont end which was particularly dusty. Curtis mentioned that it will need to be done again and may take one to a ton and a half of calcium chloride to do the whole ridge. Peter asked if he would use magnesium chloride in the future. Curtis says it is very difficult to get. Steve Lucas mentioned that he was asked by Curtis on Thursday 30th of June to put calcium chloride or magnesium chloride on the ridge on Friday. On Friday his crew was getting ready in Montville to put the calcium chloride down and drove along the ridge to check on the situation and saw that it had already been done. John said that he decided to contact Jake to do the work as it was an emergency complaint as he hadn't heard

from Curtis that he had contacted Steve to do the work. Curtis had told John that he would be away for the weekend.

8. **Town Office Hours** Peter presented a spreadsheet showing the open hours for the towns surrounding Appleton. Appleton is open 22.5 hours, Hope is open 33 hours, Washington 23.75 and Searsmont is open 34 hours. Appleton is open at 8:30 and has a late night to 8pm. Hope opens at 7:30am and latest close is 6:00pm, Washington opens at 9am and latest close is 7pm and Searsmont is open at 8:00 and latest close is 7pm. Discussion was held about the hours and it was noted that the summer is usually a slow time but when property taxes are due it becomes heavier. Discussed opening at 8am one day a week. If we do this someone needs to be in the office by 7:30am to get the computers up and running in time for the open time. Pam suggested putting a survey on the web site to see what the town thinks of the open hours. Pam also mentioned that the 12:30 to 1:30 hour seems to be a busy time. Pam mentioned that 8:30 seems to be a busy time and opening at 8am might be useful for people going to work.
9. **Personnel Policy.** Peter has collected policies from all the surrounding towns and has emailed them to the Selectmen email. He also has distributed a spreadsheet comparing the main items in these policies by town.
10. **Abutter notification.** Toupie is using the new policy. Pam mentioned some people have called about why they are getting them.
11. **Road Commissioner.** Curtis presented a driveway permit from Sarah Conrad. The order for the sand from Lucas was signed. Lucas was the winning bidder for the contract. He is looking to start delivering in a couple of weeks.
12. **30 MPH on the Ridge.** Mary said she had contacted the sheriff about the 30mph sign on the ridge. She said she had not received any complaints. Mary says there are 5 or 6 signs on the ridge. It is up to the discretion of the officer if they stop for speed violations. We cannot put a sign near Town Hill Road as it is all ledge and would be a hazard if someone hit it. We can put a sign on the ridge within 2/10ths of a mile of Town Hill Road.
13. **List of Road projects.** John asked for a list of road projects and Curtis will give a list by next week's selectmen meeting
14. **Town Hill road culvert project** Has started and planned to be finished next week. The shoulders will also be done.
15. **105 Grading** This has started this week by the state. They will do both sides of the road.
16. Art Sprowl I asked if he could cut trees that are on his cemetery lot. John said it was ok
17. **Town administrator research committee.** John and Scott have resigned from the committee.
18. Peter asked Pam to look at how long before an election we need to announce it publically.
19. The voice recordings of the Selectmen meetings are now available on the web site.
20. Meeting closed at 8:20 pm. Proposed by Peter and seconded by Lorie. All approved.