

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, October 11, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Clayton Stalker, Russ Austin, Frank Reeder

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Stalker.
2. Approval of Minutes: September 20, 2018. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:
 - A. John Fitzpatrick of South Village Road: John expressed his concern that since the State paved their portion of South Village Road, cars are speeding excessively. He stated that he has had some close calls pulling out of his driveway with cars coming around the corner. He is also not happy that the County is using South Village Road as a route for construction vehicles. There are no sidewalks and he is especially concerned that once there are snow banks, there will not be a safe place for children and walkers to get out of the way of the trucks using the road. He would like the construction vehicles to use another route. Clayton told Mr. Fitzpatrick that the Selectmen appreciate his input and agree that speeding from many people, including Westmoreland residents, has become an issue on many roads in town. He added that the Selectmen cannot dictate the route that cars or trucks can use. Trucks need to get to the Maplewood site using the south side of River Road (due to the weight limit on the River Road South Bridge) or Partridge Brook Road via Route 63.
Frank Reeder suggested that the Selectmen send a letter to the County and have a conversation with the project foreman, etc. about following speed limits on town roads.
Road Agent Dave Poklemba will order a 'Blind Drive' sign to put on the corner near John's house in an attempt to slow traffic down, especially coming into the more congested area of South Village Road.
 - B. Road Agent David Poklemba: The Selectmen had asked Dave to attend the meeting for a review of how the summer went and plans for the upcoming winter season. They expressed to Dave that they had all received positive feedback from the public regarding the work that the road crew has been doing. Dave informed the Selectmen of some of the projects that have been completed: Adams Road culvert work, drainage line on Johnnycake Road, replaced culverts on Hurricane and Glebe Road, drainage outside the town hall and mowing & trimming. Dirt roads will be graded in the near future.
A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II(a) at 6:25pm. Motion passed 3-0.
A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to seal the non-public session minutes and return to public session at 6:45pm. Motion passed.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to approve a manifest of \$20,231.90 for the Highway Department and \$247,516.22 for all other bills for a total of \$267,748.12 Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
 - A. Tax Collector Update: Melanson & Heath has not completed the audit required when a tax collector leaves office. Following the audit, a Recommittal Warrant will be issued to the new tax collector (Melissa Bonito) for taxes due as of September 1, 2018. Melissa has talked to Avitar regarding training in their tax program that the town purchased in 2009. John Bridges has offered to do the networking of the assessing software with the tax software. With the approval of the Selectmen, Melissa would like to appoint Jodi Scanlan as the Deputy Tax Collector. The Selectmen approved Melissa's request.

B. Town Clerk Update: New town clerk, Jodi Scanlan, is doing her required training in Concord this week and will be in the office beginning Tuesday, October 16th to process vehicle registrations.

6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll Manifests: September 25, 2018 & October 9, 2018

Payroll Tax Payments: September 26, 28 & October 11, 2018

NH Retirement System: September 28, 2018

Amazon: Town Clerk workstation October 2, 2018

Balance Sheet & Trial Balance Report for September 2018

CompuChecks: October 5, 2018

Inuit: W2's October 5, 2018

Veteran's Flag Depot: October 10, 2018

Intent to Cut: R6-13

Sate Election Warrant

A. Joyce Cate has expressed her concern about the speeding of construction vehicles from the Maplewood project on Partridge Brook Road. She also stated that the trucks are hauling dirt with no covers over them. Her concerns will be addressed in the letter and conversations (referred to above) with the County Commissioners and Supervisors of the Maplewood project.

B. Tax Rate Setting: The DRA will have tax rates established in the next few weeks. Following discussion of the town portion of the tax rate, the Selectmen decided to use \$20,000 from undesignated fund balance (surplus) to help keep the town portion level-funded. The County and School portions are not known yet.

C. The Selectmen signed a thank you letter to Jeanette Hubert for her donation of lights for our recently planted Christmas tree given by the Fire Department Association.

7. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen's office.* None

8. Public Business: None

9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

Russ Austin

Frank Reeder

NEXT MEETING –Wednesday, October 24, 2018, 1:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES