

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2020

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:02AM by Chairman Frank Reeder.
2. Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2020 Motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:
 - A. Steve Horton, Owners Rep for the Fire Station project & Mike Petrovick, Architect:
Steve reported that good progress has been made. The septic design is being worked on for the town hall with the potential for tying in the fire station in the future.
Mike distributed a Schematic Building Design Review of the proposed station. He reviewed the difference between roof styles, emphasizing that there is wasted space in a gable roof versus a flatter, more modern style. The design has a good use of light. Mike added that he has tried to control costs and be functional at the same time.
Steve will run the costs on the two styles of roofs. The floor plan will still need some tweaking. The Selectmen stated that they were happy with what has been presented.
 - B. Donald Brehm of 25 Adams Road: Due to the continual loss of gravel by grading the road every year, Mr. Brehm stated that the road is 3' lower than when he bought the property 30 years ago. It has made it impossible for him to use the entrance into his barn. He would be willing to maintain what is essentially his driveway (but is a Class V road) as the road only goes to his house after the turn onto Stonewall Circle off Adams Road. The Selectmen explained the two options:
 1. The road can be completely discontinued by a vote of the Town at town meeting in March. Doing that process, that portion of Adams Road would revert to the abutters. Mr. Brehm is the only abutter as he owns both sides of the road.
 2. Stopping town maintenance on a Class V road for 5 years causes the road to revert to a Class VI road, which is still considered a town road, but not maintained by the town. It can be closed subject to gates and bars after the 5-year period, but cannot be locked.Mr. Brehm would like to choose Option #2 so that he can work on the road now. The Selectmen agreed to withhold maintenance, which includes plowing, while also giving Mr. Brehm permission to work on the road for access to his house. They will look at establishing 'complete discontinuance' of the road at the next town meeting.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Russ Austin to approve a manifest of \$7,727.65 for the highway department and \$272,190.07 for all other bills for a total of \$279,917.72. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
 - A. The Road Agent will attend the next meeting to further discuss the possibility of the highway department doing the mowing of the cemeteries in town.
 - B. Elections: A mailing went out informing people of how to obtain an absentee ballot for the upcoming State Primary on September 8 and the General Election on November 3. Due to Covid-19, absentee voting is encouraged.

- C. As the Selectmen Rep on the Planning Board, Russ Austin updated the Selectmen that the request for a wedding venue at 1054 River Road was approved. Nancy Hillier will bring in the plan recorded at the Registry of Deeds and a corrected deed for her property on Butterfield Hill Rd (R8-1B).

6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

- Payroll: July 28, 2020 & July 31, 2020
- GJ Entry: #719 2019 Tax Liens
- EFTPS - Payroll taxes: July 28, 2020 & July 31, 2020
- Healthtrust: July 30, 2020
- NH Retirement System: July 30, 2020
- Westmoreland PO – absentee vote mailing July 31, 2020

- A. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Clayton Stalker, per RSA 31:19, to accept donations for the Westmoreland Pickle Ball Court Fund in the amount of \$1,050. Motion passed 3-0.
- B. The State of NH is looking for feedback on their proposed 10-year Transportation Improvement Projects (2023-2032). None of the projects listed will take place in Westmoreland. The Selectmen have no comments to make on the list.
- C. The Selectmen approved the deeding of three properties to the Town of Westmoreland by the Tax Collector if taxes are not paid by August 11, 2020. A

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

8. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Frank Reeder, Chairman

Clayton R. Stalker

Russ Austin

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, August 20, 2020, 10:00AM

MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED -
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES