

**Board of Selectmen
January 9, 2013**

Present: Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson; Peter M. Kasprzyk; Richard C. Edwards; Teresa A. Williams, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Paul called the posted meeting to order at 6 p.m. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (c). Mr. Edwards seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Kasprzyk – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Paul – ‘aye’. The motion passed 3-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 7:05 p.m., at which time Mr. Paul led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present included: Connie Twombly; Annette Perry; Linda Schier and Dustin Johnson, AWWA; Sally Soule, NH DES; Jamie Houle and Tim Puls, UNH Stormwater; Joe Fleck; Steve Brown; Chief Ken Fifield; Fred & Rebecca Clough; Nancy Spencer Smith; Relf Fogg; Bruce Rich; Tom Beeler, *The Granite State News*; Jerry O’Connor (videotaping), and Ed Comeau (videotaping).

1. Appointments

a) Linda Schier, AWWA – Ms. Schier spoke of the exciting project on Brackett Road, which was a great collaborative effort. She thanked the Town of Wakefield for its participation in this project, as well as for all its years of support of AWWA. Ms. Soule spoke to the measurable benefit of the project. She presented awards to Fred Clough, Road Agent; Teresa Williams, on behalf of the Town of Wakefield; and to both Jamie Houle and Tim Puls of UNH Stormwater Center. Phase II of the project is coming this spring. Mr. Houle presented Mr. Clough (and his summer crew) with hats and spoke to the care and commitment to the community exhibited by the Wakefield Highway Department. He noted the crew was also very innovative and resourceful.

b) Public Hearing re: FEMA Flood Maps and Resolution – Mr. Paul opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. and explained that the purpose of the Resolution is to adopt the flood maps dated as of March 19, 2013, and to include same as part of the Wakefield Zoning Ordinance. He hopes Cartographics can include an overlay of the updated maps on the Town’s website. Mr. Rich noted that he sent a lot of letters to FEMA seeking an update of a portion of the maps. Mr. Fleck does not agree with all the areas that have been designated as flood zones and questioned what latitude the Board has in adopting these maps. Mr. Paul indicated the Town really does not have a choice in the matter. The public hearing was closed at 7:24 p.m. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to adopt the flood maps as presented by FEMA and to adopt the Resolution as written. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

c) Connie Twombly – Ms. Twombly stated that she has much respect for Municipal Resources Inc. (“MRI”) and for Don Jutton in particular. However, she worked for a number of years as the Deputy Town Clerk and does not see any redundancy between that office and the Tax Collector’s office. Ms. Twombly briefly reviewed the history of the office of Tax Collector, which had been appointed at one time. Subsequently, the voters decided it should be an elected position. Ms. Twombly is concerned that the Board may consider combining those positions. She stressed that the residents like the privacy afforded in the current situation. She hopes the Board will not consider changing this and noted that the voters have already spoken.

Ms. Twombly has read the entire MRI report, which is very good. She referred to comments made about the Sanbornville Water Precinct, even though MRI never had any conversation with anyone at the

Precinct. Ms. Twombly believes the Water Precinct works just fine and added that MRI should have communicated with the Water Commissioners. Ms. Twombly stated that although she believes the MRI report is an excellent medium for the Selectmen to obtain ideas, she does not believe it was worth the price paid. Mr. Paul thanked Ms. Twombly for her comments and time.

d) Russell Neal and Steven Porter, Evergreen Valley Snowmobile Club – Mr. Neal noted that their trail has always come across the Maple Street Bridge, which is now blocked off. They are seeking permission to have room at least for the groomer to pass through. They are willing to put up signs, and there will be a snow bank to keep other vehicles from utilizing that part of the trail. Mr. Paul is fine with the snowmobiles coming through, but he has concerns about the groomer. Mr. Kasprzyk suggested posting a sign indicating “pass at your own risk” in order to alleviate the Town of any liability. It was noted that the weight of the groomer is well-dispersed.

Chief Fifield stated his preference to have the opening wide enough for the groomer. Although it is legal to traverse the highway, he believes it would be safer not to do so. Chief Fifield also noted that the trail would be blocked off again after the season. Mr. Kasprzyk referred to potential liability connected with the vehicles parked at the adjacent garage. Mr. Neal stressed that all areas of the trail system are covered under their insurance. If the Town gives permission for this area to be utilized, it will be part of the trail system. Ms. Perry (an area resident) has no problem with snowmobiles; however, she does have a concern that the snowmobiles sometimes travel on the railroad tracks.

Mr. Paul asked how far the blocks should be opened up. Mr. Kasprzyk noted that the bridge is closed to vehicles and wondered whether the residents would object to it being open for snowmobiles. Mr. Edwards pointed out that the snowmobile club is accepting all responsibility by providing a significant insurance policy. It was noted that the snowmobile traffic helps to provide an economic boost to that area. Mr. Kasprzyk reiterated the need for a “pass at your own risk” sign and suggested moving forward cautiously.

Mr. Edwards moved to open the blocks to allow for both the groomer and snowmobiles, as long as adequate insurance is in place and the club has permission from area residents. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion. Mr. Kasprzyk also suggested checking with counsel (LGC) regarding the legalities involved and stated that a “pass at your own risk” sign should be posted. **Mr. Edwards revised his motion to include that the Evergreen Valley Snowmobile Club should post “pass at your own risk” signs at the site. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the revised motion.** Discussion followed regarding the weight of a groomer. Chief Fifield suggested posting the trail as closed to wheeled vehicles. Mr. Paul summarized that the snowmobile club will be working with the Police Department and that the blocks will be moved only for winter use. Ms. Perry noted that if the bridge is open for snowmobiles, others have atv’s and motorbikes. She also referred to the comment regarding snowmobiles bringing in money to the community. Ms. Perry suggested it would certainly bring money into the community if the bridge were fixed, allowing Cynthia Wyatt to operate her commercial property. Mr. Porter confirmed that the club will erect the referenced signs. **The motion then passed 3-0.**

2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1

--Ms. Twombly again referred to the MRI report, specifically the relocation of the finance clerk's work station. She noted that the finance clerk used to be located in the small room adjacent to the Selectmen's office, which room has a door that could be closed.

3. Unfinished Business – None forthcoming.

4. New Business

a) Warrant Articles – The Board must vote whether to support Articles #4 - #21. **Mr. Paul moved to approve Articles #4 - #21 as written. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

5. Proposed CRF Expenditures

a) Landfill Closure CRF \$650 – This expenditure represents an invoice from Robert Saunders for 3rd quarter monitoring at the landfill. **Mr. Paul moved to approve the expenditure of \$650 from the Landfill Closure CRF, as presented. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

b) Landfill Closure CRF \$880 – This expenditure represents an invoice from Robert Saunders for his time coordinating removal of the ash pile. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the expenditure of \$880 from the Landfill Closure CRF, as presented. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

6. Correspondence

a) NH DOT re: Meadow Street Mid-Block Crosswalk – Basically, the State has said "no" unless the Town is willing to make several changes. Ms. Williams stated that Bill Lambert of NH DOT would like to meet with someone to discuss this in more detail. It was agreed the Town Administrator will meet with Mr. Lambert and that Mr. Kasprzyk may join in.

7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2 – None forthcoming.

8. Administrative Matters

a) Liaison Reports – **Mr. Edwards:** Most everything on Planning Board's table was tabled as a result of several voices in their audience. Mr. Edwards does not believe that 14 people in the audience should make the decision for all voters. Issues should have gone on the warrant for the people to vote. **Mr. Paul:** There will be a public hearing on Thursday, January 10, at 6:30 p.m. for the 2013 municipal budget. Mr. Kasprzyk will attend that meeting in Mr. Paul's place.

b) Administrator's Update

--Cynthia Wyatt has requested that the Board consider filing a Preliminary Estimate Request form with the State for repair of the Maple Street Bridge. It is a simple form, from which the State will provide an estimate. This would also result in this project getting on the State's bridge list. There is no cost for filing and (no commitment to accept their price). The Board agreed by consensus to complete this form.

--Ms. Williams previously shared information regarding Virtual Town Hall with the Board members. She provided an agreement for Mr. Paul's signature. Although the Fire and Police Departments have individual sites, they may wish to link on to the Town's Virtual Town Hall site.

--Ms. Williams has spoken with Jim Miller regarding the Memorandum of Understanding with ClearView. This issue will be on the next agenda.

--It has been brought to Ms. Williams' attention that there is no designated handicap parking in the back parking lot (although there are several such spots in the front of the building). Ms. Williams will check with LGC to determine whether additional designated spots are required.

--The Board had previously decided to advertise for an on-call Deputy Code Enforcement Officer. It was agreed to advertise the rate of pay at \$20 per hour.

Mr. Kasprzyk referred to an email he received regarding the Union Meadows Project. Ms. Williams advised that Dave Mankus plans to address the Board at the next meeting on that subject.

c) Building Permit Releases – None forthcoming.

d) Petition and Pole License – The Board agreed by consensus to execute the Petition and Pole License for North Shore Drive as submitted.

e) Payment Manifests – **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve Payroll Warrant #1 in the amount of \$61,937. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve AP #3 in the amount of \$59,591.60. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve AP #2 in the amount of \$721,502.55. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

f) Minutes – **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the minutes of December 5, 12 and 19, 2012, as presented. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Fogg stated that he had requested some figures from the Finance Clerk regarding attendance of the planner, town attorney and code officer during the Planning Board process in view of a number of issues having been tabled. He wonders whether he will have that information for the Budget Committee meeting tomorrow evening.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

[Note: As everyone was preparing to leave, Mr. Edwards became aware that in voting to support Articles #4 - #21 in one motion (rather than taking a separate vote on each article) he ultimately voted to support Article #20 (Union Meadows project), which project he has consistently voted against. He requested that the meeting be called back to order so that a vote could be taken on whether to support Article #20 specifically. As the 2 camera operators, the newspaper representative, and several members of the public were still present, Mr. Paul complied with that request.]

Mr. Paul called the meeting back to order at 8:20 p.m. at the request of Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards explained that he misspoke when he previously voted affirmatively to support Articles #4 – 21 and asked that the Board take another vote on Article #20. **Mr. Paul moved to support Article #20. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-1.**

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson

Peter M. Kasprzyk

Richard C. Edwards