

MINUTES

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN HALL**

**June 15, 2020
6:30 PM**

ATTENDEES:

Leo Enos, Selectman	Leon Rideout, Selectman	Shane Beattie, Selectman
Edward Samson, Town Manager	Alan Savage	Rob Christie
Michael Nadeau	Charity Baker	Benjamin Gaetjens-Oleson

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Leo Enos

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Benjamin Gaetjens-Oleson was present to report on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. The volunteer signs are starting to be taken down and stored in case they are needed again. Any equipment that was borrowed has been returned.

Discussions have begun regarding vaccinating people once a vaccine is created. A point of dispensing (POD) plan already exists and will be reviewed for any details that need to be updated.

The Response Team is going to continue to meet on Tuesdays and Fridays and will re-evaluate the frequency of the meetings in a few weeks.

Ben also mentioned that Felicia the Highway dispatch supervisor is leaving dispatch and she has been involved with the COVID response. Her leaving brings up concerns on whether the State will be replacing her with the current hiring freeze in place. Phil Beaulieu from the dispatch office is hoping even with the hiring freeze the Governor will allow them to fill the position. It also brings up the need to create a regional dispatch center for the surrounding communities and the sheriff's department. Weeks has also mentioned they would like to get out of dispatching ambulances. Ed mentioned it has been a struggle for many years. This is the only area in the State that dispatching is done out of the DOT office. He also stated it is not going to be an inexpensive venture and it doesn't have to happen today. He feels we need to take our time and make sure all the towns are on board. He recommends the Board of Selectmen take the reins and decide how its going to unfold. Shane mentioned, he spoke with Jack Anderson the Bethlehem Fire Chief and the Town of Bethlehem pays \$85,000 to Twin State Fire dispatch. The board agreed there needs to be a lot of research done before any real changes are made.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review and approval of the June 1, 2020 meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Leon Rideout and seconded by Shane Beattie to accept the June 1, 2020 meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Ed mentioned the board needs to approve the \$45.00 an hour overtime pay rate again this year to continue receiving the Stonegarden grant funding.

Motion was made by Selectmen Leon Rideout and seconded by Selectmen Shane Beattie to confirm that Stonegarden’s overtime rate of \$45.00 an hour falls in line with law enforcement detail rates throughout the State. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Solar exemption applications for William Allin, 156 Water Street and Adam Adair, 20 Brook Road were granted and signed.
- Current Use application for William Greene, Tax Map R06, Lot 029 was presented.

Motion was made by Leon Rideout and seconded by Shane Beattie to approve the current use application for William Greene on Lost Nation Road – Tax Map R06, Lot 029. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ed mentioned he has had a lot of requests for more handicap parking along or near Main Street. He suggested adding a few spots in the municipal parking lot which is accessible to the Main Street sidewalk. It was mentioned the State has very specific guidelines regarding parking along Main Street and Ed feels the best solution will be adding spaces to the municipal parking lot.

Construction is beginning on the Parker J Noyes building. They will maintain 2-way traffic as much as possible. The project will take place throughout the Summer and Fall. Ed mentioned he will not know if we are eligible for the grant for the town’s portion of the project until next month. There was much discussion regarding parking for the businesses and housing around the area once the project is complete. Shane stated, he was approached by the dentist office regarding parking during and after the project. He asked Ed if he would visit them and review what plans are for parking. Shane asked if he could get a copy of the plans that HEB has proposed for the town’s part of the project regarding changes to the street construction. It was asked if there are covenants for Drew Park and if construction is allowed on/in the park. Ed has not been able to find the paperwork for the park at this point. Leon is going to see what he can find for information.

Ed reported the pavement bid was awarded to lowest bidder which is Hutchins. Ed said the paving will be on Middle Street from Main to the State Bridge Maintenance yard entrance.

Ed reported there were no bids for the renovations of the town office and the townhall handicap ramp. Ed’s impression is that everyone is too busy to take on another job. There was discussion about asking Dennis Patnoe to do the work and the board agreed to ask

Dennis. Ed is going check with Dennis, however, he is not sure if he will as he has started a big renovation job at his own house.

Ed also reported there was only one applicant for the office assistant position that was posted. He feels the candidate would be a great addition. He would like to schedule an interview with the applicant as soon as possible.

Leon asked about revenues. Ed said, he feels revenues are coming in the same as always.

Shane was wondering if the Selectmen could get together to discuss the long-term goals regarding infrastructure etc. It was mentioned it needs to be done in a regular meeting. The board asked that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Ed mentioned he felt the department heads should be included on the discussions as they know the priorities of things that need to be replaced. Shane stated he would like to discuss with just the board to start.

Alan asked why thru truck traffic is not allowed on Summer Street with all the money that was spent to upgrade and reconstruct the road it should be able to support truck traffic. It was expressed by board they feel there should be NO thru truck traffic to preserve the road.

INFORMATION:

- Timber Tax Warrant was signed for:
 - Barbara Peaslee-Smith Tax Map R13, Lot 064 for \$4,562.28
- Building Permits –
 - Gary Chamberlain, 23 Hartco Avenue – Construct a 10’ X 12’ front entry deck and a 12’ X 16’ rear deck to be eventually converted to screen porch.
 - Diana Gendreau, 63 Summer Street – Remove existing garage and construct a new 24’ X 24’ 2-car garage on slab in more conformance than previous.
 - Approved based on the fact the new structure’s setbacks will be more conforming than the existing.
 - Kyle Van der Laan & Melissa Grella, 4 Stone Street – Construct 8’ X 20’ screened-in, covered porch on piers along the setback line of previous entry landing.
 - Approved based on the fact the new structure’s right setback will not be less conforming than the previous landing.
 - Stephen Beaton, 71 Reed Road – Construct a 3-bedroom home on foundation.
 - Jeremy Craigie, 10 Lost Nation Road – Construct a 28’ X 32’ garage on slab with two 12’ X 32’ covered overhangs on piers and new 12’ X 40’ farmer’s porch on piers attached to existing house.

- Tammy Lazott, 16 Mayberry Lane – Construct a 16’ X 24’, 3-sided shed on piers with metal roof and crushed stone floor.
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Decision –
 - Katherine Hartnett & Racheal Stuart, 14 Governors Terrace – Area Variance has been approved.

Motion was made by Leon Rideout and seconded by Shane Beattie to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charity M. Baker

Board of Selectmen

Date: _____

Leo Enos

Leon Rideout

Shane Beattie