

Board of Selectpersons, Sweden, ME

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Present were Selectpersons: Alberta Ridlon, John. P. Smith and C. Wayne Miller, Treasurer DJ Curtis, Fire Chief James Willey, Clerk Jane Gibbons, Road Commissioners John Clifford, Hardscrabble road residents Warren Miller and Heather Hoover, Perry Hill Road residents Mr. and Mrs. Bradford, Mr. and Mrs. Lavoie, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Girard, and Ledge Hill Road Resident Mr. Michaud. The meeting was opened at 6:02 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Unscheduled Citizen business and Roads:

(a) Mr. Noble had left car parts in the town office parking lot and stated that his road, Hardscrabble Road, had numerous pot holes which were not being fixed in a timely manner. He showed pictures. He showed the selectmen the statutes on the town's responsibility for filling pot holes. He thought that the residents of Hardscrabble road were loosing parts off their vehicles. Ms. Hoover presented bills for car repairs which they claim were the result of the poor road they live on. The Road Commissioner stated that they had been working on filling pot holes on Hardscrabble road today and would finish tomorrow.

(b) Perry Hill road residents complained of a wash out on their road and that nothing had been done on that road for over 30 years. Mr. Bradford suggested diverting school funds to roads and was told we could not legally do that. Mr. Clifford stated that they were working on replacing culverts and ditching. They will be working on pot holes on Plummer School Road and a culvert on Buker road. There was a wash out on Black Mt. Road and ditching on Smarts Hill Road to repair. Steve Bennett was working on these projects. Mrs. Ridlon emphasized that the roads needed proper underpinnings to avoid the deterioration which we are experiencing throughout the town. Hot patching only lasts 2 year.

(c) Mr. Smith said that the road counters on Plummer School Road and Hardscrabble Road would be installed before the end of next week.

(d) The state will not provide an Engineer to oversee bonded road projects. Mr. Smith asked about residents of Sweden who are licensed Civil Engineers who might be willing to monitor the projects.

(e) Mrs. Ridlon mentioned a \$25.00 Long range road plan and there was consensus that this would be a good avenue to pursue.

(f) A question was raised about the Emergency Road Fund. It can only be used after the summer roads budget is expended and only in an emergency.

(g) Mr. Michaud told of an undercutting of Plummer School Road near the cemetery. Mr. Willey and Mr. Clifford went to examine it and returned. Mr. Clifford said he would have the road crew work on it soon.

(h) Mrs. Ridlon said there were 2 opportunities to apply for road bonds: in August and February. They will have to put off the question of seeking a bond until legal issues are solved and bids are in. Mr. Smith had been working on an analysis of expenditures on Sweden Roads since 2007. \$27,000 was not attributed to specific roads. They are now requiring this information be broken down on invoices. More details about where the work was done on each road are needed.

(i) Mr. Miller mentioned that when an EMA inspector comes to examine our roads, the Selectmen can be paid for attending his visits. It was thought that 2007 FEMA money could be used on Trull Brook Road repairs.

Fire Department: Molloy does not yet have the machine for charge cards. The Fire Department is waiting for the grant money.

Finances: The warrant was signed. The number for the State Police is the same as the Game Warden number and should be corrected in next years report. It is 800-228-0857.

The MMA Insurance work is almost completely finished.

Old Business:

(a) Mr. Monahan replaced breakers but a bucket truck is needed to reach a light. JP Smith moved that McIver be hired to complete the job. (voted 3-0) Jason Wentworth is working on repairs.

(b) Jerry Byron was here to help Selectmen with the General Assistance reporting. They can destroy records that are over 3 years old. The town had not been compensated for payments given for 2 years and it is estimated that the town might get up to \$400 refunded.

(c) Mr. Smith had talked to Neil Grafton of Norway Savings and suggested that we talk to the woman who handles Municipal accounts.

New Business

(a) Mr. Miller moved that the minutes of the June 8 and July 13th meeting be approved. (voted 3-0)

(b) Review of mail: The School Administrative District Tax Assessment has been sent to the town. Our portion will be \$623,261.

A paper from Harvest Hills needs to be signed by the Animal Control Officer. Ms. Gibbons is to call her.

(c) Kathiann Shorey had requested use of the town office or town hall for a meeting of the Oxford Country Health Officers. This was approved.

(d) Computer: JP Smith moved that DJ Curtis be authorized to buy a computer and software from Staples. (voted 3-0) She was to check with the software people to be sure the new program did Motor Vehicle processing and was approved by the state. Jane was to give DJ information about approved vendors which she had been given by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The vendor who had visited us again will be asked to attend the meeting at the end of August.

(e) DJ had an application for State surplus items and wanted to know which names to include.

(f) Mr. Miller said that he would work on the Emergency Action Plan for the Town Meeting house.

(g) Ms. Gibbons was asked to check with the Voter Accessibility people to see if the Town Office could be used for voting and the special phone lines be moved to the Town Office. This was to save the expense of making the Meeting house comply with all the requirements for Accessibility.

(h) Mrs. Ridlon will call MMA about the town's legal responsibility for pot holes and a resident's claim for repairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Jane Gibbons, Clerk