



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
P.O. BOX 725  
FITZWILLIAM, NH 03447  
(603) 585-7723 Fax: (603) 585-7744  
Email: fitzwilliamnh@fitzwilliam-nh.gov

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 14, 2016**

**Selectmen Present:** Susan Silverman, Nancy Carney, Chris Holman

Ms. Silverman called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

**PRIMARY:**

**\*\*\* APPROVE MINUTES**  
- **June 6, 2016**

Mr. Holman made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Carney seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**\*\*\* APPROVE MANIFESTS**

Mr. Holman made a motion to approve the manifests. Ms. Carney seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**\*\*\* REVIEW SIGNATURE FOLDER** – The Selectmen reviewed and signed.

**\*\*\* REVIEW LETTER TO LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Ms. Silverman reviewed the letter that she asked Ms. Favreau to write thanking the Library Trustees for meeting with them and the Budget Committee. The letter also mentioned the number of comments and complaints the Selectmen's Office has received regarding the name of the knitting group sponsored by the Library.

**\*\*\* CONSTRUCTION PERMIT**

- **Map 42, Lot 1-56**
- **Map 28, Lot 14**

**Map 42, Lot 1-56** – Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the permit for Map 42, Lot 1-56. Mr. Holman seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**Map 28, Lot 14** – Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the permit for Map 28, Lot 14. Mr. Holman seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**1:15 ANDREA HEIKKINEN**

Ms. Favreau gave the driveway permit to Andrea Heikkinen, which Gene Cuomo denied. Ms. Heikkinen stated that she wasn't comfortable paying that much for the Ford property as the beam was in the cellar and it needed a new roof and would need to be taken down to the studs. Ms. Heikkinen shared that she thought people would be happy if that would be done. Ms. Heikkinen stated that she would have to pay the owner's lawyer but she hasn't gone to talk with the owner because the cost was too high. Ms. Heikkinen shared that she doesn't feel it was the owner's fault. The Selectmen shared that they had no disagreement with that. Ms. Silverman shared that the lot had value but the house doesn't. Ms. Silverman asked the Selectmen what they wanted to do. Ms. Heikkinen thought that the town owned the property. Ms. Silverman shared that Ms. Ford still owned the property but taxes were owed and the town has not taken the property by tax deed. Mr. Holman shared that if the town takes by tax deed the owner has 3 years to come back to repurchase.

Ms. Silverman stated that if Ms. Heikkinen purchased the property, it was a buildable lot, and that when the Selectmen looked at back taxes, most of the cost was interest. Ms. Silverman thought that the owner might be happy to get rid of the property and the Selectmen were willing to forgive \$25,000. Ms. Carney stated that was for relief of the taxes and the State regulates the interest rate. Ms. Heikkinen asked if the Selectmen were not willing to reduce the amount any lower. Ms. Silverman stated that interest continues to accumulate and it wasn't under the Selectmen's power, it was State regulated. Ms. Silverman shared that the Selectmen could forgive a certain amount. Ms. Silverman also shared what the Selectmen were willing to do and stated what Ms. Heikkinen negotiated with the owner was her personal commitment and had nothing to do with the town. Ms. Heikkinen stated that she was paying \$25,000. Ms. Favreau shared that she was paying \$25,000 for taxes. Ms. Silverman stated that anytime you negotiate purchasing a property – you agree to how the back taxes are to be paid. Ms. Heikkinen stated that she doesn't want to pay \$25,000 for the property. Ms. Silverman asked the Selectmen if they wanted to do more. Ms. Carney stated that it was dependent upon how quickly things get settled and she wasn't steadfast on the \$25,000 but she wasn't sure how long it would take. Ms. Carney shared that she couldn't make a decision as she doesn't know what the final figure would be. Mr. Holman discussed the difficulty to go more than \$25,000 at this time. Ms. Heikkinen stated that it wasn't a problem to find the owner and she doesn't want to then come back to the Selectmen and have it be \$25,000. Ms. Silverman stated the Selectmen were willing to take \$25,000 off what was currently owed and that the amount would be different if it takes a few months to settle. Ms. Carney stated there wasn't enough information as Ms. Heikkinen wasn't sure if she was going to purchase the property. Ms. Silverman stated that at this time \$25,000 was what the Selectmen were willing to do. Ms. Silverman shared that the Selectmen couldn't give Ms. Heikkinen advice on what she needed to do. Ms. Heikkinen stated that she would talk with the owner and then would come back to the Selectmen.

### **1:30 MEET WITH FRANK BEQUAERT**

Frank Bequaert reported that he had talked with Michael Dugas about a variety of things related to the roads and that Mr. Dugas had agreed to have an informational meeting here. Mr. Bequaert suggested to plan for that in August as it would give people in town time to see what he was talking about. Mr. Bequaert handed information to the Selectmen that he would be putting in the newsletter. Mr. Bequaert and the Selectmen discussed and reviewed the information. Mr. Bequaert stated that Mr. Dugas would come and talk about speed reduction on Rt 12 and putting in islands – it was a way to make people go slower. Ms. Silverman stated that speeding was on Rt 12 and not Rt 119 and there were different problems on Rt 119. Mr. Bequaert stated there should be discussion of other safety modifications on Rt 12 and Rt 119 and he was basically trying to get information from Mr. Dugas. Mr. Bequaert shared that to do anything it has to be feasible under the rules of the State and someone needed to fund it and Fitzwilliam needed to agree. Mr. Bequaert talked about funding with Mr. Dugas. If a roundabout was wanted it couldn't happen because there was no funding but a safety island could be done. Ms. Silverman shared that there were a lot of people concerned before and she recommended that Mr. Bequaert add that information into his newsletter article. Ms. Silverman shared that the points Mr. Dugas made contained almost too much detail.

Ms. Silverman shared that Ms. Carney has mentioned to the Selectmen that the rotaries in Keene are difficult to maneuver for fire and ambulance and they drive over them. Ms. Silverman doesn't want to create something that creates a different kind of problem. Mr. Bequaert shared that he would post the information and the map at the Library and would send Ms. Favreau the information to post on the website. Ms. Silverman asked Mr. Bequaert to send a copy of what he was submitting to each of the constituents. Mr. Bequaert shared that he was going to go and talk with each of them. Ms. Carney asked that Mr. Bequaert add the fire department to his list. Mr. Bequaert shared that if he talks with them he would find out what their concern would be. Ms. Silverman shared that she didn't know about Mr. Bequaert's planned outreach. Mr. Holman asked that it be noted that the TAC representative was part of SWRPC, as people might not know that. Mr. Holman asked Ms. Favreau if she thought it was appropriate to list both websites – Fitzwilliam.org as well as the town's website. Mr. Holman felt that we should direct people to the town's website. Mr. Bequaert shared that Fitzwilliam.org was his website. Ms. Silverman stated that she agreed with Mr. Holman to direct to the town's website, as we have been trying to get people to go to the town's website for information. Mr. Bequaert stated that right now when he goes to the town's website there isn't anything that directs him to where the information would be. Ms. Favreau would add a tab for information on the State Highway. Ms. Favreau suggested taking down the pipeline and adding this information.

Ms. Silverman asked about the entrances and exits to Mr. Mike's and stated the answer by Mr. Dugas showed that he wasn't really understanding what the issue was. Mr. Bequaert stated that he would talk with Mr. Dugas about that. Mr. Bequaert shared that this was one reason to have the State come and see what was happening and also pavement at Mr. Mike's was so terrible. Mr. Bequaert shared that the only solution he thought of to make people obey the signs was to give out tickets and it would be a lot of work for the Police Department. Ms. Carney shared that when the Police are there people don't make the illegal turn. Mr. Bequaert suggested putting up a sign that stated "for your own safety".

### **1:45 NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91:A-3 II(a)**

At 1:49 p.m. Mr. Holman made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes.  
At 2:00 p.m. Mr. Holman made a motion to leave non-public session and seal the minutes as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of the person other than a member of the board. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes.

At 2:00 p.m. Mr. Holman made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes.

At 2:10 p.m. Ms. Silverman made a motion to leave non-public session and seal the minutes as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of the person other than a member of the board. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes.

Mr. Holman asked about the shed. Ed Mattson explained the work that was needed and shared they have received one bid and were awaiting another. Mr. Holman asked if they had enough money in their budget. Ms. Favreau shared that it was part of the expendable building trust. Ms. Favreau confirmed that David Streeter's quote was \$4,960 and asked if Ross Tourigney was asked to give a quote. Greg Mattson stated that Mr. Tourigney was contacted but they haven't heard from him.

Ms. Silverman asked what kind of camera Mr. Libby had and Greg Mattson shared that it was a digital camera that was used to take pictures of the work that was done in the cemeteries.

\*\*\*  
**REVIEW LETTER OF DEFICIENCY**  
**Re: Failed Septic (Map 28, Lot 16-04)**

Ms. Silverman reviewed the letter of deficiency from Carole Ann Rocheleau, Health Officer, for Map 28, Lot 16-04. Ms. Favreau shared that she had received a complaint from the neighbor that they could smell sewer and she contacted Ms. Rocheleau to look into. Ms. Rocheleau had conducted an inspection of the property on June 10<sup>th</sup> and documented the deficiencies. Ms. Rocheleau suspects a failed septic system. The Selectmen approved and signed the letter.

\*\*\*  
**RECOMMENDATION FROM AVITAR**  
- **Abatement - Map 34, Lot 2**  
- **Abatement – Map 32, Lot 58**

**Map 34, Lot 2** - Ms. Favreau reviewed the recommendation of Jonathan Rice, Assessor, Avitar. Mr. Rice, in his letter, recommended the abatement request be denied as the property was fairly and equitably assessed. Ms. Carney made a motion to deny the abatement request. Mr. Holman seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

**Map 32, Lot 58** - Ms. Favreau reviewed the recommendation of Jonathan Rice, Assessor, Avitar. Mr. Rice, in his letter, recommended the abatement request be denied as the property was fairly and equitably assessed. Mr. Holman made a motion to deny the abatement request. Ms. Carney seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

\*\*\*  
**REVIEW PROPOSAL FROM SCULLY ARCHITECTS**

Ms. Silverman reviewed the proposal from Scully Architects via McMillian and shared that they have a drone. The cost to evaluate the steeple to get an estimate of the cost (Step 1) was \$2,500 (Scully Architects - \$2,000 and McMillian - \$500). Mr. Holman asked if it was enough to contract with West Rindge Builders. Ms. Silverman shared that West Rindge Builders had done work for the town before. Ms. Favreau shared that it might be \$2,500 well spent, whether going with McMillian or not as it would give more information. Mr. Holman asked if the cost came out of the expendable trust. Ms. Favreau shared that if the cost exceeded the amount in the expendable trust, the work would have to be spread out.

Mr. Holman made a motion to approve hiring Scully Architects for Step 1. Ms. Carney seconded. Ms. Carney – Yes, Mr. Holman - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

\*\*\*  
**REVIEW E-MAILS FROM KATHY STARK**  
**Re: Bullet Voting**

The Selectmen reviewed the e-mails from Kathy Stark. Ms. Favreau shared that Ms. Stark had sent information on voting strategy and asked Ms. Favreau to bring to the Selectmen. Ms. Stark mentioned in her e-mail that she had asked Heidi Wood, Town Clerk and Bill Prigge, Moderator about it from an ethical standpoint and they said it was fine. Ms. Silverman stated that she felt that it wasn't up to the Board of Selectmen to decide on ethical issues and that Ms. Stark was saying it was a legal process and the Selectmen were not going to weigh in on that.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Discuss Newsletter Articles** – The Selectmen and Ms. Favreau discussed the articles to be included in the July Newsletter – Town Beach, Thank You to the Transfer Station Employees, and Dog Waste.

**Brox – Notice of Paving** - NHDOT District 4 would begin resurfacing starting June 14th on Rt 119 from the intersection of Angier Road to just east of the Rt 32 intersection in Richmond.

The Selectmen reviewed and discussed the Police Department Schedule. The Selectmen would like more coverage on the weekend during the summer.

Ms. Favreau shared that John Greer submitted a quote in the amount of \$1,139 to repair the electrical panel. Ms. Favreau also shared that if Mr. Greer was paid directly, the town could get material at his cost. Mr. Greer felt the Police Department should be on a separate panel but his quote was the cost to fix the panel. Ms. Carney stated the need to get a quote on fixing the issue. Ms. Carney asked if a grant should be written for a larger generator and discussion was held on having a generator large enough to handle both the Police Department and the Fire Department, switching generators and having one for the shelter.

Ms. Carney shared that she would be writing a Home Land Security grant for emergency management for tablets and other communication devices needed to run an emergency shelter.

Mr. Holman asked about Meadowood if ownership changed and our vested interest in it being the town's shelter.

Ms. Favreau asked for vacation on Thursday and Friday. The Selectmen approved.

**ON-GOING BUSINESS**  
**Prime Wetlands Study**

Ms. Silverman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m. Mr. Holman seconded and the motion passed. 3-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Silverman, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Carney, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Holman  
Board of Selectmen