

Minutes
Selectmen's Meeting
August 20, 2012

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. Clem, Chris and Ron were present at the meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Account balances were reviewed.

Public Feedback:

Rod McElroy discussed a cemetery issue with the Selectmen. He received a call from someone that owns a large cemetery lot and would like to sell it back to the Town. The lot is mostly vacant with no burials or cremations on it. The lots, prior to adoption of the Cemetery Ordinance in 2002, were sold as 16' x 24' lots, sufficient space for 8 full-body burials. There are a lot of unused lots in the cemetery and the Committee feels they need to buy the lots back if the Selectmen agree.

Selectmen agreed to pay \$35.00 for each lot (4' x 12') that is available and the Town will be able to sell them for \$200.00 each. Prior to the Cemetery Ordinance, lots were \$35.00 each. Rod will check with the owner of the lot to see if this is agreeable to her.

Bud Stemm and Walter Bernacki were at the meeting to discuss the condition of the Kanokolus Road. They feel that the Selectmen have been wasting taxpayer money by patching the road since the road is in such poor condition. The Selectmen have been talking about turning the road back to gravel, but it's not in the budget for this year. Perhaps next year the entire road or a portion of will be in the budget.

Ron explained that the top priorities this year in road work are dangerous roads. Farwell Corner and Stagecoach Road. Safety is the first priority.

Town Office Committee Update:

Jean was at the Selectmen's meeting and said that the Committee is not ready to make any recommendations for a lot or building at this time. They are getting estimates from salvage companies on demolition of the house near the Community Center and the old high school.

Jean had checked with Dana Edward's on the status of Barb's Place. Dana said that he was going to be asking \$1750.00 per month for rent with no plans at this time for selling the building.

Chris met with Heather Perry about the possibility of the town office staying where we are in the school (no hope) or possibly having the lot behind the old high school. She said that would need to go to the School Board, but more than likely the old high school would be included in the deal and would need to be demolished.

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Road Work Update:

Chris has met with 2 contractors on the Stagecoach Road ledge problem. He hasn't received any estimates yet, but he's afraid that it might be over \$30,000 which will trigger the bid process.

Town Farm Road update: Randy Reynolds will begin surveying the area around Farwell Corner this week. After the survey is completed, Plymouth Engineering will make a recommendation to the Selectmen on how to proceed with the project.

Selectmen had no changes to recommend on the Mailbox Policy for Winter Roads. Sue will have it ready for adoption by the Selectmen at their next meeting.

New Business:

Selectmen (with Ron abstaining) signed the Abatement for Ronald Rudolph's 2011 taxes.

Selectmen signed the Assessor's Certification of Assessment for 2012 taxes. The mil rate has been set at 11.75, which is .65 higher than 2011. The increase is mainly due to the school budget. The county budget and the municipal appropriations are also slightly higher.

Selectmen reviewed and signed the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on September 6. The articles on the warrant are authorization to refinance the fire house loan and sell the old "historic" town office. Preparations will be finalized at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Selectmen agreed they would like to have Don Newell as moderator for the Special Town Meeting.

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July 16, 2012