

TOWN OF HEBRON
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2016

PRESENT: Patrick Moriarty, John Dunklee, Ellie Lonske, and Karen Corliss, Town Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: John Black, Bruce Barnard, Phyllis Rockwell, Mitch Manseau, Kirk Phelps, John Fischer (Fire Chief) Wes Morrill, Steve Williams, Bill Robertie, Parker Griffin

7:00 P.M. **PUBLIC HEARING – EMERGENCY LANES – WADE ROAD AND UPPER RANGE ROAD:** Chair Moriarty opened the public hearing on deeming Wade Road and Upper Range Road as Emergency Lanes. Chair Moriarty stated that he would like to address each road separately. Member Lonske informed the audience that once a road becomes an Emergency Lane it does not mean the road will be an Emergency Lane forever. A property owner (on a private road) or the town (Class VI Roads) can withdraw the Emergency Lane status anytime. Parker Griffin asked the Board why two the roads were being proposed to be deemed as emergency lanes. Member Lonske noted that it was due to the recent brush fires in areas that were not accessible by roads. Bill Robertie informed the audience that Hebron has a lot of back woods areas which are hard to access but access is critical in order to suppress the fire. Mr. Robertie noted that roads would act as firebreaks which assist the firefighters in controlling the spread of the fire. Chief Fischer added that while fire is the main issue behind designating these roads as emergency lanes, but the Fire Department had responded to a number of searches for people lost hiking in the rural sections of Hebron. Chief Fischer commented that even though the Fire Department has a UTV rescue vehicle; the rescue vehicle would be more useful if it had better access into the rural areas of Hebron, especially if the lost parties are injured. Member Lonske discussed gating the roads and distributing keys to the people who may need to access these roads in order to limit the access to the roads. Chief Fischer noted that there is a lockbox at the fire station where only firefighters can access the keys. Mr. Robertie requested a copy of the keys for various gates from the town so forestry would also have access to the roads. Vice-Chair Dunklee informed the audience of the town cannot expend funds on a Class VI Road and that the roads are subject to gates and bars. Bruce Barnard offered alternate solutions for the Wade Road. Mr. Barnard suggested utilizing Wade Road by accessing it through Favor Road on the snowmobile trail. Mr. Barnard noted that Pike Hill Road was not maintained by the town during the winter therefore making Wade Road inaccessible in the winter. Member Lonske noted that the Board was not looking for an either/or situation by looking for permission in to declare the road on Emergency Lane. Chair Moriarty informed the audience that three out of the four responses they receive from abutters, who were unable to attend the meeting, of Wade Road were against deeming it an Emergency Lane. Vice-Chair Dunklee noted that Wade Road was a Class VI Road, owned by the town, so the Board does not need landowner permission to declare an Emergency Lane, but the road could be subject to gates and bars. Bill Robertie noted that the Fire Department is looking to obtain access to backcountry land and where the trucks were not able to go this time. Parker Griffin informed the Select Board that he would take back the requests to Camp Pasquaney for the town to utilize Favor Road in order to access Wade Road. Member Lonske informed the audience that the Select Board was looking to improve water supply and access to back lots during fire emergencies. Wes Morrill asked the Board how the town plans on protecting the investment put into maintaining the roads that cannot be monitored as frequently as the Class V Roads. Kirk Phelps asked the Board for clarification on the procedure for passing the Emergency Lanes before the townspeople. Member Lonske noted that it is just through a public hearing and would not have to go the town meeting. Mr. Phelps noted that he walks the road quite frequently and was opposed to upgrades made to the road as it is a lovely lane and would significantly change if the road was not gated since the road was already traveled and damaged. Chair Moriarty read the article letter from the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Member Lonske felt that the Board would support installing gates in order to deter full-time access on the road. Mr. Phelps noted that all the property owners are looking to protect their land from burning. Mr. Phelps asked Mr. Robertie if an emergency vehicle could access Wade Road today. Mr. Robertie replied no even though the snowmobile club has maintained the road from brush growing up; the washouts prohibit the vehicle from traveling the road. Member Lonske noted that this would just allow the town to do minimal work to the road in order to make the road passable for emergency vehicles. Vice-Chair Dunklee stated that he would like to investigate the possibility of gating the road and about posting signage to deter vehicles from traveling down the road. Vice-Chair Dunklee would like to send a letter to the abutters stating the reason for the repairs to the road. Mitch Manseau noted that the Town of Plymouth's end of Wade Road by the cemetery needs a lot of work. Chair Moriarty informed the audience that there would be no vote taken on making Wade Road an Emergency Lane at this meeting. Phyllis Rockwell asked exactly what were the board looking to do on the road. Member Lonske replied that it would be minimal repairs. Bill Robertie commented on the work that needs to be done to the road would be repairing culverts, installing water bars, and adding stone and the necessary material to get traction on the road. Chair Moriarty stated that this would be tabled until

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further investigation. Steve Williams informed the Board that Class VI Roads are subject to gates and bars and noted that there is a lot of 4x4 traffic on this road now. Mr. Williams would recommend a gating the road.

7:35 P.M. **EMERGENCY LANE FOR UPPER RANGE ROAD:** Chair Moriarty noted that the Board would be taking comments and input for deeming upper Range Road in emergency Lane. Peter Downing informed the Board that his concerns would be that the road would be used more often for travel and would be wondering who would reimburse his costs for maintaining the road. Vice-Chair Dunklee informed Mr. Downing that the town would just be installing water bars and make sure the road is kept from washing out in order to be accessible by fire equipment. Member Lonske informed Mr. Downey that the town needs legal authority to clear the road. Tom Hahn, representing Green Acre Woodlands was in favor of declaring upper Range Road an Emergency Lane but recommended that the town develop a maintenance plan. Mr. Hahn stated that it would almost be impossible to catch someone damaging the road and that he would recommend gating the road. Member Lonske noted that the Board would rely on the Highway Supervisor, Bill Robertie, Fire Warden, and Chief John Fisher to make sure the road had the necessary maintenance in order for vehicles to the pass. Mr. Hahn relayed to the Board that he was more than willing to talk with them regarding gating roads. Bruce Barnard suggested Tenney Lane, a Class VI Road, as another Emergency Lane. Mr. Barnard offered to meet with the Highway Supervisor and Fire Chief on Tenney Lane to go over making it an Emergency Lane. Vice-Chair Dunklee noted that Tenney Lane could be added on the agenda for future. Vice-Chair Dunklee moved to accept upper Range Road as an Emergency Lane, seconded by Member Lonske. The vote was unanimous.

7:44 P.M. Vice-Chair Dunklee moved to close the public hearing at 7:44 PM seconded by member Lonske. The vote was unanimous.

7:45 P.M. **ACTION ITEMS:**

- The Select Board signed the **accounting manifest**.
- Chair Moriarty and Member Lonske signed the **letter to Camp Onaway** regarding the charitable organization forms.
- The Select Board signed the Timber Tax Warrant and the forms to be submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration.
- Chair Moriarty relayed to the Board that the Select Board does not have any authority to not sign the **Notice of Intent to Cut form submitted by Limited Editions Properties** according to Town Counsel. Member Lonske is willing to write a letter of protest in lieu of signing the Notice of Intent to Cut form. Chair Moriarty stated that it was not the Board's responsibility to enforce the law, but the board has a responsibility to make sure that the law was upheld. Mrs. Corliss informed the Board that she received a letter from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services stating that they were going to periodically review the site to ensure that the Best Management Practices were being followed. Vice-Chair Dunklee stated that he was not going to sign the intent, because the run-off from the operation would contribute to polluting Newfound Lake. Member Lonske wanted to communicate to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services that the Board does not want to sign because it will certainly cause erosion that would end up in the lake and polluting residential wells. Vice-Chair Dunklee moved to write a letter of protest instead of signing the Notice of Intent to Cut form, seconded by Member Lonske. The vote was unanimous.
- The Select Board signed the **Raffle Permit** submitted by the Union Congregational Church to hold a raffle on the day of the fair, July 30, 2016.
- The Select Board signed the **Gathering Permit** submitted by the Union Congregational Church for the Annual Church Fair to be held on the Hebron Common on July 30, 2016.
- Mrs. Corliss informed the Board that **FORECO, LLC submitted a letter looking for permission to improve the Class VI Road, Tenney Hill Road**, in order to do a logging operation. Vice-Chair Dunklee moved to give Green Acre Woodlands permission to perform road work on Tenney Hill Road, seconded by Member Lonske. Mrs. Corliss inquired about requiring posting a bond on Tenney Hill Road. Vice-Chair Dunklee amended his motion to move to give Green Acre Woodlands permission to perform road work on Tenney Hill Road requesting that a road bond be posted as recommended by Highway Supervisor, Casey Kuplin, seconded by Member Lonske. The vote was unanimous.
- Mrs. Corliss informed the Select Board that the **Report of the Locally Elected Auditors** was complete and handed the Board copies to review. Mrs. Corliss informed the Board that the Town Auditors wanted to set up a meeting with the Board for June 16, 2016. The Board agreed to meet with the Town Auditors at the July 21, 2016 Select Board Meeting.

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- Mrs. Corliss asked the Select Board for the **description of Berea Road** for the notices to propose to be deemed an Emergency Lane. Member Lonske stated that it would be to the culvert. Vice-Chair Dunklee stated that the culvert was on private property as designated on the site plan and the area from the culvert and below would be considered a private driveway. Member Lonske stated that Camp Wicosuta and Camp Berea need to access the lower portion of the property and would like to hold a public hearing to deem Berea Road an Emergency Lane to Camp Berea. Mrs. Corliss agreed to draft letters to the abutters of Berea Road for the Board to review before the letters are mailed.

8:17 P.M.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Mrs. Corliss informed the Board that the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services had sent a letter to Dead River Company regarding the Marshall property located at 56 Panorama Lane that outlined water testing requirements as a result of overfilling the oil barrel with #2 fuel oil causing it to flood the basement.

8:20 P.M.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Vice-Chair Dunklee informed the Select Board that he met with the Paula Cummings (Library Trustee) and Biff Wisner at the Library to **review the windows that needed to be repaired**. Vice-Chair Dunklee gave Mr. Wisner permission to obtain a proposal for vinyl replacement windows to be installed by Mr. Wisner. Member Lonske was against installing vinyl windows in a historic building. Member Lonske relayed to the Board that there are still residents that have concerns that the Select Board replaced the Selectmen's Office Building windows with vinyl windows which took away from the historic value of the building. Vice-Chair Dunklee informed the Board that he would ask Mr. Wisner to obtain a quote for wood windows.
- Mrs. Corliss informed the Select Board that there was a capital reserve fund entitled "Government Building Repair" and inquired about **withdrawing funds to cover the cost for the LED lighting of the Public Safety Building**. The Select Board was unaware that this fund existed and agreed to hold a public hearing to withdraw the funds from this capital reserve account. Vice-Chair Dunklee informed the Board that he e-mailed the company that manufactured the lights installed to see if a dimmable switch could be added to the lights.
- Vice-Chair Dunklee informed the Select Board that the roof over the door on the far side of the Public Safety Building was hit by a vehicle and had pulled away from the building. Vice-Chair Dunklee stated that he would contact Biff Wisner to look into repairing the overhang.

8:31 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The Select Board reviewed the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 19, 2016. Vice-Chair Dunklee moved to accept the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 19, 2016 as written, seconded by Member Lonske. The vote was unanimous.

8:32 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Member Lonske moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m., seconded by Vice-Chair Dunklee. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Corliss
Town Administrator

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