

Town of Hartford
Selectmen's Meeting
February 21, 2008
Minutes

Meeting began at 6:00pm to discuss the budget. Present at 6:00pm Selectmen David Bowen, Lee Holman, Clerk Lianne Bedard, resident Leslie Boness.

Selectmen began discussing the Administration budget. Amounts for two street lights (town hall and perhaps proposed parking area) and DSL were added to the budget. Discussion ended at 7:00pm at the Deputy Clerk budget line.

Present for meeting at 7:00pm: Selectmen David Bowen, Lee Holman, Hope McCabe (arrived at 7:20pm), Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Road Commissioner Jeremy Johnson, Comprehensive Plan Committee members Judy Hamilton and Peggy Poskus, Mowing contractor David Ferland, Plowing contractor Willie Bragg, CEO Jack Plumley, residents Gladys Russell, Charlie Posik, Kevin Ryan, Herb Stevens, Ruth & Tim Campbell, Daryl Boness, Joe Bedard, Reporter Mary Standard, land owner Jane Mickeriz and two representatives from Mainland Development.

- I. David called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- II. Open Session: Lee attended the FEMA rate map revisions workshop. The revised floodplain ordinance must be approved by July of 2009. Lee will share information with Lennie Eichman of the Ordinance Committee. Jane Mickeriz has reconsidered her previous proposal concerning the road construction bond for the Lake Field subdivision. She would like to place \$10,000.00 in a CD to be used for seeding or mulching if the developer did not complete the job. No lots are to be sold until the road is completed. Completed means gravel, culverts, and base. Tom Dubois of Mainland Consultants stated that the road construction limit is 300'. He stated that \$10,000 is enough to complete 300' of road at a time. Tom stated that the developers are required by DEP to construct the road in this manner. The CD is to protect the town and lot owners and is the least expensive method. David would like to get an opinion from our attorney. The Planning Board recommended \$8,000.00 from the sale of lots to go toward the road paving. Jane will provide any cost over \$40,000.00. Jane stated that the road is to be 1750' long. David is requesting written estimates for the road construction and paving. Lee asked whether there will be a road association or not. Tom answered yes, that is part of the DEP storm water permit. Drainage, culverts, and a detailed maintenance plan is required by DEP. The association will be responsible for compliance. Tabled until March 6th. Tom will be present since Jane will be away on that date.
- III. Reports
 - A. Road Report
 1. Winter Roads: Jeremy stated that there have been more complaints in the last month that we've had in years. He believes that the Willie doesn't understand what the town expects from him. David stated that he has had a lot of complaints. David stated that after the storm

is over the clean up is done but the problem is getting the roads open. Willie stated that he is usually the first one to hit the snow but he did miss one. Willie stated that during the last storm, we were the only ones out there. Gladys stated that her son works nights and has to kick down the snow bank at the end of Cary Hill Road to make it through. She stated that the plows are not out early. She leaves for work at 7am and her hill is not done. Gladys stated that the plows do not get to the back roads until the storm is over. Gladys thanked Jeremy & David Bowen for plowing the road and said the plow contractor has to be ready for the worst conditions. Charlie Posik told Gladys that this winter has been tough. David instructed Charlie to address the board not the audience. Tim Campbell stated that his road (Goding) has been passable and our situation is no different than other towns. He is happy with the roads. Hope stated that a resident of Goding Road is moving out of town because of missed work from the road conditions. Jack stated that everyone complains but there is not enough money to get the job done. David shared that the job goes out to bid. David added that we are over budget on sand. Willie stated that he had no salt for three storms. Joe suggested altering the contract. David stated that the contract has been sent to the attorneys for review. Hope stated that there are pages of complaints. We are all getting phone calls concerning the road conditions. Hope stated that she has praised Willie in the past but her road, Cary Hill, did not get plowed until David and Jeremy plowed. We have residents who are moving out and plow drivers who are being confronted by residents. Hope continued that the safety of the older residents is in jeopardy. If they need an ambulance they will die. She has never seen so many complaints and has had it. Darryl Boness suggested studying the contract for the future. Jeremy stated that the town has used the same contract for years and this is not the first year we have had a lot of snow. Jeremy stated that Willie is not organized or efficient. When he calls Willie to see if a road has been plowed, Willie does not now the answer. Willie stated that he does not ride with the drivers. Willie explained the route through Ricker Hill and Sam Anis. David asked how roads are missed. Willie stated that like on Howard Rd. he saw tracks through the road so he did not plow it. He figured that there must be traction. David would like to see improvements in the future. David stated that the consensus is that the work is not to our satisfaction.

2. Winter Road Plowing Policy: Lianne asked whether or not the Winter Roads Plow Policy should be updated since the Selectmen's letter for the newsletter stated that complaints be directed to the Road Commissioner. The policy states that complaints be directed to the town office to be logged in a complaint book. Selectmen amended policy to state complaints are to be directed to the Town Office and/or the Road Commissioner. David pointed out that the

policy also states that the contractor has 48 hours to push back banks not 48 hours to plow the roads.

B. CEO Reported: Jack recommended Willie Bragg or Harley Swanson for the Road Committee. Jack will confirm that they are interested. Jack has received no word from Ken Mains on the violations. Jack will send a certified letter to Mains stating the violations. David reminded Jack that our attorney is available for advice in the matter. Jack requested that the Road Commissioner be changed to an appointed position. He stated that the Selectmen would have more control.

C. ACO Report: not present.

IV. New Business

1. Comprehensive Plan Committee: Peggy stated that the final draft of the revised Comprehensive Plan is available for review. A Public Hearing will be held on March 5th at 7:00pm. After any adjustments are made to the plan it will be sent to the state for approval which could take up to 75 days. Peggy is requesting a Special Town Meeting in April to vote on the revised plan. David stated that we may have a better turn out if it was voted on at the annual town meeting in June. Peggy was concerned that the committee would have to explain the changes to residents who have not attended the previous hearings. This would be time consuming. Selectmen agreed to table the decision until after the hearing.
2. Mowing Bid Opening: Selectmen opened two bids for the mowing of cemeteries and municipal grounds. 1. C&C Lawn Care bid \$5,500.00 per year for the three year contract. 2. Three Seasons Lawn Care bid \$5,000.00 for the three year contract. David motioned to accept the bid from Three Seasons Lawn Care in the amount of \$5,000.00 per year for the term of three years for the mowing of town cemeteries and municipal grounds. Hope second. All in favor=3.
3. Resignation/Budget Committee: David motioned to accept the resignation of David Kraske from the Budget Committee. Lee second. All in favor=3.
4. Appointment/Ballot Clerks & Budget Committee: Lee motioned to nominate Leslie Boness as Budget Committee Member for a term ending June 30, 2008. David second. All in favor=3. David motioned to nominate the following as ballot clerks for a term of two years: Yvonne Bragg, Tanya Johnson, John Convey, Elizabeth Convey, Paul Robert, Anita Pottle, Morrill Nason, Arlene Nason, Rebecca McLeod, Carole Perry, Gloria Abbott, Daryl Boness, Susan Funtsch, Arthur Harvey, Sharon McCarron, Stephen Marston, and Margaret Poskus. Hope second. All in favor=3.
5. Nomination Form/ICS Position/Tom Standard: Lee nominated Tom Standard for the ICS Position on Oxford County IMAT. David second. All in favor=3.
6. Regionalization Meeting March 4th Buckfield 7pm: informational.

7. Workshops: no interest.
8. Fire Coverage/Rescue Coverage: Hope shared a road listing of fire and rescue coverage prepared by Lianne. Buckfield Rescue is looking for \$2719.20 to cover 9 roads; Buckfield Fire is looking for \$7372.70 to cover 17 roads. Turner Rescue is looking for \$3000.00 to cover 71 roads, Turner Fire is looking at \$5,000 to cover 25 roads and Canton Fire is looking for \$5,000 to cover 40 roads. Hope is researching options. She stated that Turner Rescue does not have the manpower to take over the entire town. Hope will contact Norm St. Pierre at Tri Town Rescue.

V. Old Business

8. Canton Lake Dam: David stated that the core committee, which he is a member of, is looking at one entity, either the Town of Canton or the Canton Water District applying for low interest funding to repair or purchase the dam. He shared that Fortier's fines are over \$70,000.00 at this time and that the Assistant Attorney General is taking Fortier to court for MEMA and DEP violations. The State may make him comply or abandon the dam. The committee thinks that if Fortier abandons the dam that the fines will be reduced. David stated that whoever takes ownership of the dam will have to repair dam and maintain water levels. The Core Committee has a petition for town meeting to raise money to help with the acquisition of the dam. Judy stated that Terry Hayes and Cheryl Briggs are looking into grants that the town, lake association or water district may qualify for. David stated that the flowage rights were signed over to Canton Water District and a temporary dam can be placed at the mouth of Whitney Brook. Land owner permission has not been received yet.
9. Tax Map Charges: Tabled
10. Curbside Pickup Delays: David received a call from Alan Archibald of Archie's. Alan stated that the Hartford Newsletter is incorrect in stating that if it snows on Tuesday; pick up will be on Wednesday. Alan stated that if the trucks cannot make it around town, pick up will be on Wednesday.
11. Review Bank Account Reconciliations: Selectmen reviewed reconciliations.

VI. David motioned to approve Selectmen minutes of February 7, 2008. Hope second. All in favor=3.

VII. David motioned to approve Warrants 74, 75, 76, & 77. Lee second. All in favor=3.

VIII. David motioned to adjourn at 9:15pm. Lee second. All in favor=3.

Minutes approved by:

David Bowen

Date

Lee Holman

Date

Hope McCabe

Date