

SELECTBOARD MEETING
September 24, 2009

Present:	John Quinn Robert Bancroft David Tilton	Gary Estus Nanette Rogers Charlotte Vincent
Guests:	Craig Butkus	Conrad Racine

The meeting was called to order by John Quinn at 7:03 p.m.

ESSEX RESCUE – COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Craig Butkus advised that Essex Rescue is forming a Community Advisory Board, of which a member from each community would serve on the Board. Essex Rescue would prefer the community member to be someone not currently serving on the fire department, police department or ambulance staff, but rather someone who has a strong connection with the community who can be the community's voice. Meetings will be held quarterly and be chaired by an executive member of Essex Rescue. Nanette will check with Sue Adams to ask if she is interested. If not, Nanette will serve on the Board until an interested resident comes forward.

ESSEX RESCUE –DISTRICT #3 PARAMEDICINE RESOLUTION

Rescue services, including Essex Rescue, are pursuing obtaining paramedic status to better serve their patients. Currently neither Essex Rescue nor Fairfax Rescue, which is in a different district, is able to administer pain relief medicines or some life saving techniques. Essex Rescue is applying for a grant to assist with the cost of transitioning to paramedic status. They have been planning for the transition for a few years and already have six paramedics ready to go when approved. The ultimate goal is to have this level of service available 24/7. This enhancement of rescue services in D3 would not be expected to take effect for at least twelve months to allow for training, etc., assuming their grant request is awarded. Fairfax Rescue is interested in piggy backing with Essex after the program has been implemented.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to adopt the Resolution in Support of Paramedic Level Care in Vermont EMS District #3, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed: 3-0.

Conrad Racine spoke with regard to Fairfax Rescue. He knows a resident that requested to be taken to Fletcher Allen but was taken to Northwest Regional. It was his understanding, as well as several residents he has spoke with, that if a patient requests Fletcher Allen the request will be honored. He added that several residents have expressed their dissatisfaction with having Fairfax Rescue serving Westford for this reason. Craig said that Essex Rescue has a good relationship with Fairfax but didn't know why the request wasn't honored.

Essex Rescue and Fairfax Rescue will meet with the Board the first meeting in December to discuss their proposed budgets and service.

DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the Drug & Alcohol Policy as amended, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed: 3-0.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS

The Town is considering switching to a high deductible health insurance policy with a Health Savings Account. The Town would contribute funds the first year and a reduced amount the

second year. Nanette will contact VLCT to request a representative to meet with eligible employees to explain the policy.

PERSONNEL POLICY

The Board amended language to reflect the new No Smoking Policy, the Town's contribution towards medical insurance premiums for eligible employees, and adding language for mileage reimbursement and compensation for attending seminars.

EVALUATION FORMS

The Board approved the format of the form. They would like draft copies for each position with the parameters submitted by employees. The Board deliberated whether the evaluation forms should extend to elected officials, and if so, who – full time, part time, those eligible for benefits. The Board will work on the forms for appointed positions and revisit the elected positions at a subsequent meeting.

CLASS IV AND TRAILS POLICY

The Board reviewed the draft. Language will be changed to be consistent within the policy, such as highway versus road. A revised draft will be reviewed at the next meeting.

ATV ORDINANCE

The Board would like the Trails Committee to review the section regarding ATVs on Town trails and recommend which trails it should apply to as well as when they will be open/closed.

ROAD SCHEDULE

Gary advised there is a stone wall being erected on Old #11 Road; it is too close to the road. He has spoken to the contractor but a letter should be sent to the property owner.

Beavers on Seymour Road are working in between the baffle and culvert, which is causing the water to backup. A letter will be sent to the property owner asking them to clear the baffle and conduct routine maintenance.

Gary would like to paint the dump bodies of the trucks black. They will be easier to touch up and will cost approximately one third less than using red. The Board approved using black.

The Board and Gary discussed how to find a temporary driver for during the winter months when a road crew employee is out for an extended amount of time. A notice will be posted on the Front Porch Forum seeking CDL drivers who would be interested in driving for the Town on an on-call basis.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the Road Schedule for September 25, 2009 through October 8, 2009, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed: 3-0.

ACCESS PERMIT

The Board approved an access permit for Craig McDonald's subdivision located off Plains Road.

ROAD NAME – MCDONALD SUBDIVISION

Dave Tilton made a motion to approve Sandy Knoll as the name for a private road which is part of the McDonald subdivision off Plains Road, seconded by Bob Bancroft. Motion passed: 3-0.

TRAIL USAGE PERMIT

The Chair signed a permit to operate a motor vehicle on Covey Trail to Frank Ammirato. A permit will be sent to A. Johnson Company and Bornstein for the Goodrich Trail.

BILLS/CORRESPONDENCE

Bills were approved, correspondence was read.

MINUTES

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2009 as amended, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed 3-0.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes of May 21, 2009 as written, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed 3-0.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2009 as written, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed 3-0.

ADJOURN

Dave Tilton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob Bancroft. Motion passed: 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Quinn, Chair
Westford Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Clerk