

SELECTBOARD MEETING
October 22, 2009

Present:	John Quinn Robert Bancroft David Tilton	Gary Estus Nanette Rogers Charlotte Vincent
Guests:	Conrad Racine Lynn Gauthier John Doane	Wayne Brown Glenn Rogers Greg Barrows

The meeting was called to order by John Quinn at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Conrad Racine and Wayne Brown met with the Board to discuss emergency services. Conrad stated that the Town meant well by splitting ambulatory services to reduce response times however he feels that residents should have a choice as to which hospital they want to be brought to. Residents were told they would have a choice when the Town discussed the split. However when Fairfax Rescue is dispatched, in most cases the patient is brought to the Northwest Medical Center in St. Albans, which is not a trauma facility.

Wayne Brown spoke of his experience. One year ago he had a heart attack. His neighbor, who is a nurse, requested that he be brought to FAHC. He was brought to Northwest and then transported to FAHC. He was later told that if he had arrived any later at FAHC extensive, irreparable damage would have occurred to his heart.

Conrad said he doesn't have a problem with Fairfax Rescue but he does have a problem being brought to Northwest. John believes that Fairfax Rescue is following orders from the medical director. Essex Rescue and Fairfax Rescue will be meeting with the Selectboard in December. Conrad suggested a letter from the Town supporting transport to FAHC. The Board said it will send a letter.

BROOKSIDE CEMETERY ASSOC. – FY'11 BUDGET REQUEST

Glenn Rogers was present. The Brookside Cemetery Association is requesting \$1,600, which is the same as last year's request. They are considering approaching the Town to take over the cemetery. It is believed that the Town will need to vote on this.

PLEASANT VIEW CEMETERY – FY'11 BUDGET REQUEST

Lynn Gauthier presented Pleasant View Cemetery's budget request of \$1,000. This is level fund from last year. They have applied for a grant to have some stone work done.

WESTFORD CEMETERY COMMISSION – FY'11 BUDGET REQUEST

Lynn Gauthier presented the Cemetery Commission's budget request. They are asking for \$4,200 which is level funded from the current year. There is a large tree in the Osgood Hill Cemetery that needs to be removed before it falls damaging stones.

Lynn advised there are only two cemeteries that have associations: Brookside and Pleasant View. It would make sense to have all the cemeteries managed by the Cemetery Commissioners, particularly combining the perpetual care funds in one account.

The Board discussed with Lynn and Glenn the possibility of paying a stipend to the person, in this case Lynn, who is responsible for handling the arrangements regarding the town's

cemeteries. Lynn advised that she handles managing the funds, purchasing of plots, preparing a plot for a burial, etc. She would not be opposed for some form of compensation for her time and travel expenses.

BRICK MEETING HOUSE SOCIETY – FY'11 BUDGET REQUEST

John Doane and Greg Barrows presented a budget request of \$4,500 which is level funded from the current year. This amount will assist with continued renovations. If necessary, the amount requested could be reduced to \$4,000.

LISTERS – FY'11 BUDGET REQUEST

Conrad Racine met with the Board to discuss the Listers' budget request. The Listers would like to take over their records and not hire APAS again this year. They are requesting \$12,500 for salaries, a new printer, continuing education, and license and software fees.

HUNTLEY ROAD CULVERT AGREEMENTS

The Chair signed agreements with the Metropolitan Planning Commission and Dubois & King regarding the grant for the Huntley Road culvert.

STATE POLICE CONTRACT

The State Police submitted a new contract; the contract is dated October 2009 through June 2010 to coincide with the Town's budget. The Chair signed the contract.

TRAILS ORDINANCE

The Board approved the proposed amendments. They are waiting for more information from the Town's attorney before proceeding.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION

Bob advised that VLCT explained the High Deductible/Health Savings Account (HD/HAS) policy to the Town's eligible employees. The employees have advised Bob of how much they have spent in the past year. The majority of the employees would not benefit from switching to the HD/HAS. The Town will keep the plan it is currently offering its employees,

PERSONNEL POLICY

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

CAPITAL BUDGET

The RPC has submitted a draft budget. Items need to be prioritized; figures need to be added and comments if necessary. Melissa, Bob and Charlotte will work on it.

ROAD SCHEDULE

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the Road Schedule for October 23, 2009 through November 13, 2009, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed: 3-0.

STONEY RIDGE SIGN REQUEST

The Board received a request to install a "Not a Through Road" on Stoney Ridge. The Town will order and install a "No Outlet" sign.

MPO REPRESENTATIVE

Rich Elmore is not able to continue to be the Town's representative. He would like to see a person actively involved in the Circ highway, as well as other issues, be appointed. The Board

will check with Suzanne Blanchard to see if she is interested in the interim until a new person is appointed.

BILLS

Bills were approved.

MINUTES

Dave Tilton made a motion to approve the minutes of July 24, 2009 as written, seconded by Bob Bancroft. Motion passed 3-0.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes of October 2, 2009 as amended, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed 3-0.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to approve the minutes of October 8, 2009 as amended, seconded by Dave Tilton. Motion passed 3-0.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Quinn, Chair
Westford Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Clerk