

Selectboard Minutes  
May 29, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:08pm

Present: Noreen Suriner, Chair; Alan Vint, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser  
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Warrants were reviewed and signed. Payroll: \$7,220.63; Expenses: \$13,056.10 &  
30,620.79

Minutes of last meeting were reviewed and approved with minor changes, 3-0.

Mail was reviewed. General discussion on opening of mail addressed to specific board  
members. Mail addressed to Chair to be opened by Chair.

Board was advised Town is lacking a member on the Gateway Regional School Board;  
request for interested applicants to contact Board will be put on Town web-site and also  
in the Country Journal. Also, seeking volunteers to form a committee to review and  
revise Town By-Laws will also be in the Country Journal.

Noreen advised the Board she had contacted a plumber regarding the leaking toilets in the  
ladies room as well as the faucets in both bathrooms. She was given a price of \$840 for  
the repairs and replacement of the measured faucets. She is going to check with the  
plumber to see if the new faucets meet the handicap criteria.

Letter was sent to the Fire Chief commending him on the receipt of his plaque and to see  
if he were interested in applying for the Chief's position for the next fiscal year. Letter  
was signed by all Board members.

Mitch moved to retain Noreen as Chair of the Board and Alan 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Alan spoke that the Chair often rotates to show that all Board members are equal; Mitch  
understood but would like Noreen to remain. Vote was 3-0 to retain Noreen as Chair.

Mitch moved to also retain Alan as Clerk, Noreen 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote was 3-0 to retain Alan as  
Clerk.

Noreen moved to have the Board start meeting on their summer schedule and meet every  
other week; the meeting week would coincide with the warrants. The meetings would be:  
June 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, July 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, August 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Alan and Mitch agreed to try and see what happens and the Board can always reconsider  
and schedule a meeting if it is needed.

Mitch 2<sup>nd</sup> the every other week scheduled; vote was 3-0 in favor.

An open meeting complaint was received by the Board regarding statements Alan made at a Board meeting that were stricken from the minutes. Alan reiterated he had a valid point that the whole Board was not educated on the school budget. Mitch felt the statement was not relevant and the Board was not obligated to explain. Noreen said the Board needs to stay focused on the issues. Alan still felt his statement was inappropriately removed. The Board will respond to the complaint by the June 18<sup>th</sup> deadline and if the response does not satisfy that person, it may go to the Attorney General.

Marie Pease stated she filed the complaint and the problem she had was that the person making the statement wanted it left in the minutes but the other 2 members voted it out. It felt like censorship.

Mitch said Alan's statement was not relevant to the issue at hand and Alan was expressing his feeling.

There was further discussion between the Board and residents on this issue. It was suggested the Attorney General be contacted on this point.

Next discussed was a letter received from Janine Savoy regarding the Citizen's Petition that was on the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) warrant. The petition was to affirm the discontinuance of the road currently referred to as Harry Pease Road (HPR).

Mary Wheeler stated the 1984 vote that accepted roads at the Annual Town Meeting stands per the Attorney General. That portion of HPR in controversy was not included as an accepted road for that meeting.

Tim Pease requested the Town file the results of the ATM vote on the road with the Registry of Deeds.

Noreen said the Town would follow proper procedure.

Noreen and Alan met with Shawn Liddy, State Forester, and walked some of the Town owned lands. He would also like to meet with the assessors to discuss Chapter lands with them.

There was a brief discussion on the insurance coverage for the fire and police disability coverage; it will have to be reviewed for the next fiscal year to make sure the members have adequate coverage. Also, non-volunteers that respond to a fire are not covered under the Town's policy.

Alan brought up the Inspector General's letter and the steps taken to answer the complaints brought forward. The only issue unresolved was the fuel at the Town Garage and the resolution for that was defeated at the ATM by the residents.

Noreen advised the Board a \$500 grant was given to the Board of Health for upgrades and she will discuss with the Health Agent for ways to use the grant. Also, Curt Robie was instrumental in obtaining an \$850 grant under the COOP Plan. And MEMA approved \$1,750 for the generator.

Alan said the Town is looking for a Veteran's Agent, residents to serve on a Personnel Policy Committee and a group to form a Kitchen Committee.

Also, the State turned down the Town's request for "Entering Middlefield" signs as they are only provided for numbered state roads. They suggested using Chapter 90 funds for the signs.

The bid to mow the Town's lawns will be posted; the individual will be considered a town employee but must provide his or her own equipment.

Gary Wheeler wants the Board to check on the Open Meeting law regarding the last Executive Session that was held as it was posted as an Executive Session and not an open meeting. He stated it had to be posted as an open meeting, and then the Executive Session could be held.

Marie Pease gave the Board an article from the Country Journal that showed the Board appointed Neil Nickerson to the Discontinued Road Committee in June 1995.

Marie also mentioned the triangle in the center of town needs to be maintained as it looked horrible as the flowers were not being maintained. Perhaps it should go back to grass so it could be mowed and kept up.

Highway Superintendant, Skip Savery, addressed the Board regarding a driveway permit for Maryann Walsh, 172 Skyline Trail. He checked with the State and was told since it is not a State Highway; the town would regulate any permits. He wanted to check with the Board before issuing the permit. Walsh is going to open a general store on her property. Skip said there would be angle parking and should not interfere with traffic.

Alan said she will need a Special Permit to operate as there will be re-sale of items.

Skip said he is grading Clark Wright Road, will be submitting the bid specs for the new truck to the Central Registry and his equipment is in good shape. He is looking to purchase a laptop for the department and is leaning toward a Mac as the customer service is better than the others he has looked at.

Joe Kearns, Finance Chair (FC), asked the Board if they had any issues for a Special Town Meeting. The Board has no issues at this time. The FC would like to meet with the Board at the next meeting to discuss the transfer of education funds to the Vocation Education account.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Noreen 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote was 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease  
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser