

Town of Canterbury
Selectmen's Meeting
May 18, 2020

Selectmen Present: Cheryl Gordon
Art Hudson
Robert Steenson
Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM

Administrative

The Board signed: A/P Manifest
P/R Manifest
2020P1 Tax Warrant
3 Intent to Cut Applications:
Map 225 Lot 5, Map 241 Lot 28 & Map 205 Lot 3
Letter to Cold Garden Springs-Outdoor Seating
Letter to Mt. Music Winery-Wine Sales at Farmers Market

Minutes

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the April 4, 2020, Selectmen's meeting. Art made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Appointments

Monthly Department Head Meeting with the Board:

At 5:00 Sam Papps, Town Clerk/Tax Collector reported that on 5/8/20 he processed the Tax Liens. Jamie, our Deputy Town Clerk, has been stuffing renewals and has filed the returned digitized files. He said that he and Ken will be making the Plexiglas screens. He also reported that the digitized files have been returned and are on the hard drive. He presented the tax report of outstanding balances due as of today. Total uncollected is \$188,827. Bob commented that it is the lowest it has been in a while. Cheryl said it has been running low for the last couple of years. Bob said it could change with the Covid-19 issues, but it is encouraging. Sam brought up the Primary in September and the Election in November. He questioned the Selectmen as to where they should be held. Cheryl said they haven't discussed it yet, but she feels they should be held at the school. Bob said there should be planned entrances and exits. Workers are at most risk, so there should be ample ventilation. Art agrees that the school would be a good location. Sam will wait to hear their decision by August 1st. Sam stated that he has budgeted for a new DMV printer and would like to purchase it. Cheryl asked how it is going working with the open window and how does it work for signing paperwork. Sam said he schedules signatures for when everyone is in to have witnesses.

At 5:10 John O'Connor, Road Agent, reported that his crew has been busy getting Baptist Hill Road ready for paving and culvert replacement by June 15th. Currently, the Packer is down but should be ready tomorrow. They will be starting phase 1 recycling on Wednesday. Ken said they are scheduled for glass and cardboard. John said that the glass would be deposited in the concrete dividers down below as you drive in and they would be taking 2 cars at a time in the

building for garbage. There should be plenty of room to get around for the cardboard. Bob mentioned that a handwashing station would be a good thing to get. It's not too expensive and holds 25 gallons of water. John does not believe it's necessary and no further action will take place. Patrice Rasche was on the line and said she would put the phase 1 plan for recycling on the town-wide email and refer everyone to check the town Facebook page for updates and details. Ken will post it on the town Facebook page. John also reported that the 1st culvert on Hancock Road is crushed and plugged and the culvert further on is plugged by the beavers. Bob asked John if he knew when the new truck would be ready. John said that due to Covid-19 the factory is closed and he doesn't expect any news in the foreseeable future.

At 5:18 Scott Doherty, Interim Fire Chief reported that calls have been light probably due to Covid-19. There was a double fatal fire in Salisbury. He stated that the new engine committee met last night. All is in the air due to the current economic reality. They are discussing a basic fire engine and possible lease options. The Zoll monitor has been purchased and is in service. Ken mentioned that he got the PPE invoice and that a copy is being kept in a Covid-19 reimbursement folder. Ken also reported that Dave is doing a good job keeping him up to date on what is going on. Ken informed them that he posted the Fire Chief position on NHMA website, our website, and the town's Facebook page. He has not posted it in the Concord Monitor as yet. It is so expensive that he wants to wait and see how the response to the current postings goes. Scott mentioned that he posted it with the State. Scott had a comment about the Planning Board meeting in which he was present for the discussion of Hancock Road. He just wanted to make the Board aware that in his opinion the road is in terrible shape and that he might be able to get their equipment in an emergency, but probably wouldn't be able to get it out.

At 5:25 Mike Labrecque, Police Chief, also reported that their calls are still slow. They have about 2 arrests every weekend. The car stops are picking up. He said they visited 358 Intervale Road in reference to a resident living in a camper. The resident's response was that it will only be for a little while. The resident was told that it is not allowed. Mike said the body cams are in and simple to use. As soon as the training is finished they will be in service and on at all times. He applied for a Speed Grant today for \$3,500.00 for 25 4 hour blocks. He also ordered active shooter kits with grant. Bob told Mike that there have been fireworks going off after 10 pm on Hackleboro Road. He said it sounds like it is before 57 Hackleboro going toward the Center. Mike said he would talk to Tom Bibeau, since he is on duty at that time, and have him try to make contact.

At 6:05 Ann & Jay Berry were on the line to discuss underground utility installation on Welch Road. They said it would extend from 68 Welch Road to their location at 45 Welch Road. They have been working with Gary from Unutil to work out a plan. They will be installing it 30" down, using schedule 80 conduit and installing pull boxes every 500'. Telephone and Cable would be in the same ditch. John O'Connor said that there are no other situations like this in Canterbury. John mentioned his concern that the digging could disturb the rock culvert. Unutil thinks it will be ok. The Berry's said that it would be difficult to put poles in due to rocks and trees. Ken said this should be mapped out in detail so everyone knows where it is. Bob mentioned that maybe it should be legally recorded. Ann said Unutil needs a letter from the town stating that they approve. All of the Selectmen said they would be in favor of underground as opposed to poles. Ken will check with the town attorney to make sure the town is covered as far as RSA's are concerned, and that he will let Ann know if they will draft a letter. Bob asked Ann what her schedule is and she said they would like to get started as soon as the paperwork is in place.

New Business

Kim Scamman of 59 Harmony Lane was on the line to discuss culvert replacement on the downstream side of Rocky Pond (South End). Ken thought it was a Class VI road but he did some investigating and discovered that that section is considered a private road so the town doesn't have any authority on that end. It is Class VI further up. Kim is one of 18 property owners and stated that the culvert that was installed in 1979 is deteriorating and needs to be replaced. The cost of replacement is beyond the landowners' means and she will be applying for a grant for assistance. She may need consent from the Town of Canterbury's Conservation Commission, as well as Loudon, in letter form. Bob said he feels they will have their support if they make it past the application phase. Art & Cheryl inquired about the cost. Kim stated that she is an engineer and that she estimates that it would be \$50K for a replacement in kind and that an open bottom culvert would be \$200K. The concrete alone would be around \$80K. Bob said that the town had replaced old bridges and culverts with precast concrete decking and footings. John O'Connor mentioned that Northfield just did one near exit 20 on Route 140 if she wanted to check it out. Kim said she would continue to explore options.

Ken explained that Jan is working on the GOFERR Corona Virus Relief Fund Grant. Cheryl made a motion to authorize Ken Folsom to be the designated signing authority for this grant. Art seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call. Motion carried.

Updates from Ken

In regards to the 4th of July fireworks, Ken reported that Loudon was not interested. They have their fireworks when they have their Old Home Day celebration. He also contacted the Speedway about using their venue and he hasn't heard back from them. The fireworks company that we use needs to know what our plan is. Art wondered if we could maybe have them in the fall, and said we shouldn't make them wait for our answer. Bob suggested we pay for it and see if we can hold them later on or have really good ones in 2021!

Ken stated that he got an inquiry about opening the Riverland Beach. Bob feels we should open it. Art feels it should be closed due to creating crowds on the beach and not being able to promote social distancing. Cheryl said it would be hard to enforce and you can't police it. You can't close the beach but you can keep the parking lot closed. Art will talk to Mike Lebreque, Police Chief, to see what he thinks. Bob suggested we could ask the state to see what they are doing.

Ken said there would not be a Memorial Day Parade but the Memorial Wreath will still be displayed.

Ken said he discussed the Reval with Mandy and she is willing to do it, but not sure if it is a good time in light of the market at this time. She said she can come in and discuss it with them. Bob said we are undervalued by 23%. Art said the advantage of waiting until next year is the possibility of getting the Covid-19 vaccination. Bob said it was a good conversation to have with Mandy. Ken will schedule Mandy to come in for the June 1st meeting.

Ken had a message for the board from Bob Fife about planting a new maple tree in the Center Cemetery where the old one was just cut down. Bob wanted to let them know that now is the best time to plant a new one and he can get one for \$140 if they would like. Art said that we

definitely should get one there. Upon discussion, the Selectmen decided that they should spend a bit more and get a more substantial tree. They are thankful to Bob Fife for his input but will explore a different avenue.

Ken stated that he sent the letter to BH Holdings regarding the excavation on 381 Intervale Road and hasn't had any response from Mr. Hiltz. DES said that BH Holdings needs to work on their reclamation plan. Mr. Hiltz also has not replied to the state and today was the deadline. There is a lot of material on site. The Board asked Ken to contact our attorney and start the process for a Cease and Desist. Tyson Miller is on the line and is in agreement with this decision.

Ken reported that he got a call from the Mckerleys stating that they are waiting for a ZBA hearing regarding an Accessory Dwelling Special Exception on the brand new building they put up on 2 Oxbow Pond Road. Due to the fact that the ZBA is not holding meetings, they are experiencing a financial difficulty while waiting for a decision. Bob wanted to know why they were not having meetings. Joe Halla is concerned about people being able to see the documents in person. Tyson said he talked to Joe and he was toying with the idea of having meetings in the Town Hall so they could spread out and adhere to the Governor's 6' spacing rule. Tyson is going to tell Joe to go ahead and do it with the Selectmen's support.

Old Business

Cheryl asked if there was anything new to be presented regarding the Hancock Road Class VI Waiver Application. She said that since it has been thoroughly discussed already that each person would be limited to only new information and 5 minutes' time to speak. Leslie Ciano of 491 Shaker Road, an abutter, was on the line and said it was the 1st time she had heard about it. She was concerned that there was a camp there and questioned how sanitary it was. Bob said that they had received an application from Mr. Pounds for a single-family residence just past Mr. Saviano. He told her that most of the commentary has focused on the shape of the road. Ken stated that Mr. Pounds was told that the camping was a zoning violation and he shut down the operation. Leslie doesn't want them doing anything on her property and agrees that work needs to be done on the road. Bob and Cheryl agreed that there would not be any decisions until the June 1st meeting. Josh Gordon was on the line and mentioned that it is a high-value conservation area and wanted to remind them about the dam issue. Bob replied that this issue was pretty well discussed already. Art feels that a decision needs to be made regarding the waiver document. Bob agrees. Art asked about the verbiage of emergency vehicle access. Ken stated that he was not prepared to discuss this tonight. Bob said he was willing to volunteer to work with John O'Connor on the inventory list of Class VI Roads. Art is not convinced that we need a policy for each Class VI Road but is willing to agree that it needs to be looked into to see what the project would entail. It was decided that they would have a non-meeting consultation with legal counsel before the next Selectmen's meeting.

Art made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Hauptman
Accounting Clerk