

Town of Canterbury
Selectmen's Meeting
June 1, 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
Perambulation Appointment Slip
Yield tax warrant

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the May 18, 2020, Selectmen's meeting. Art made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

New Business

Because Mr. Pounds is on the phone now, the Board of Selectmen re-arranged the agenda to speak with Mr. Pounds to discuss the agenda item: Hancock Road Class VI Road Waiver application. The Board is not prepared to have this conversation at this meeting as they are waiting for correspondence from Town Counsel. They have received correspondence from both Mr. Pounds and Joshua Gordon for them to consider. Bob asked Mr. Pounds what his plans were for the existing small cabin that is on the property. Mr. Pounds explained that he may leave it as is a guest house or for storage. Bob explained that the only way it could be used as an accessory dwelling unit (guest house) the structure would need to be with 500 feet of the proposed single-family residence. Mr. Pounds explained that he has had a conversation with Joshua Gordon, the proposed new house may be relocated which would be within the 500 ft. needed to allow the current "camp" to be considered an ADU.

Joshua Gordon was also attending the meeting via the telephone asked when will this Class VI Road waiver be addressed. Bob suggested that they put this first on the Agenda for the next meeting on June 15th.

Appointments

Assessor Mandy Irving

Mandy wanted to discuss the time table of the revaluation. Her original plans were to update the values this year. Our current ratio is 81.3% which is below the acceptable percentage. Mandy proposed to the Selectmen to re-qualify all the credits and exemptions this year and next year when the State starts to open up, she can begin to do physical inspections for the revaluation.

Mandy will keep the Board updated.
The Board thanked Mandy for attending the meeting.

Treasurer Al Edelstein stopped in to pick up the accounts payable checks. Al reported that he has spent up to 1 ½ hours in line at the bank. Bob suggested that he use the night deposit box at the bank. Al questioned if using the night deposit box meant that the deposits would need to be made at night. The Board replied, no, he can use the night deposit and time of the day. He would need to go to the bank and get some locking night deposit bags. Al said that he would look into this.

Sumner Dole and Gordon Jackson – to discuss landscaping in the center.

Sumner explained that he has surveyed the trees in the center and has developed a long-term plan for replacing trees within the center. He submitted a listing of the current trees and their condition along with a rating sheet and a schedule of replacing various trees with species that would be successful. Various species would be planted, some need to be more tolerant because of the salt and runoff from the road.

A brief discussion was held on what diameter of the tree should be planted and when they should be planted. Sumner feels early spring or in the fall is the best planting time and the diameter should be between 1 ½' to 2". Gordon agreed with the schedule but felt that the diameter should be in the 4" range.

Bob suggested that maybe the Board should not embark on such a large purchase of trees now and to take a look at this in the fall and see where the budget is at.

Art suggested that they plan on planting 2 trees by the Cemetery wall this fall. Bob agreed as they will have an idea what the budget looks like this fall.

Sumner suggested that the Selectmen set up a tree replacement account and deposit funds into this account annually.

The Board thanked Sumner and Gordon for attending.

New Business

The Selectmen discussed opening up the town beach and gate at the parking lot at Riverland. Ken explained that he spoke with Chief Labrecque, the gate was slated to open up On May 30th, but has remained closed until the Selectmen had an opportunity to discuss a timeline. Chief Labrecque recommends opening the parking lot.

David Day via telephone explained that that area is the busiest in town. The porta-potty has helped but feels that the town may need to address some of the on-going issues, such as:

- Proper procedures are created and followed.
- Dates and hours should be enforced.
- Police should start ticketing for violations.

David feels that people using the parking lot and beach are not getting the message, it may be time to re-evaluate the policies of town beaches. David said that 90% of the people that come to the beach are not from Canterbury. Bob explained that the town cannot restrict the beach to residents only.

David commented that Police presence at the beach is minimal, dogs are running around off their leash. David addressed an old sign in the parking lot that states "No Alcohol", but people are bringing alcohol to the beach. Bob explained that Canterbury does not have an open container law. Ken stated that the Conservation Commission was to take that sign down a while ago.

Ken stated that the Police have made a concerted effort on locking and unlocking the gate. Art suggested that if cars are still in the parking lot, they could be ticketed. Ken reported that the path to the river from the parking lot will be widened and mowed this year.

The Board thanked David.

The Selectmen reviewed a Zoning Board Hearing Notice for a property on Baptist Road. Ken said that he will be attending the hearing as an abutter. The Board expressed concerns with the requested special application. Ken explained that the owner built a barn without getting a building permit. The Historic District Commission Chair visited that site and instructed them to remove the wire fence and put up a wood fence. This has yet to be done. Bob explained that he doesn't believe the property could handle any more activity than what is current.

Ken explained that under RSA 236:12 no more than 4 unregistered vehicles are allowed on an individual's property. There are 3 piles of sand in or near the right-of-way.

Ken questioned where the additional parking for their events would be. This property is along the gateway to the center. Bob suggested that a member of the Board of Selectmen attend the hearing as it appears that there may be zoning violations already. Art made a motion to authorize Bob to attend the Zoning Board hearing on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Board reviewed a notice from the Rocky Pond Association that they have an agreement with SOLitude Lake Management to treat a portion of Rocky Pond.

The Board reviewed a draft permit application for underground utilities. Bob volunteered to draft the requirements needed.

Updates from Ken

Ken reported that he has received a proposal from U.S. Cellular for cell phone service. He and Chief Labrecque each had a test phone to check the cell service around town. This proposal would produce a savings of about 5%. The cost would go from 395.00 per month to 337.20 per month including the boosters and air cards for the Police Department. The new phones would cost \$0.01 each. Bob felt that if Ken and the Police Chief were satisfied with the proposal, they should go forward. Cheryl and Art agreed.

Ken explained that he has received a progress report from CNHRPC. They have only received 130 responses to the survey they distributed to the townspeople.

Ken explained that Loudon was not interested in joining Canterbury to host the annual fireworks at NHMS so we will not have fireworks on the 4th of July but was told by JPI Associates that August 8th or the 15th is still available. JPI Associates explained that they shoot the majority of the fireworks from the soccer field and offered as an alternate plan they could eliminate some of the fireworks that are shot from the ball field and extend the crowd halfway across the ball field. Art stated that he would rather see the fireworks happen later in the summer.

Ken was told by the Road Agent John O'Connor that the wire-feed welder has lost the ability to use heavy wire. The welder is old and cannot get parts for it anymore. The cost to replace it would be around \$2,500.00.

Old Business

The Board discusses the proposal from Sam Papps to purchase a parcel of land on Snowshoe Hill Road. Ken explained that Sam wants to own a piece of property in Canterbury and cut firewood off the lot. Bob questioned if this should be put this out to bid, get a cost on a comparable parcel of land? A brief discussion was held and to be transparent the Selectmen will submit a notice on the website, newsletter, and town email that this property may be available.

The Selectmen discussed a Class VI Road Waiver submitted by Mr. Duval for Rum Brook Road. Mr. Duval attended the meeting via telephone. He purchased the property and didn't realize that he would have the burden of upgrading the road to a Class V standard. The Road Agent was specific on the requirements to upgrade. Bob questioned exactly where in the road he is requesting the upgrade. Bob would like to review these requirements with John as he feels that some of the requirements should be considered maintenance and shared with the other residents on the road and not solely on Mr. Duval. The board will get back to Mr. Duval.

Art made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on June 15, 2020, at 5:00 PM at the meetinghouse.

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,

Jan Stout
Administrative Assistant