

TOWN OF HILL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING #2
September 7, 2021

Selectmen Present: Tom Seymour, Shaun Bresnahan, Christopher Gronski & Lisa Seymour
(Administrative Assistant)

Selectmen Absent: None

Public (@ 6:35 pm): David Thomson, Thomas Angeley, Frank Razzaboni, Stephen Thomson, Caroline Hines, Tom Whitman, Bruce Blazon, Mark Labonte, Joann Irving, Lee Herterich, Charles Estes

Thomas Seymour brought the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Tom Seymour made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 6:20 pm; seconded by Shaun Bresnahan. Motion passed unanimously. RSA 91-A:3, II(b).

Tom Seymour made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 6:35 pm seconded by Shaun Bresnahan. Motion passed unanimously. A motion made not to seal the minutes passed unanimously.

FIRE DEPT:

Chief Jamie Moulton sent an email to the Selectmen about a security camera system that was found at the fire station. Tom Seymour said he would like to have more information about the system before agreeing to installation. Tom was concerned about system access and whether or not the system would also record audio. Chief Moulton will be asked to provide more details. Christopher Gronski suggested a policy or procedure should be developed if the system is approved for use.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

The Selectmen asked Dean Stevenson to obtain a quote for the work needed for the 550 to pass inspection.

The guardrails on the bridge on Shop Road are falling off the underside is crumbling away. Shaun Bresnahan suggested Dean obtain jersey barriers and place them at the bridge. Reflectors for the barriers would be needed and signage should be posted to alert drivers of the bridge's closure. The Selectmen asked Shelly Henry to send out an email blast to further advertise the bridge closure.

Dean asked when he can begin tearing up sidewalks. Tom Seymour told Dean he cannot as no decisions have been made regarding the sidewalks. Shaun Bresnahan indicated the Selectmen should hold a public hearing during the next normally scheduled meeting (21 September 2021) to gain public input.

POLICE DEPT:

Interviews are ongoing for position of Police Chief.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Shelly Henry thanked the Selectmen for seeing her candidate for Deputy Town Clerk / Tax Collector.

Shelly advised she has been working on the tax deeding letters and should have them prepared for the Selectmen to review very soon.

Shelly also let the Selectmen know that her office would be closed Thursday, 9 September 2021, so she may attend a New Hampshire City & Town Clerks Association conference.

When asked, Shelly said she would send an email blast and post on the town website to alert residents of the bridge closure on Shop Road.

PARKS & RECREATION:

An email was received from Best Septic Service Portable Toilets advising their service technician found hypodermic needles and blood in the portable toilet in the town park. With this finding, along with the uptick of illicit drug incidents in the region, Parks & Recreation have removed the portable toilet.

HEALTH OFFICER:

Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION:

David Thomson asked about the status of a barn renovation located at the corner of Murray Hill Road and Route 3A. Shaun Bresnahan noted that he has seen a recent increase in building related activity. Representatives of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustments in attendance did not have any information relating to the activities. Steve Thomson expressed concerns that the property may fall within the well head protection area which could prohibit special exception for multiple dwellings. Unfortunately, no one has been able to find the mylar overlay used to illustrate the well head protection area location. Shaun Bresnahan said he would check with Lakes Region Planning Association to see what they might have. Lisa Seymour said she would contact Bob Helmers, Planning Board Chair, to see if he might have the mylar overlay. The Selectmen will send a cease and desist letter to the property owner to protect the owner from spending considerable dollars on a project that may not be permitted.

Dave Thomson, Steve Thompson, Charlie Estes, Tom Whitman, Shaun Bresnahan, Christopher Gronski, and Tom Seymour engaged in an energetic and emotional review of the conflicts between the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board. The focus was on how well, or not, the boards followed documented requirements – state or local. The Selectmen will be asking Bob Helmers, Planning Board Chair, to attend a non-public meeting and the minutes won't be sealed to assist in clearing up issues.

Bruce Blazon asked about the property deeding process that Town Clerk / Tax Collector Shelly Henry referenced earlier. The process was outlined. Mr. Blazon further inquired if the town followed state requirements and if the town had ever been sued over the property deeding. He as informed the follows state requirements. No one could a recall an instance where the town had been sued over this process.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Building Permits:

Reynolds – Barn: Approved

Intent To Cut

2 Intent to Cut Applications were approved.

Other:

Town Warrant for Payroll and Accounts Payable was reviewed and approved.

Selectmen Meeting Minutes July 20, 2021 – Approved by Shaun Bresnahan and Tom Seymour. Christopher Gronski abstained as he was not in attendance at that meeting.

Shaun Bresnahan updated the board on the Tyler Gates issue on Liden Road. The person residing on the property has left, the porta-potty has been removed, but the camper is still present. Will need to follow up with Mr. Gates on the status of camper.

Shaun Bresnahan spoke with a property owner on Axtel Road regarding a complaint alleging the property owner had posted the Class VI road with no trespassing signs, thus blocking access to the water. The property owners responded to Shaun's visit with the following:

"The homeowners at 42 Axtel Road wish to thank Shaun Bresnahan for his visit with them on August 30. The homeowners asked for the meeting, so that they could understand what is included and what is not included in their property rights. Based upon the information and advice shared by Shaun, the homeowners request that the following be included in the next Selectmen Minutes.

The homeowners categorically deny the report in the July 6, 2021 minutes that anyone has been "told that [they] cannot go down to the river anymore". The homeowners deny that "the property is not posted". The homeowners state that what they have told people is: (1) that they cannot trespass on the homeowners' property to reach the river; and (2) they cannot park on the Class VI road, because that would be blocking access on the road.

The "No Trespassing" sign referenced in the July 20, 2021 minutes is not "in the middle of the class six road"; the sign can remain at its current location on the private property of the homeowners. The homeowners have affixed two "inward-facing" "No Trespassing" signs near the end of the Class VI road. Traversing in the area between the signs and to the river is permissible. Traversing outside that area – either upstream or downstream -- is not permissible.

In addition, no parking is permissible on the homeowners' private property."

Tom Seymour reported the town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant application has been accepted. The grant is paid out in two installments. Hill will receive \$115,996. The first distribution equals \$57,998.06, with the balance will be due in 2022. The funds may only be used on COVID related projects (Public Health, Negative Economic Impacts, Services to Disproportionally Impacted Communities, Premium Pay, Revenue Replacements, Administrative Expenses) or limited infrastructure (Water, Sewer, Broadband) projects. A Public Hearing needs to be scheduled and held in order to formally accept the funds before it can be spent. An ad must be placed in a newspaper at least 7 days in advance of the scheduled Public Hearing. Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to schedule a public hearing on October 19, 2021 @ 7:00 PM in the Selectmen's office to discuss ARPA funds and how they will be used per RSA 31:95-b, III(a); Tom Seymour seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The 2021-2022 Budget Committee will begin its season Wednesday, 22 September 2021. Four members of the Budget Committee are attending the New Hampshire Municipal Association's Budget & Finance Workshop on Tuesday, 14 September 2021. This training will expose the attendees to the requirements of state law.

With no further business to conduct, Shaun Bresnahan made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Christopher Gronski seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

