

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

Present: Selectman Maxfield, Ives, and Bowles.

Also present: Road Agent David Rice.

Chairman Maxfield called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- I. Selectman Ives moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, August 14, 2007 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
- II. The Board met with Road Agent David Rice.
 - a. Mr. Rice advised the Board that the Highway Department had a couple of trucks breakdown today. He stated that the 1996 truck that was involved in the rollover a few years ago has to be sent to Liberty, as there is a noise in the motor that the mechanics cannot get to.
 - b. Mr. Rice said that Alan Minery has been moving along with the roadside mowing and gave a list of areas that have been completed so far. Mr. Rice advised the Board that he had spoken with Mr. Schneider of Ilona Lane explaining that Mr. Minery was currently mowing the Ridge area of Town and would be making his way to Ilona Lane.
 - c. Mr. Rice said the Highway Crew was working on grading roads.
 - d. Selectman Ives inquired about the status of Clough Pond. Mr. Rice said he had multiple calls from residences on the pond regarding issues with drainage from the last storm. He advised the Board that when the Highway Crew grades the road, they would tip it towards the ditch on the uphill side of the road. Mr. Rice stated there are a couple of culverts that need to be cleaned out, and once that is taken care of, he thinks the water should drain like it use to. Chairman Maxfield asked what type of complaints Mr. Rice was getting. Mr. Rice said water was running down into people's driveways. Selectman Ives asked about placing crushed banking in that area. Mr. Rice said that he couldn't build that area up because the driveways are paved up to the road and if he builds it up the owners are not going to be able to get on to the road. Mr. Rice said the road had been graded with a crown in it, but now if they grade the road all one way, it should address the issue. Discussion ensued regarding the driveway on Berry Road and the 16 ½-foot right-of-way from the center of the road. Mr. Rice stated that he had measured and the structure is not within that 16 ½-foot right-of-way. Selectman Bowles asked what the width of the driveway was

relative to the 30-foot width approval. Mr. Rice said he did not measure the width of the driveway. Selectman Ives asked about the excavator for use at Clough Pond. Discussion ensued.

- e. Selectman Ives asked about the new truck for the Highway Department. The Board reviewed the invoice for the new truck.
- f. Selectman Ives asked Mr. Rice if he had heard anything from DES regarding the dam at the Loudon Country Club. Mr. Rice stated he had received the same correspondence as the Selectmen.

III. Selectman Ives moved to encumber funds to pay for the litigation for a Police Department labor dispute in the amount of \$21,600.00 with funds to be taken from the Police Department Regular Salary line, account #01-42100-100-110 in the amount of \$10,800.00 and from the Legal Services line, account #01-41531-300-320 in the amount of \$10,800.00. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. Chairman Maxfield stated when the Board said “encumber” they encumber funds from last year that were remaining to cover this litigation. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.

- a. The Board reviewed a draft letter to be forwarded to H. L. Turner Group regarding the dry hydrant at the Village Dam.
- b. The Board discussed the assessing pickups and current use update information regarding Cross Country Appraisal Group and the monthly billing. The Board will talk with Jeff Earls of Cross Country Appraisal Group regarding the billing and work to be completed.
- c. The Board received copies of the draft estimated revenues for submission to Department of Revenue Administration. Chairman Maxfield stated that Motor Vehicle fees have dropped a bit as have Current Use Lien Release Penalties.
- d. The Board received a proposal from Steve Fifield for repairs to the cupola on the Community Building. Chairman Maxfield stated the total amount is \$1,850.00. Selectman Ives moved to encumber \$1,850.00 for the repair of the cupola on the Community Building from the Town Office/Community Building repairs line, account #01-41941-400-430. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. Selectman Bowles stated if there was any way to increase the funds to \$2,000.00 - \$2,200.00 in case of unforeseen issues he would like to do that; however, if it cannot be done, he understands. Selectman Ives agreed. Chairman Maxfield stated Selectman Bowles would need to amend the motion. Selectman Bowles said he was not sure that legally, the Board could do that with encumbered money if it is not in written form. Discussion ensued regarding encumbering the \$1,850.00 and if needed utilizing the money in the new budget for any unforeseen problems that could arise. All in favor. Motion carried.
- e. The Board received copies of a letter from Auditor Paul Mercier regarding the Library’s request to transfer appropriations. Selectman

Bowles stated Mr. Mercier does not support decentralization of the accounting records, and feels the issue of having to have additional accounts will be more costly to the Town. Selectman Bowles stated one of the items the Library Trustees feel is an issue has to do with purchase discounts they think they would be able to get with the decentralization of the funds. He went on to say that with the Library not forwarding their bills to be paid on time, that will cost the Town more money in interest fees and he does not feel the Library Trustees are working on trying to save the Town money with their actions. Chairman Maxfield stated he spoke with the mediator and asked her to try and encourage the Library Trustees to forward their bills to the Selectmen's Office for payment. The Board stated that at this time, the bills have still not been forwarded. Selectman Ives said that the Library Trustees have always been able to take advantage of discounts, as the Selectmen are not the ones that approve the purchases; the Selectmen's Office pays the bills. He said whether the Selectmen's Office paid the bills or the Library Trustees paid the bills, it would not have any bearing on the discount issue. Chairman Maxfield stated the Selectmen have the authority to disapprove any bills that they feel are not appropriate. The Board stated they do have the authority to not approve a purchase; however, they have not had any reason to do so in the past.

- f. The Board received copies of the Library budget submitted on November 11, 2006 noting the part-time wage line indicating that they were waiting for the town rate increases to compute this line.
- g. The Board received copies of the US Department of Labor fact sheets on Police and Fire employees for review.
- h. The Board received information from Attorney Mayer regarding the Baillargeon litigation. Discussion ensued. Chairman Maxfield will contact Attorney Mayer.
- i. The Board received copies of the water analysis from Clough Pond Beach.
- j. The Board received copies of correspondence from DES to Loudon Country Club regarding an unregistered dam at the 12th Hole.
- k. The Board received copies of a memo from Emergency Management Director Sigrid Little regarding training records for the CERT Team members.
- l. The Board received copies of the July 30, 2007 Planning Board Work Session Minutes.
- m. The Board received the ESMI compliance report for July.
- n. The Board was reminded that there is a vacancy in the position of Trustee of the Trust Funds, which needs to be filled. The Board will look into finding someone to fill the vacancy until the appointment term expires in March of 2009.

Selectman Bowles moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

THE LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Roger A. Maxfield, Chairman

Steven R. Ives, Selectman

Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman