

TOWN OF BARTLETT – SELECTMEN’S OFFICE

Minutes of Selectmen’s Meeting: Monday, November 24, 2014

Attendance: Selectmen Doug Garland and David Patch (Gene Chandler absent)

Meeting opened at 4:00PM.

Frank Pingree, 65 Birch Ledge Road, attended the meeting to express his concern that the Bartlett Police Dept. prosecutor is also serving as the police chief and that this is dangerous as it causes a stress factor and unnecessary shootings. Pingree stated he had facts from across the country to demonstrate his point and briefly reviewed them. Officer Janet Hadley Champlin was present for this discussion as she is the prosecutor for Bartlett and is the officer in charge if the part time police chief is not available. Pingree stated that he feels it is almost like a conflict of interest to have the department organized this way. Selectman Garland stated that he understands his concerns but disagrees with his position and that he doesn’t have his facts correct as to how the Bartlett police dept. is running. Officer Champlin is the prosecutor but is not the chief as she only has backup should the chief not be available. Pingree stated that is not what it said in the newspaper. Garland stated that the newspaper does not run our dept. and what he has stated is how it is being done. Pingree stated that it is this type of situation that sets up stress points and causes people to shoot people. Garland explained that many police depts. have their chief as their prosecutor for violations and misdemeanor cases and it is allowed in this state. Bartlett has had their chief or an officer as the prosecutor for a long, long time and it has worked well and there have been no shootings. Garland stated that this is a small town and he is proud of it. Pingree stated that that was the problem and left abruptly.

Selectmen reviewed the building permit for a condo (Unit #43) at the Sky Valley property which fronts on the river. He had been asked for a floodplain certificate for the unit but the information he submitted has not been signed by an engineer and although the plan shows he is out of the floodway, Selectmen have concerns that with the changes in the river that the unit may be in the floodplain. The permit will be returned to him with a letter asking for the correct information.

The owner of the tractor trailer that was involved in an accident last week wants to get his logs and truck back. Selectmen indicated to the police dept. that since this company is from Canada, we need to be sure that we are paid for our services before releasing any property. We have billed for the police details already and just got the fire dept. invoice this morning. Garland checked with Don Ryder about his bill and he indicated he had worked it out with the tow company, Valladares. Selectmen agreed to send the fire dept. bill to the owner in the amount of \$3,192.50 and we would release the property when this is paid.

Selectmen signed checks and reviewed correspondence and building permits as time permitted throughout the meeting.

Motion was made by Garland, seconded by Patch to adjourn. Vote = meeting adjourned at 5:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn P. Jones, Admin. Asst. to the Selectmen  
(Secretary Brenda Medeiros was absent)