

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: July 2, 2018

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, Vicki Garland

Absent: Selectman David Patch

Visitors: Erik Corbett, Darlene McEnaney, Kevin McEnaney

Reporters: None

Meeting opened at 03:30 PM.

Angela Huertas, Patsy Rogerson, Brenda Dissanayake, Ajith Dissanayake, Valerie Rothen, Jeff Rothen and Bill Fabrizio of the Saco River Ad Hoc Flood Committee met with the Selectmen. Huertas inquired if we had received funding from FEMA. Chairman Chandler replied not yet. Huertas inquired about the up coming walk of the river damaged areas. Selectman Garland stated that it is scheduled for August 15th at 10:00 AM at the Glen Fire Station and they will be looking at different areas than they did before. Huertas inquired if they could find an engineer to get estimates. Chairman Chandler replied that is being premature. Huertas showed the Selectmen the North Country Paper that states there are grants available for public assistance and there is plenty of money out there. She also inquired if they qualify for the severe repetitive loss program? Chairman Chandler replied that he believes that article in the paper is dealing with snow storms.

Selectman Garland inquired as to the sequence after the hiring of the engineer. Chairman Chandler replied that depends on the extent of the damage. We did receive word from Hazardous Mitigation that we would be covered 100% for the wing walls extensions.

V. Rothen inquired what is that? Chairman Chandler explained that it is the concrete at the bridge that will be repaired and raised but we do have to get an estimate which we have asked our engineer to do. Rogerson stated she is glad they are doing work at the bridge but her concern is the levy/dike and what has been submitted. Chairman Chandler replied that everything has been submitted. Rogerson inquired if the town had decided if the levy/dike was considered private or municipal property. Chairman Chandler stated that will be up to FEMA to make that determination. Rogerson remarked then the process of events is to have them accept the project and once that is done we get estimates.

J. Rothen asked what is next as none of the projects have been done. He stated that if his roof leaked he would get an estimate for repairs, and get it repaired so what do we need to do. Chairman Chandler stated that we need to find out what projects FEMA will accept. J. Rothen mentioned that there is money in the special article and the general fund so we could work parallel with FEMA. Chairman Chandler stated that there was no appropriation done and the money in the special article can only be used as a match of the Federal Disaster Relief Fund. Fabrizio inquired if we had received any permits yet? Chairman Chandler stated that the permits are not an issue. V. Rothen spoke up and said we are running out of time. Chairman Chandler acknowledged that it is taking longer than we like but we are at the top of the list. Fabrizio asked if we could take money out of the surplus category listed in the town report. Chairman Chandler replied that there is no excess money and any money we spent now probably would not be retroactively paid by FEMA. Lynn Jones, AA, commented that we have never received money in advance for any project involving FEMA. V. Rothen is concerned that raising the wing wall will send more water down River Street. Chairman Chandler replied that we are having an engineer look at this project. Chairman Chandler also stated that we have inquired from FEMA to please let us know if there is anything else we should do.

Chet Hooper of the New England Inn (1RT16A-166-R00) met with the Selectmen in reference to the AirBnB's that are popping up in the residential areas. He would like to know what the difference is from his business and theirs. He rents rooms and cottages and has to pay the State a room & meals tax which the town receives a portion of so everyone is losing money. It is making it tough on commercial businesses and there is no housing available for employees. Selectman Garland stated that we have asked the Police Chief to let us know if he has any problems at an Airbnb and we would have the Fire Chief do an inspection of the house to see if it meets the fire codes. Hooper replied they are competing with us and we are at a disadvantage as we have to have a different septic system, parking requirements, sprinkler systems, etc.. Hooper stated they are running a commercial business and yet they have different standards. Chairman Chandler stated that we don't have an ordinance for them and we don't set the regulations. That is done through the planning board. McEnaney commented that per the National Fire code that when there are between 4 to 16 people renting a place it is considered lodging. Chairman Chandler stated that we will check with our attorney and get his opinion as to what is the best way to handle the situation. McEnaney stated that he had looked up the rentals for Bartlett and there were over 30 so the State must be losing money. Selectman Garland remarked that we don't disagree and this is a world wide problem. Chairman Chandler stated that we share your frustration and we will check with our attorney.

Police Chief Keaton informed the Selectmen that the same person who donated the truck to the police department is offering to give them a black Dodge Charger car with around 50,000.00 miles on it. Selectman Garland inquired if this was in addition to what we have or to replace one. Chief Keaton said that he is still thinking about it as it is different from what we have. Chairman Chandler inquired if we have a cruiser that has high mileage on it. Chief Keaton replied that car #2 has around 111,000 on it. Chairman Chandler requested the Chief give him a list of the cruisers we have, their years and mileage on each one. Selectman Garland inquired who would pay for the cost of the set up. Chief Keaton replied that the donor would.

Chief Keaton requested to enter nonpublic session for a personnel matter. Selectman Garland made a motion at 04:25 PM to go into nonpublic session per NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Chairman Chandler seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous. Selectman Garland made a motion at 04:55 PM to end the nonpublic session. Chairman Chandler seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

Chairman Chandler read into the meeting minutes an e-mail from Peter Gagne (1THORN-54-R00) that reads as follows: "I am writing in regards to the illegal dump at Glen Builders office on West Side road. I believe this could be an environmental hazard and ask Selectmen to walk property and contact DES. I realize the company is bankrupt but ultimately the land owner is responsible for clean up."

The Selectmen signed checks, reviewed building permits and correspondence throughout the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 05:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.