

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: July 27, 2012

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, Douglas Garland, David Patch

Reporters: None

AT 8:00 AM the Selectmen met Josh McAllister, P.E. of H. E. Bergeron Engineers, Inc. and Kyler Drew of L. A. Drew, Inc. at the Cow Hill road construction site and did an inspection of the road repairs.

Richard Ayer (2RT016-181-G11) met with the Selectmen for clarification on his abatement. Ayer stated that in November he received a preliminary assessment from Cross Country Appraisal Group (CCAG) which just gave a total assessment that wasn't broken down in regards to land and building. In January his neighbor attended a meeting with Cross Country Appraisal and they received a reduction in their value. Ayer stated that he called Cross Country Appraisal and they were suppose to redo his valuation, but he doesn't know if they did it or not. He has the smallest acreage and not as much view as #8 which actually has a view of the falls but #8's value is \$50,000.00 less than his. Selectman Garland commented that if #8 has more land and a better view but is \$50,000.00 less that he can't understand that. Chairman Chandler stated Ayer and units #9 & #10 are equal and perhaps #8 should come up in value. Ayer stated that he feels like he is getting the short end of the stick. Chairman Chandler is going to take a drive up White Birch Lane and take a look at the property and will get back to Ayer.

Al Griffin, his son – Cormac (Matt) Griffin and co-occupant Gartini Isa, met with the Selectmen in reference to him receiving a break on his 2010 taxes. A. Griffin presented each Selectman a folder which they reviewed. Chairman Chandler commented that they hadn't applied for an abatement in 2010. A. Griffin stated that he had written a letter to Mr. Chandler on 12/22/10 and had never received an answer. Chairman Chandler stated you wrote a letter in 2010 and you didn't come to meet with the Selectmen until 2012? A. Griffin stated that he had been waiting to hear from the Selectmen as he has never been through this before. Chairman Chandler stated but you did request an abatement for your 2011 taxes and the process is the same as it was for 2010. Chairman Chandler also explained that the letter he sent doesn't qualify as an abatement request. A. Griffin stated that he isn't requesting an abatement, but a hardship request because of the economics. Selectman Garland explained that economics is not a reason for an abatement as there are a lot of people who don't even have cable nor do they own two properties and they pay their taxes. A. Griffin stated that the additional penalties of first 12% and then 18% interest aren't fair since he was waiting for an answer to his letter of Dec. 2010. A. Griffin inquired about the tax lien process. Chairman Chandler explained that the tax collector is the one who does the tax liens so they should really ask her what the process is. Selectman Garland stated that they should have received a more timely response and he was wondering if they got abated the penalties would they be satisfied. Selectman Garland stated that he is trying to understand everything and in some way it is our fault but we are unable to give an abatement as the time set by the State for 2010 abatements has expired. Chairman Chandler checked with the tax collector and informed the Griffins that there is a lien on the property now for the 2010 taxes. A. Griffin stated that he did

pay the taxes for 2011 but not 2010 and he just doesn't know how the process works. Chairman Chandler replied that he really needs to talk to tax collector to obtain all the details. A. Griffin inquired as to how the town relates to the Lower Bartlett Water Precinct (LBWP). Selectman Garland explained that the town doesn't have anything to do with the water. Selectman Patch explained that LBWP is a precinct within themselves. A. Griffin inquired then who do we go to with a problem with the water. Chairman Chandler stated that if there is a problem with the precinct that they are governed by the public utilities. Selectman Patch mentioned that the responsibility of the water precinct ends at the shut off. M. Griffin stated that they don't know where the pipe is. Selectman Garland inquired if perhaps they could call Dig Safe. M. Griffin is looking for a map that shows the water line. Selectman Garland stated that we have nothing to do with the water and have no maps. M. Griffin inquired if he needed the town's approval to dig across the road. Selectman Garland explained that if he was digging up the road that he needed a permit to excavate in a town road (this permit was given to Griffin) and that he would have to repair the road to the town's standards. Once again Selectman Garland inquired if the penalties were waived would they be agreeable to it. A. Griffin stated that they would. M. Griffin inquired if there was a new ordinance to say that they changed the size of the water line. Selectman Garland stated that would be the precinct not us. We deal with the taxes but not the water. M. Griffin stated that he wants to move into that unit so he needs the lien removed and the water taken care of. The Selectmen will discuss waiving the penalty and let the Griffins know what they decide to do. (The Selectmen discussed and agreed that Griffin should pay his taxes and \$35.00 to cover our costs for certified letters, etc. that has been sent to him and to waive the rest of the interest penalty. A letter will be written to him explaining all of this).

Atty. Chris Hilson requested that Chairman Chandler and Selectman Patch accompany him to meet with Ed Furlong and to do a walk of the Furlong (5RT302-23-L00 property which they did. They left at 09:55 AM. Selectmen Chandler and Patch returned to the meeting at 10:30 AM.

Selectman Garland made a motion to accept the Accu-temp bid for a day tank to be added to the town emergency generator at the school. Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Patch made a motion to change the rates for charges that are billed out for the fire department to the following: 1.) Fire Chief rate from \$25.00 an hour to \$35.00 an hour. 2) Fire fighter rate from \$15.00 per hour to \$20.00 per hour. Selectman Garland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

Police Chief Timothy Connifey met with the Selectmen to let them know that he is still working on obtaining some free lockers, chairs, and file cabinets for the town. Some of the items will be coming from Texas which may be a problem. Chairman Chandler inquired as to how many towns are involved in getting supplies as perhaps each town

could chip in a couple hundred dollars to get the items here. Chief Connifey will check on this. Selectman Garland inquired if the Chief is planning on organizing and getting rid of some of the items cluttering the basement. Chief Connifey replied that Officer Champlin has already organized the evidence rooms; he has removed all the hockey gear and will be cleaning other items out as well and organizing the remaining items.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.