Town of Woodstock Selectmen's Meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Selectmen: Jim Fadden Jr., Joel Bourassa, Gil Rand

Staff: Judy Welch, Steve Welch

Public: Fred Englert, John MacKay, Paul Rand

Joel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Jim seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Public Participation:

Paul Rand:

Paul informed the Board that he was before them under the guidance of the Planning Board. Paul explained that he had subdivided a piece of his property in 2013 and was looking for approval to add access to lot C on the subdivision plan. Paul explained that this access would be coming off an existing driveway, not a town road. However it would create three private driveways going to three dwellings off one access. Paul also noted that lot C would be land locked if he didn't receive approval for a third driveway. Jim motioned to grant access from Lot B via Lot A to Lot C per subdivision plan 14382 dated December 10, 2012. Joel seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative. Gil abstained.

Paul offered to pursue a State of NH Driveway Permit to access a dry hydrant location on a piece of property he owns on Lost River Road directly across the street from Russell Farm Road. Jim motioned to have Paul move forward with the driveway permit to add an additional dry hydrant location. Joel seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative. Gil abstained.

Fire Department/John MacKay & Fred Englert:

John informed the Board that the Fire Department was looking to replace the tank truck as soon as possible. He explained the truck was in very poor condition and he didn't know how much longer it would be able to respond to fires. Jim explained that Bill Mellett removed the tank truck from the equipment schedule and indicated that there really wouldn't be a use for it with new equipment such as pumpers. Jim questioned what the difference was between a tank truck and a pumper and if any mutual aid towns would be able to assist if our tank truck was out of commission. John explained that the difference is in the gallons; a tank truck can hold up to 1800 gallons and a pumper holds up to 1250 gallons. John stated that a tank truck from Sugar Hill, Lincoln, or Campton-Thornton could respond for mutual aid if necessary. Jim informed John that the fire department isn't up for any new trucks until 2018 and money has been appropriated to the capital reserve based on the information provided on the fire department equipment schedule. Jim asked John to review the equipment schedule, establish a plan, explore an alternative truck for 2018, and revisit it again in 2016.

The firefighters would like to do roof shoveling as a fundraiser and training exercise. The Board thought this would be a great opportunity for the community but were concerned about the liability. The Board would like to get preapproval from the insurance company before authorizing this.

Fred questioned the deadline for petitioned warrant articles. He would like to see the term of Fire Chief changed from a one year to a three year term. The Board would support a term change and suggested that Fred allow the Board to seek legal counsel before he started a petition.

Minutes of the January 6, 2015 Meeting:

Jim motioned to accept the minutes of the January 6, 2015 Selectmen's Meeting. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Abatement/Ralph & Ruth Bradley:

Ralph & Ruth Bradley completed a boundary line adjustment and lot merger in June 2012. The original acreage of Map 124 Lot 013 was 75 acres and the final acreage should have been 14.42 acres. The assessors misread the plan and the acreage was never changed. Ralph brought to the town's attention that he was still being taxed on 75 acres as of December of 2014. Assessor reviewed and adjusted on December 22, 2014. Gil motioned to grant the abatement based on the information provided. Joel seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Email/Lincoln Town Manager/Rex Caulder/Paul Beaudin:

The Board reviewed an email from the Lincoln Town Manager that updated them on his findings in a complaint lodged by Rex Caulder in regards to Paul Beaudin taking time away from his duties at the Solid Waste Facility to "spy" on Caulder Construction. The email was taken under advisement and no action was taken.

Warrant:

The Board reviewed the 2015 Warrant for Town Meeting. Jim motioned to accept the Warrant as presented. Joel seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Review Letter/Tax Payment Plan and Interest Reduction/Christine Berlo:

The Board reviewed a letter from Christine Berlo asking the Board to consider waiving the penalties, fees, and interest she owes on her back taxes and to allow her to continue with her monthly payments. The request has been tabled until the board is able to receive input from the tax collector.

Application/Cascade Park/Kravchuk:

The Board reviewed an application from Kravchuk to use Cascade Park on July 4, 2015 for a wedding ceremony. Joel motioned to conditionally approve this application. Joel asked that a letter be sent explaining that Cascade Park is a popular place for residents and visitors especially on July 4th. Joel asked that the letter stress that traffic cannot be restricted in any way. Jim seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Application/Cascade Park/Blye & McLaughlin:

The Board reviewed an application from Katherine Blye & Shawn McLaughlin to use Cascade Park on August 8, 2015 for a wedding ceremony. Joel motioned to approve this application. Jim seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Old Business:

New Business:

The Board reviewed a quote and financing proposal from EJ Prescott for the replacement of the water meters and the water meter reading system. No decision was made and discussion was tabled.

The Board reviewed proposals from Pennichuck and Welch's Water &Wastewater Services for contracted services to run the municipal water system. The Board agreed that a contracted service was more cost effective. Joel motioned to amend the Selectmen's recommended budget to include the contracted services for the municipal water system, beginning no sooner than April 1st, and remove the appropriation for an additional fulltime employee without raising the bottom line of the budget.

Signed Checks.

Jim motioned to adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

February 10, 2015

R. G. Rough