

Present: Laurieann Milligan, Tim Holland, Rick Vaughn, Ed Ferland, Joe Roach, Dick Powell, Mark Irish, Marie & Bill Eastman, Cherri Crockett (RFT reporter); Vera Parent; Kathy Hussey. Chairman Milligan opened the meeting at 6:24 p.m. following a workshop with the Elementary building committee.

**Minutes for June 28, 2010: Tim motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.*

Minutes for July 8th, 2010: Ed motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

Please initial Warrant #26 corrected form: all initialed as approval and acknowledgement thereof.

Warrant #1 – Rick motioned approval; Tim seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

Review Selectmen's Ledger

Joe Roach – Road Commissioner. Joe stated that he has spoken with the individual who painted the crosswalk on lower East Shore Road. She was concerned for the safety of the kids due to speeding and erratic drivers. Joe told her that the Town cannot allow people to paint on their own crosswalks and encouraged her to contact the police when she has issues of concern.

Joe added that he has received some prices for a new Town truck and hopes to present the figures to the Board next week. He added that there is some major competition to sell the Town a truck. If a proposal is signed soon, he would anticipate delivery of the truck in the early fall. Marie questioned that the truck is a special order to Town specs? Joe said yes, for the most part...they build the truck how you want it.

Public Participation: Dick asked what the cost is to the Town (per hour – all benefits, etc. included) to have three Road Dept. employees and equipment. He asked the Board / Joe to get that information for him. He then asked Joe if the Dept. is a Road Dept. or a Public Works Dept. Joe replied a Road Dept. Dick then asked why they were spending time working on the area of land between Main Street and Demerritt Cemetery? Joe said that he volunteered time and equipment. Dick then questioned who built the parking area to the right of the road around the corner from the Town Office parking area? Tim replied that the spaces were added for viewing games in the field – the funds to do so were donated. Dick stated that that is irrelevant as the area is eroding and affecting the pavement. Joe said he is working on that issue.

Dick continued that he understands the Town wants to pave the area of Gammon Road from Gaudin's on. He added that they should send a skidder crew there first, as the trees are in the road, not brush. Rick asked Joe if he had started on that project yet? Joe said he is surveying the work to be done. He added that he cannot reverse what has or hasn't been done in the past 40-50 years. Laurieann stated that she encourages healthy conversation and discussion so long as it doesn't become a personal attack.

Dick said the Selectmen make certain comments and that he hopes they have their facts straight. There are a number of other Towns this size that would like to have Peru's budget. Dick said he received a card stating there was confusion on the LD1 issue.....that there are two sides to the issue and it is the Selectmen's job to inform the taxpayers. Laurieann replied that the Selectmen give their time from their jobs, passions, families and more to sit here and serve the Town.....that we're included in any tax increases also; I am proud of what the Board has done with the budget, things cost money. We are trying to find what we can do to manage the Town as a business, which is what it is.

Dick replied that you need to look at every aspect, the budget is a disaster, the excess surplus now goes to equipment, articles are combined so that funds can be swapped around. Vera disagreed, stating that accounts had been combined to ease voting, that it is not the intent to swap monies, it is illegal. The articles are voted onwhat the legislative body approved. Joe stated that Rick volunteered time and equipment as well, that we are not all demons. Dick stated that when the Town Office was moved and utilized funds from surplus from renovations.....open ended.....Vera stated that no more funds can be taken from surplus without voter approval for the Town Office.

Marie asked who the committee is that voted on the June 8th warrant before it went to the voters. Laurieann replied the Selectmen build the budget and make recommendations, then present to the Finance Committee for their discussion and recommendations before going to the voters. Marie asked when this process starts. Vera said usually in February. Marie asked for a list of the Finance Committee members. Kathy said she would get it to her. Regarding the June 28th vote, Marie asked who prepared the wording for the vote. Vera replied that the State makes recommendations to the Board for verbage.

Marie stated she didn't feel the people were clear on the issue and also expressed concern that no absentee ballots were available for those unable to attend the meeting. Vera replied that there cannot be in an open Town Meeting since the article can be changed from the floor.....making an absentee ballot cast prior invalid.

Vera tried explaining the LD1 issue – that the 2009 figure of \$180,815.32 is multiplied by a factor of 1.0286 = \$185,986.64. The Town lost \$30,936.50 from revenue sharing, which was added back in giving a new base of \$216,923.14. Vera added that to exceed the LD1 limit is a one time deal; to increase the LD1 limit, means for future. All agreed that the State is shifting the burden to the Towns wherever possible. Marie questioned how expensive it is to have a referendum vote as opposed to a Town Meeting and that she didn't think there was accurate communication.. Vera replied it is more a matter of the time frame....

Laurieann replied that she feels the Board is very open minded, that they tried to reach out to everyone.. Everyone is busy, she encourages people to take the time to participate, get the facts. Kathy said that in the past public hearings, informational meetings, letters, post cards, newspaper articles, ads run, Selectmen's report in the Town Report....have all been utilized, and still very few people respond/attend. Tim said it is the same with getting help for all organizations....the Rec Dept, Selectmen, Planning Board, Appeal's Board, Fire Dept.....all lack people.

Mark asked for clarification on LD1. Vera replied that the \$216,923.14 is not what we are raising in addition to. Marie asked how much the taxes increased this year. Kathy said 1 mill (per thousand valuation). Mark said that eased his mind as he thought it would be much more. Vera said she would attempt to clarify LD1 to anyone if they came in and asked.

Reappoint Arthur / Skip Campbell to the Planning Board effective June 29, 2010. Tim motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

Tree Growth: Maurice LaCroix, Map 07, Lot 29 – Map 07, Lot 30 – renewals. Tim motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

FYI - Intent to Harvest – Map 14, Lot 27 – T.R. Dillon – Burgess Hill Road area 200 acres

Building permits:

Randy Ellis, Map 11, Lot 15, 535 Dickvale Road, to raise a portion of structure, adding living space. Kathy stated that a new design for a septic system replacement is included and that the owners indicate that it would be installed; thus, that was put on the permit as a condition. The owner does indicate that the system has failed to a certain extent, depending on the time of year. Ed motioned approval; Tim seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

Phil Buskey, Map 21, Lot 24, 85 Irish Farm Road, to replace/add on to porch. Tim motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

Phil Lariviere, Map 18, Lot 18, 261 East Shore Road, to add a 6'x6' platform and stairs. Tim motioned approval; Rick seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

*RSU 10 correspondence – re: annual Town Assessment is \$1,498,791.91 / monthly \$124,899.33 taking into consideration 50% of the carryover = \$105,389.37. It appears they are looking to change their Board meeting nights to the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. Vera stated that the \$124,899.33 was paid to the school with this warrant; however, after doing so it was discovered that they had not deducted the \$105,389.37; thus, the monthly payments for the future will be \$116,116.88. Rick asked which account the interest payment to be received (\$3,183.51) will be placed? Vera said the Board would have to decide, not yet known.... most likely the general fund.

FYI - New England Forest Rally – July 16 & 17 - certificate of liability insurance as requested

Audit. Vera stated that she would like to stay with Keel Hood again this year, but it is up to the Board. Kathy stated that Vera may be able to negotiate a better price with Hood if the Town commits to next year as well. Laurieann responded that maybe someone different should be used, so things don't get too comfortable. Vera said Hood does many things at random. The consensus was that Vera try to negotiate a couple of year agreement with Hood and respond back to the Board.

Town Office roof: Rick said he asked this item be placed on the agenda as it was touched on last year and the leaks haven't gone away. Now is the time to do. Tim said a couple of small leaks were patched last year as was a small hole. It was agreed to check with Mike Mann, Don Desmond and MAIDA regarding doing the roof – Rick will follow up. Tim said he would research what it would cost to do with volunteers. Kathy asked if this was to be a patch job or the whole roof. The reply was the whole roof and re-screw the flashing.

Computer program: *Vera said she asked for this to be on the agenda so the Board can remain proactive toward getting a new program. The consensus was that we should move forth as soon as possible. Rick said he felt the Trio program was easiest to understand, as did the others. Tim asked the cost, how to fund and when. Vera to touch base with Trio to get a bottom line figure and the cost will likely come out of Capital Reserve – put on the November ballot. Laurieann asked if all modules are needed up front. Vera said no.*

Health Officer issue: received call for excessive household trash at 87 High Street. *Tim said he would view and knock on the door if need be. He will report back to Kathy, who can follow up with a letter.*

Correspondence – can a copy of the anonymous letter received for Murray’s Cove be provided to owner? *The consensus was to mail a copy of the letter with the Board taking no stance.*

MMA – ballot for completion if desired.

Turn on Electric at Historical Society? *The consensus was to do so. Rick said Bob had discussed with him that a tree needs to be removed from the corner of the porch area as it is affecting the roof. Bob has followed the property lines and assures all that it is on Town property. Rick said that the Road Dept. may be able to assist Bob in doing so. The consensus of the Board was to remove.*

FYI - Maine DOT radar speed trailer – postponed - vandalized

Complex Guidelines (Laurieann) stated that there need to be guidelines for the entire complex, not just the gray elementary building. Tim said that some guidelines are posted on the side of the garage building.

Any update for: Tom Morton / Larry Whittington – 53 Main Street – re: Elementary building use – any update? – *as detailed in workshop info.*

Can Kathy order signs for no tobacco use on premises? *Tim suggested checking with Healthy Community Coalition to see if they have signs available. The consensus was if not, then purchase.*

FYI – The individual who had a dog released to him from McKennel’s prior to payment of bill, has been in and paid his \$107.

Pending: Debris downstream at Worthley Pond outlet –
Electrical extension cord / Kathy’s office – (Tim)
“Crosswalk” Ordinance
Elected Officials Workshop – Dec. 7th - Farmington

8:35 p.m. Rick motioned adjournment; Ed seconded; vote unanimous; motion carried.

NOTE: Regular print = agenda item / italicized print = discussion or action on item.

NOTE: THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED UNTIL SIGNED BY THE SELECTMEN.

July 19, 2010

Laurieann Milligan

Corey Jacques

Timothy Holland

Richard J. Vaughn

Edward Ferland