

**Town of Webster**  
**Office of Select Board**  
**945 Battle Street**  
**Webster, NH 03303**  
**Final Minutes – September 14, 2015**  
**Approved September 28, 2015**

Staff Present: Bruce Johnson, Roger Becker, Michael Borek, Wendy Pinkham, Bob Dupuis, Rob Wolinski, Emmett Bean and Leslie Palmer

Public Present: Roy Fanjoy, Carol Bogrett, Michael Schofield, Nanci Schofield, Jere Buckley, Sue Roman, Sue Rauth, Joe Pawlowski, Tara Gunnigle, Jon Pearson, Bob Gould, Thomas Smith, and Nancy VanLoan

Chairman Johnson opened the meeting at 4:30 PM.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Leslie Palmer:

- Selectman Becker moved to accept the 8/31/2015 Select Board minutes as written. Selectman Borek seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to accept the 8/31/2015 non-public Select Board minutes as written. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to grant Copart a 90 day Junkyard License with the understanding that Copart will continue to work with the Planning Board to approve a Site Plan. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved. Selectman Becker indicated that the Site Plan is close to being approved.
- The Select Board signed the MS-1, Summary Inventory of Valuation.
- Chairman Johnson moved to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds issue a check in the amount of \$1,950.00 payable to Ryan Frost from the Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund, Account #78019345, which includes the balance due of \$1,450.00 and an additional \$500.00 to repair damage found, in the Town Hall Handicap Decking Contract. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds issue a check in the amount of \$6,785.00 payable to Right Angle Engineering, PLLC from the Bridge/Culvert Improvements & Related Items Capital Reserve Fund, Account #780187829, to pay invoice #815 for White Plains preliminary FEMA grant application work. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to request that the Trustees of the Trust Funds issue a check in the amount of \$4,900.00 payable to Right Angle Engineering, PLLC from the Bridge/Culvert Improvements & Related Items Capital Reserve Fund, Account #780187829, to pay invoice #816 for Bashan Hollow Rd preliminary engineering work. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

Fire Chief Rob Wolinski presented or advised the Board of the following:

- 4 call to service in the last two weeks; the department has responded to the first brush fire of the season.
- Chief Wolinski has scheduled a debriefing with his department tonight to discuss their response to a traumatic injury on Clothespin Bridge Rd.
- Chief Wolinski has received two applications; one new and one from a returning member of the department.
- The chief will be attending a Capital Area meeting this Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss budgets.

Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham presented the following to the Board:

- The Select Board signed the payroll and accounts payable manifests, the voided check register and an Intent to Cut.
- Chairman Johnson moved to approve the Town's Accounting Policies and Procedures as presented. Selectman Borek seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to approve the Town's Fund Balance Policy as presented. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- Chairman Johnson moved to approve the Town's Fraud Policy as presented. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.
- The Select Board approved the submission of the MS-434, Revised Estimated Revenues.

Police Chief Bob Dupuis presented or advised the Board of the following:

- 72 calls for service in the last two weeks.
- The Select Board approved a vacation leave request.
- Chief Dupuis presented for Board signature PO #21, \$884 to Ossipee Mountain Electronics, for the purchase of a push bumper and related items for the new cruiser and PO #22, \$314.85 to Wildlife Management Supplies, for the purchase of three telescoping catch poles.

Old Business:

- The Town Hall vinyl siding project should be complete by the end of the week; a walkthrough with the contractor and Select Board will be scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> prior to the Public Hearing.
- Administrative Assistant Palmer will contact Road Agent Emmett Bean and Erin Darrow of Right Angle Engineering to see if they are available to discuss the Bashan Hollow and White Plains Road projects and related costs prior to the September 21<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing.

New Business:

- The Select Board discussed the Public Hearings to take place following the Board Meeting. Board members agreed that they would make opening statements, listen to public comment and then take a vote.
- Discussion took place regarding warrant articles for next year's budget. Chairman Johnson asked Administrative Assistant Palmer to draft a preliminary warrant to be reviewed in upcoming budget work sessions beginning October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Financial Administrator Pinkham discussed health insurance coverage changes expected to begin in 2016 as noticed by Healthtrust. Selectman Becker noted that it may be more cost effective for the Town to self-insure with a "stop loss policy." Administrator Pinkham will research the option.
- Chairman Johnson received an inquiry about dogs on the soccer field following an incident in which dogs were off leash at a recent game. Following discussion on the topic, the Select Board decided that "No Dogs Allowed" signage isn't necessary yet and suggested that the Youth Soccer team first work with parents to solve the problem and to call the Police Department if necessary.

Public Comment:

- Nanci and Mike Schofield asked if a determination had been made as to whether Brookfield Circle is a private or class VI road. The Select Board confirmed that Brookfield Circle is a private road as identified in a Certificate of Notice filed at the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds in 1988. The Select Board does not have the authority to grant permission to the landowner who asked about cutting trees to access his land.
- Roy Fanjoy reported that the IRS phone call scam has come to Webster; he received a bogus IRS call regarding payment of taxes this past week. He also asked if the Town's assessor can match an assessment card with information advertised by a homeowner selling his property. The Select Board indicated that cannot be done, but the property could be flagged for assessment.
- Carol Bogrett asked Chief Dupuis for a status report on her fraud case. He explained that the Grand Jury only meets once a month for two consecutive days; he will contact the County Attorney to see if her case is scheduled to be reviewed and will get back to Ms. Bogrett.

At 5:45 PM, Chairman Johnson recessed the meeting for 15 minutes.

At 6:01 PM, Chairman Johnson opened the Public Hearing to consider the TDS Cable Television Franchise Agreement with the Town of Webster.

The Select Board provided opening statements and introduced Scott Brooks, State Government Affairs Manager for TDS Telecom. He explained that the purpose of the Hearing is to consider a Cable Television Franchise Agreement with the Town of Webster. The franchise agreement language has been approved by the New Hampshire Municipal Association as well as Town counsel. A by-product of bringing cable television to Webster is the installation of high speed fiber optic cable with the long term goal of retiring existing copper lines completely. 92% of homes will be covered by this agreement. Price estimate sheets were handed out showing the costs of different cable television options. Residents will have the option of bundling telephone, internet and television or purchasing each individually. TDS hopes to roll out the cable television option by mid to late October. Following a question and answer period with residents in attendance, the Select Board voted to approve the franchise agreement, noting that although not every home would be covered, it was important to get started on providing cable television and high speed internet to as many homes as possible. Chairman Johnson amended the agreement by making a correction to one of the street addresses noted on the Courtesy Drop page and by filling in the effective end date of the 10 year agreement on pages 3 and 6.

**Board Action:** Chairman Johnson moved to approve the TDS Cable Franchise Agreement with the Town of Webster as amended. Selectman Borek seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

At 6:35 PM, Selectman Borek made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

At 6:36 PM, Chairman Johnson opened the Public Hearing to consider No Thru Trucking on Bashan Hollow Rd and Gerrish Rd.

The Select Board provided opening statements with each Board member expressing support for the No Thru Trucking road closure. The Board first took comments from those in favor of the ordinance. Several residents spoke in favor of the closure, noting that the

road is narrow and poses a safety risk to those who walk and drive on the road. Jere Buckley spoke in favor of the closure and although he expressed sympathy for the inconvenience and added costs to truck owners, he felt that safety concerns outweighed the costs. Thomas Smith noted that he was one of the original petitioners of such an ordinance in 2013. Sue Rauth thanked the Board for addressing the issue again, as the same safety issues still exist. Next, those opposed to the ordinance spoke. Joe Pawlowski remarked that he has been run off Bashan Hollow Rd by individual cars and believes safety is more a matter of enforcement than restricting the size of vehicles. Referencing Copart in particular, he noted that GPS brings out of state trucks down Bashan Hollow Rd and until that can be changed, the situation will remain the same. He doesn't feel local business men should be accountable; Copart should be held accountable to the routes that the drivers take. Jon Pearson noted that if safety is an issue, the Town should fix the road instead. Copart is here to stay. He asked, "What's more important, a kid's life or a Scenic Road?" At this point, Sue Roman, Vice-Chair of the Planning Board discussed the results of a Road Study, paid for by Copart, which studied six different truck routes. The route including Bashan Hollow Rd had the most safety problems associated with it; the study recommended alternative routes and Copart has been cooperative at looking into routes with the fewest safety problems. Sue noted that posting the road provides real enforcement, not contractual enforcement. Road Agent Emmett Bean observed that trucks have not obeyed the 6 ton limit for the past three years and will not obey it now, no matter what signs are posted. Police Chief Bob Dupuis confirmed that out of state drivers follow their GPS, not understanding the condition of the roads in Town. The Chief was asked if posting the roads will make a difference. He indicated that most citations issued for violations are paid, as drivers cannot afford to lose their license. Roy Fanjoy asked if the topic can be revisited in the future. Selectman Becker confirmed that the Select Board has the authority to restrict trucking but can allow it again. The Select Board closed the hearing to public comment and discussed the ordinance. Chairman Johnson clarified that the intention is not to target any specific business but to protect those on the road.

**Board Action:** Selectman Becker moved to adopt a No Thru Trucking policy on Gerrish Rd and Bashan Hollow Rd, recognizing in advance that there may be additional things that the Select Board needs to address to make it workable. Selectman Borek seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

The Select Board discussed drafting exemptions to the ordinance with Chief Dupuis.

At 7:26 PM, Selectman Borek made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Selectman Becker seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

7:26 PM, Selectman Becker made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Borek and approved.

*Respectfully Submitted, Leslie M. Palmer*