

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 24, 2023
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

Board Members Present:

Gerry Vachon, Chairman
Charlie King, Vice Chairman
Ann Titus
Doug Staples
Penny Morin

Others Present:

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator
Ron LeMere, Code Enforcement Officer
Ed Brannan, Highway Dept. Supervisor

1). Call to Order:

Chairman Vachon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (King, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (L) Consideration of Legal Advice passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) at 5:32 p.m.

Motion: (Titus, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 5:54 p.m.

3). Reconvene Public Session:

Chairman Vachon reconvened the public meeting at 6 p.m.

4). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

5). Public Input: None

6). Review of Minutes:

July 17, 2023-Public Meeting Minutes- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0-1 (Vachon abstained).

July 17, 2023- Non-Public Session Meeting Minutes A-D- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0-1 (Vachon abstained).

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to seal Non-Public Sessions B and D for 3 years as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the board passed 4-0-1 (Vachon abstained).

7). Old Business:

Walden Renewables PILOT Agreement- Mr. Dickie said he put in the board's packets the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement that he submitted back in March to Attorney Keriann Roman and she made some changes. He said they did make all the changes but he had a conversation with Att. Roman and she recommended that they hold off accepting this PILOT at this point until there is a first pass through the Planning Board and then if there is any other discussion they can have that before that takes place.

He said the main objective that he had was to make sure that the wording and the general concept of the PILOT was okay so when they come to the point of it they are not rehashing everything. He said he worked with Att. Roman to make sure everything was changed and the Town is protected and once they get to the point where they think they are ready to sign then this is in place and it's not such a big hurdle to get over.

Mr. King said he would like to schedule a non-meeting with Att. Roman to go through some of this. He said he had a couple of questions about an area that was a little bit vague and there was another area that he wanted to discuss with her.

Mrs. Morin asked if he wanted to meet with her after this goes to the Planning Board.

Mr. King said he would like to meet with her before that because there are a couple of sections in there-one is the taxation and the other one had to do with the reduction of capacity.

Mrs. Morin said the reason she said after the Planning Board was if they have more questions for Att. Roman they're not building up.

Mr. King said they can do it whenever he just wanted to make sure they have the chance to meet with her and ask the questions. He said as everyone knows they entered into a PILOT agreement for a prior one that was going to go on the landfill and that fell through and he wanted to make sure they vet this one to make sure they're in a better position this time regarding what they saw for issues with that one. Nothing against this particular firm but based on what we've learned I want to make sure we're not repeating anything here he said.

He said the taxation talks about Current Use Tax and they furnished an estimate and the reduction in capacity is kind of open ended and it talks about if it is materially reduced for any reason that it puts it back into renegotiation and asked at what point does that kick in. He asked if they would come back and say they lost 10% over the last 10 years and they want to renegotiate because of some deficiency. He said he would like to have a conversation about that and then there may be some following questions for them.

Mrs. Morin asked when the Planning Board meets next.

Bldg. Insp./CEO Ron LeMere said they are not scheduled to go to the Planning Board yet.

Mr. King said it may be delayed so they may want to ask the questions now. He said he believes Att. Roman is coming in to meet with the Planning Board so maybe they could do it on that day to save her from having to make a special trip.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie to work that out with Att. Roman.

Junk Yard Re-approvals- Mr. LeMere came forward and said he has 3 junkyard re-approvals, 2 mobile home parks for re-approval and the 1 campground license renewal. He said the board has the drafts in their packets and he has the originals for their signatures.

Junkyards-Mr. Steven McDuffee-371 NH Rt. 11 (Tax Map R20, Lot 009): He said he has been out to the junkyard several times this past year to make sure he had the fencing repairs and there are still a few fence repairs that need to be completed and he is working with Mr. McDuffee to make sure that is getting done. He said there hasn't been much activity there, no new junk cars coming in and he has been selling some of the vehicles off.

Mr. King asked for an estimation of the number of vehicles he thinks are there.

Mr. LeMere said in that backyard there are probably around 50 vehicles.

Mrs. Morin asked if there is a limit to how many he can have in that space.

Mr. LeMere said no but the backyard is full.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to approve Steve McDuffee's junkyard license renewal passed 5-0.

Mr. LeMere said he would pass the originals around for the board to sign.

Bill Baxter-1139 Ten Rod Road (Tax Map R57, Lot 14): He said there is not much activity out there and there are no new junk cars going in or coming out at this time. He said the site really hasn't changed.

Mr. King asked how many vehicles he thinks are there.

Mr. LeMere said there is a combination of some old buses and campers there and that site is a little different than the rest. He said there are buses, campers, dump trucks, a few cars and lots of parts so he probably has about 60 vehicles in that area between parts and vehicles. He said there hasn't been much activity out there so the site has been a little slow but everything else about the property is fine.

Motion: (Morin, second, Titus) to accept Mr. Baxter's license renewal for 2023-2024 passed 5-0.

Randy LaPierre-68 Milton Road (Tax Map R48, Lot 028-1): Mr. LeMere said that site is actually a very clean site and there are maybe 20 vehicles there. He said occasionally a vehicle will go out it just depends on the market. I do have to say that he does keep the area very clean and very neat. There are no issues there at all from what I can see he said.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept Mr. LaPierre's license renewal passed 5-0.

Mobile Home Parks: Farmington Ridge Mobile Home Park at the end of Dick Dame Lane (Tax Map U10, Lot 041-1).

Mrs. Morin asked how many mobile homes are in there.

Mr. LeMere said there are 55 approved sites and there are 54 homes that are occupied. He said what they are looking at when they go out there is to make sure that the site is being maintained the area and the properties associated to it are clean and are being kept up. He said he hasn't seen any issues there and they haven't had any complaints in the park so it's been

good.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept the mobile home park license for Farmington Ridge Mobile Home Park for Mr. Mark Phillips;

Discussion: Mr. Vachon said they approved 55 sites and they have 54 that are occupied.

Mr. LeMere said on the number of sites developed but vacant would be one so they spoke to them again and they had an issue with this last year and they had the same issue with the other park because they are not filling in that final box so he did speak to them and he just has to mark this one as 1.

Mr. Vachon said so that is actually 1 for this one.

Mr. LeMere said that is correct.

Mrs. Titus asked what he is looking for when he goes to inspect them.

Mr. LeMere said he takes a ride through the park and he is looking to see if they are maintaining the roads associated to the park, the common areas associated to the park, to see if any of the homes have issues with discarded materials, trash and typically if there is something there the park acts pretty quickly to make sure those conditions are corrected but that's what we're looking to do-to make sure things are clean and that the infrastructure as far as the roads are being maintained.

Mrs. Morin asked if he does that throughout the year so he would check it in the winter time as well.

Mr. LeMere said any time that he is out at a park or whether someone is just replacing some front steps or anything like that he is always going through and reviewing because there is always something going on. He said maybe there were dumpsters that were brought in for removal, sometimes maybe there is some discarded trash and you're able to make contact in there. He said there really haven't been any issues and he will be out there a few times a year.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Peaceful Pines Mobile Home Park-Cocheco Rd. (Tax Map R19, Lot 006): He said again like last year they had a numbers issue and that is corrected on this form and they were off by 4. He said the park is owned by Old Wave LLC and he has always found the park to be orderly and clean.

He said there have been some issues with some of the mobile homes but the property owners are always on it and is communicating with him anytime they need to deal with something. He said some of the homes are getting upgraded and replaced so the park itself is being well maintained.

Mr. King asked how many units are in there approved and occupied.

Mr. LeMere said Peaceful Pines is broken up into 2 sections so the number of approved sites is 33 plus 85.

Mrs. Morin said so they were off by 4 and 4 are vacant.

Mr. LeMere said that's right and he has it corrected on the original form.

Mr. King said there are 118 sites.

Mr. LeMere said that's right.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to approve Old Wave LLC Peaceful Pines Mobile Home Park license passed 5-0.

Campgrounds-Beaver Pond Camping Area, 46 Beaver Pond Road (Tax Map R49, Lot 022): Mr. LeMere said the number of year round residents and sites remains at 10 that hasn't changed. He said he has been out there a few times this past year and met with Larry (Zampieri) on some of the areas he was working on or some of the upgrades they were doing on some of the older units that were there. He said 2 of the older units got replaced with some of the new units that he owns or has sold.

Mr. King asked if these are the year round ones.

Mr. LeMere said yes. He said they are not looking at the condition of the seasonals but the seasonals out there were in good shape. He said there were 2 units at the entrance of the campground that were in tough shape and they were removed and replaced.

Mr. King said the 10 full time year round sites was a settlement agreement that they went to court over years ago so that number really can't change.

Mr. LeMere said that number can't change and he audits that number each year. He said he goes through the park with Mr. Zampieri and they go through each one of the seasonals and they are consistent, they're always on the same lot and they are set up that way because they're mostly at the beginning of the park because when we get into winter conditions they're looking at the plowing and the underground water service to these units so everything is concentrated in one area. That makes it easier for me to be able to review and confirm that we only have 10 he said.

Mrs. Titus asked if he goes in and check for fire detectors and see if that's working.

Mr. LeMere said they don't go into any of the single family units and that would be up to the unit owner themselves.

Mrs. Titus asked if they are rentals.

Mr. LeMere said they are rentals but unless there is a complaint they're not subject to inspection of the interior.

Mrs. Morin asked how many of the sites have water and sewer because that's not listed on the application.

Mr. LeMere said the last conversation he had with Mr. Zampieri he had water and sewer up to the very rear portion of that property but because of the winter conditions those were terminated and if there are any tent sites up there, there is no water or sewer up to those lots. He said there is water and sewer to the 10 year round sites and some of the seasonal units have water and sewer.

Mrs. Morin said that isn't reflected on the form.

Mr. LeMere said there is nowhere on the application to account for how many sites have water

and sewer.

Mr. Staples asked if there is a facility on-site where campers have access to sewer and water.

Mr. LeMere said yes there is a dump station.

Mrs. Morin asked if the dump station comes into Farmington's sewer.

Mr. LeMere said he was not sure if they come over there to dump.

Mr. Vachon said where it asks how often the water supply is tested it says N/A in the "Annually" space and "Town water" was written in so they have Town water up there.

Mr. King asked if there is one meter or multiple meters.

Mr. LeMere said he believes there is one meter in that park but he was not really sure because he hasn't gotten into that.

Mr. Staples said he didn't get the way the application was written because it says they had 18 sites prior to 1990 so he is grandfathered in but he's only running 10.

Mr. LeMere said it's only 10 because that was part of an agreement several years ago.

Mrs. Morin said so the other 8 must be the seasonal sites.

Mr. LeMere said this form has been filled out consistent with the prior years.

Mr. Staples read he has 10 permanent, 18 seasonal but there are 50 sites on the land.

Mr. LeMere said there are 50 sites on the land.

Mr. Staples said this is saying none of them are for tents.

Mr. LeMere said they haven't rented any to tents.

Mrs. Morin said he has 50 sites he's just not using all 50.

Mr. LeMere said there is an entire rear portion that is not being utilized and any time he has been there, there has been nobody out there.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept the license renewal for Beaver Pond Camping Area for Mr. Larry Zampieri passed 5-0.

Peddler's License Application: Mr. LeMere said he also had an application for a Peddler's License from Raymond Borden who lives on Montgomery Drive in Farmington. He said he is looking to place a food truck at the old Farmington fire station as a seasonal unit. He gave the application to the board to review and said this just came to him yesterday.

Mr. King asked if he had a proposed location.

Mr. LeMere said the proposed location was at the old fire station parking lot and no set area has been designated until they see if the board would allow one to be at that location.

Mrs. Morin asked if there are costs involved or just the license.

Mr. LeMere said there is a license fee and as a town resident he would have a maximum fee for the amount of days would be \$125. He said he is looking for seasonal and he'll probably be over the 10 day for a seasonal and that's the maximum you can charge a resident for that license.

Mrs. Morin asked if it was only going to be open on weekends.

Mr. LeMere said they are still figuring out the hours and the biggest hurdle here was if the board would entertain a food truck to be at that location.

Mrs. Morin said she didn't have enough information.

Mrs. Titus said they are going to be doing testing in that parking lot and asked if that was going to be a problem.

Mr. LeMere said it could be it depends on how much area they will need for that and if they want any additional foot traffic or anybody on that lot if there is going to be any construction work there.

Mr. Staples gave Mr. LeMere a copy of the plan that shows where they are going to the test wells and said that is the proposed plan that is going to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. LeMere reviewed the plan and said this is going to be a busy site with the testing.

Mr. King said there might be a lot of customers then. He said he couldn't recall where somebody has asked for that in the past so he didn't think there was any history of the board giving one or denying one.

Mrs. Titus said there was one on Rt. 11 for a short time and he must have gotten a peddler's license because it was a food truck.

Mr. King said he had no reason that he wouldn't grant it because that's a good spot but he would have to site it where it's not going to be in the way and that would have to be determined by staff. He said it would have to say this is where you're going to put it and he would have to be put on notice that he might have to move it depending on what's going on at the site. We do have that piece of land for sale but I don't think it is going to change hands this season but we have to put a caveat that if the Town were to sell it then his peddler's license would cease to exist and we would have to refund whatever he is owed for days. For me to approve it the placement would be approved by Code Enforcement, he would have to be put on notice that he may need to move it if the Level II site assessment causes him to move and if we sell the property his time there may be cut short he said.

Mrs. Morin asked if there is a policy regarding peddlers' licenses.

Mr. King said they are going to need insurance too.

Mr. LeMere said they did supply us with a certificate of coverage but they are going to have to make sure that it does name the Town of Farmington as an additionally assigned.

Mrs. Morin said she was thinking about cleanliness and keeping the area neat.

Mr. LeMere said within the policy it says the license holder is responsible for a 20 ft. area around the area they are operating in to keep it free from any trash and any trash that is generated from it they have to remove it.

Mrs. Morin asked about inspections of the food truck.

Mr. LeMere said the food truck itself would fall under the state's purview because of the amount of days they would be open. He said if they were just going to be there for a weekend every once in a while then it would fall under the Town of Farmington for health inspections.

Mr. Vachon said the policy was adopted in 1989. He asked if they have met all the requirements.

Mr. LeMere said that they will require the insurance coverage, they would require that the site is kept clean, they are going to need their contact information which is part of the form and they are going to need a sign-off from the Police Dept. along with the Board of Selectmen. He said inspections would be the placement of the unit to ensure that when they are in operation it is not causing a nuisance. It's going to be one of those where every once in a while as we're going down Main St. we'll just have to stop and make sure everything is okay he said.

Mrs. Morin asked if this was going to be 5 days a week or were they thinking on weekends.

Mr. LeMere said they named it as seasonal and he thought that was to test it to see whether or not it would be successful there.

Mrs. Titus asked about the hours of operation.

Mr. LeMere said the policy says the truck would have to be removed from the site by 11 p.m. and couldn't come back on the site until 7 a.m. He said the ordinance will talk about food but it doesn't...

Mr. King asked if he is aware of that he's leaving every day.

Mr. LeMere said it's in the policy and he should be aware of everything and that he's leaving every day.

Mrs. Morin said she pictured it just staying there so she was glad Mr. King said that.

Mr. LeMere said it's a mobile unit and the thing they need to be careful with is having something a little more permanent so you can have an operational day but you don't want something that is permanent in nature.

Mr. Vachon asked if this is a truck or a cart.

Mr. LeMere said it's a truck. He said the document Mr. Vachon was looking at speaks to carts and there is one section in there that talks about serving food.

Mr. Vachon said it says the hours are 11 to 7.

Mrs. Titus said there must be a policy in a different town for food trucks that they could adopt.

Mr. LeMere said that is a policy they're going to have to update but it's the only tool they have.

Mr. Vachon said as part of the application procedure there are things they have to have done and then only completed applications with all the required documentation and signatures will be considered by the Board of Selectmen. He said this application is not complete because one of the standards in here is approval and signature of the Police Chief and it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact the Police Chief to obtain a written recommendation and signature on the application. He noted that Chief Orlando is not on there and asked if they have the rest of the stuff such as a current valid NH Hawker's Permit.

Mr. LeMere said that is a state food license and that's one of the requirements on that.

Mrs. Morin asked if they have to see that license.

Mr. LeMere said we do it has to be displayed.

Mr. Vachon said it also says we have to have it before the application can be signed by the board because it's not completing this requirement.

Mr. LeMere said part of this application coming to them tonight was will the board consider this being located in that location and then they will follow up with the remaining documentation.

Mr. Vachon said a lot of the questions they were asking could have been answered if he had completed the application such as hours of operation, merchandise to be sold because a detailed description is not "food" that's just the commodity.

Mr. King said he was in favor of granting the permit based on the application being complete and if it's not complete that he requests a waiver of anything that he feels he needs a waiver on. He said the location has to be sited by Code Enforcement and he has to be put on notice that they may move him around and also if the parcel is sold his permit may be cut short.

Mr. Vachon said he'd also be in favor of it he would just like to see all the details such what is going to be sold.

Mr. LeMere said he would try to meet with them this week to try to iron that out.

Mr. King suggested he might want to go over to the site with the map and say this is what is going on here. He said they may only be over there for a few days.

Mr. Vachon said they may only be open for a few hours a day around lunch or dinner.

Mr. King said he meant the Level II site assessment may not be there for that much time.

Mr. Staples said the test wells are going to be flush with the pavement and they can plow over them they won't be sticking out of the ground.

Consensus of the board was they would be willing to entertain that location if they see a completed application with all of the pertinent information.

Mrs. Titus added and what kind of food.

Mr. LeMere said they typically vend hot dogs.

Mrs. Titus asked if there would be any alcohol.

Mr. LeMere said no that would require a lot of state permitting besides this. He said they need a checklist and that is what they will need to revise on this form for the future. I will try to meet with them this week and get those details ironed out he said.

Highway Dept. Update- Highway Dept. Supervisor Ed Brannan said the excavator has gone back and they did what they could with it. He said they got most of the bad spots taken care of and they still have some small areas to deal with but it seemed to work out fairly well.

He said there was some drainage out there, some culverts that have failed, drainage on a couple of the roads on the steeper hills where they have catch basins and drain pipes that need to be cleaned and flushed to get back to operational status and he thought that would make a big difference in the long term.

He said they have been out doing some grading and when they get the chance they will keep moving forward with the grading if they can, depending on the weather. He said they have a catch basin company coming in at the end of the month and they'll be here for 2 weeks and they'll only utilize one truck so they don't use up the majority of their staff.

Mr. Brannan said the following week after they're done they will have the street sweepers in

here and hopefully they will get all that done.

Mrs. Morin asked if the street sweepers would be in prior to the end of August.

Mr. Brannan said yes it would be the week of Aug. 13 and they will most likely come in Sunday night and do the downtown area so they don't have to deal with traffic and parked cars so they will have to get something on the website prior to that to let people know and let the Police Dept. know. It will be during the day for the rest of the week so hopefully we can get the whole town swept up within a week he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if they were going to physically post downtown with No Parking signs for the street sweeping operations or if they would have them ducking and weaving around cars that don't want to move.

Mr. Brannan said if they can find some signage that would work and they might have something but he was not sure.

Mrs. Morin said there should be quite a few of them because they use them for voting.

Mr. Brannan said getting the time when they want to be there correct is probably going to be the hardest part. He said they may employ the sign at the old fire station and that might be one way to notify them. He said usually overnight there's probably not going to be many cars in the way. We'll figure it somehow and we'll get some signs out he said.

He said one thing that came up in discussion this past winter was the possibility of getting a sign board that they could put in the middle of town that they could post things on for when they have to do snow removal or they need to have people off the streets on a certain night and things like that for informational purposes and help assist with that stuff. He said that might be something to look into going forward and it's something that could work with all the depts. and maybe they could get everybody to pitch in a little bit to get something like that.

Mr. Brannan said he spoke to the company that had a quote and won the contract for crushing and he did give us some updated numbers that would probably more suit us. He said the original contract had fine crushed and coarse crushed and the coarse crush is 1.5 to 2 inches and we don't need that. He said they have a big pile of that down there which would probably take years and years to use up.

He said the sand is still in there at 3,500 tons and he can come in with a hammer for a day, bust up some rock that they can mix in with their crushed gravel and he can produce 1,500 tons of 5 inch minus which is something they could use if they are re-building roads or filling in washouts. He said ¾" gravel doesn't really work.

Mr. King asked if that would be 5 inch minus gravel or 5 inch minus rip rap.

Mr. Brannan said it would be gravel. He said at some point they will have to produce some more stone rip rap and so forth too but right now if they can get some 5 inch minus gravel that would be a handy item to have.

Mr. King asked for the cost for the hammer for the day.

Mr. Brannan said it would cost \$3,000 for 10 hours.

Mr. King asked for the size of the hammer.

Mr. Brannan said he was not sure.

Mr. King said at that price it better be a big one because that's \$300 an hour.

Mr. Brannan said he assumed that would be a pretty good sized machine. He said it's probably not quite \$300 an hour because you have to figure a move on that machine because if he's only getting a day he's going to get something to move the machine so they're going to pay at least one way on that which is probably \$300. I think overall for the amount of work that he's got it didn't seem like bad numbers. There's a pretty good size pile of rock there to break up that we can mix in, taking that 1.5 inch pile, breaking it down, add some rock to it and also mix in some of the asphalt in there. We're actually going to break it down to 1 inch not $\frac{3}{4}$ because if you try to run a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch screen you're really not going to have $\frac{3}{4}$ inch gravel because $\frac{3}{4}$ inch rock doesn't fall through a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hole very good so 1 inch is a better size for it he said.

He said his total price ended up coming in at \$1,500 over what they have allowed for sand and gravel but they still have quite a bit of money in the gravel road maintenance line a lot of this gravel will be going towards the gravel roads and they can take the money out of there to offset the difference.

Motion: (King, second Morin) to amend the amount to increase it by \$1,500 bringing it to a total of \$39,997;

Discussion: Mr. Brannan gave a copy of the information he received to Mr. Vachon to review.

Mr. King said it would be with the caveat that what he is bringing in for a hammering machine is valued at \$250-\$300 an hour.

Amendment: by Mr. King: and to verify that the hammer is sizable and has a value of at least \$250 an hour

Mr. Brannan said he would find out what it is. He said he would say it would be in the range of 40,000 - 50,000 lbs. machine and with the amount of quantity they are looking to do he understands. It leaves us with a little bit of room we can get some of the plows in there that can be utilized and cleaned up make something that's going to be worthwhile to us he said.

Mr. Staples asked Mr. Dickie how he felt about the overage coming out of the dirt road maintenance. He said he just received the budget reports and hasn't had time to go through them and asked him if he felt they're safe over spending that line.

Mr. Dickie said he thought it will be all right.

Mr. Brannan said he thought the bulk of the gravel road maintenance line is for calcium chloride and the magnesium chloride for dust control.

Mr. Staples noted that with all of this rain we haven't needed it.

Mr. Brannan said typically they only treat the roads once or twice a year but from what he gathered these guys would do it every time they grade the road. He said they were going to do it towards the end of Oct. last year which is a little bit too late in the season because not only does it keep the dust down but it is also ice control and it would take the dirt roads and make

them muddier than they were.

Mr. Staples said he was concerned that even though it's a bottom line budget he was sure they had lines in their budget that are just blown wide open.

Mr. Brannan said there will be budget lines that are blown wide open but they will make the bottom line. He said some of the lines in the budget need to be adjusted anyway.

Mr. Staples said that's why he would over spend them so they can make that argument to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Brannan said the line has to reflect what they need to spend in them.

Mrs. Titus asked him to please be a little conservative still.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Brannan said Japanese Knotweed is going to overtake this town if they don't do something so it's either make an attempt or just let it go.

Mr. King asked what their options are.

Mr. Vachon said to get rid of it about the only thing that works is poisoning it.

Mr. King said they are not licensed to do that so they would have to hire someone.

Mr. Vachon said then it's depending on where it is, where somebody's well is, where water sources are and where the runoff goes. He said most of it is along the roadside which means it's going to get washed down into the brooks and streams.

Mr. Brannan said they had a company doing some in Middleton and from what he understood they used a non-toxic treatment but he was not sure what it was.

Mr. Vachon and Mrs. Morin asked if it worked.

Mr. Brannan said it would kill it but the problem with Japanese Knotweed is you have to keep treating it.

Mr. Vachon said it's a multi-treatment process because it doesn't kill all of it and if you don't make sure it all gets taken care of it will just come back again in force because now it's pissed.

Mr. Brannan said he was told in the past that the Conservation Commission might be able with some kind of funding to combat it.

Mr. King said they need to get some pricing and what their options are and he didn't know how they quote it.

Mr. Brannan said what they need to do is to have better discussion with some people that know more about it and the options.

Mrs. Morin asked if he could reach out to Middleton and see who they used or if he has already done so.

Mr. Brannan said no but he knows who to call. He said they should have further input to see what the options are.

Mr. King said we may want to try something this season to get a better feel for what works for us.

Mr. Vachon asked if he was concerned with the roadsides or if we have open spaces within the

town that the Town owns that it is overtaking.

Mr. Brannan said we also have open spaces and we have a lot of it around the Highway garage and the gravel pit is loaded with it.

Mr. Vachon said that's because a 1 inch piece will take root that's all it takes.

Mr. Staples that's most likely from cross contamination bringing back dirty soil.

Mr. Brannan said in the pit that's most likely what it's from.

Mr. King said the problem with the pit is that's pretty close to the aquifer so they have to be careful where they are going to treat and what they are going to treat with.

Mr. Brannan said that's probably a site that he wouldn't be as concerned with.

Mrs. Morin asked if they could burn it.

Mr. Brannan said no.

Mr. Vachon said one alternative to using chemicals is to burn it by using black plastic. He said if you cover it and let it sit and let the sun pound on it because it gets a lot hotter under the black plastic that is one alternative that the state recommends. He said the problem with roadside is how they would keep people from messing with it but around the Highway garage they could probably get away with it. He said the pit possibly but roadside is where they would run into a problem because they would have to go out, cut it down, put the tarps over it and try to hold it down with sandbags and stones and everything else along the roadsides.

Mr. Brannan said some roadsides are more critical areas because it's going to grow in and then they will have sight issues and when they mow it or plow it they're going to spread it.

Mr. Vachon said he would give the contact information for an urban forester because he had a contact with the state. He said the state will assist with it if they have time and the last time he talked to them they were about a year and a half to 2 years out. He said they can get on the schedule to get some assistance from the state in that aspect and asked Mr. Brannan to send him an e-mail and he would get him his contact information.

Mr. Brannan said it's something they need to have a discussion about.

Mr. Vachon said it is running rampant in NH and the DOT has been dealing with it and every community is dealing with it.

Roadside Mowing- Mr. Brannan said he got in touch with a gentleman from New Durham and he can come in and he charges \$100 an hour. He said he looked at Ten Rod Road, Hornetown Road and Ridge Road and he figured about it would be about 80 hours on those 3 roads which would be about \$8,000.

Mr. King asked what they have in the budget line item for that.

Mr. Brannan said they don't have a line item for mowing. He said they have a trimming line but he thinks it is more for trees.

Mr. King asked where they would take the money from.

Mr. Brannan said there is \$7,600 in the trimming line.

Mr. King asked what he has for equipment.

Mr. Brannan said it's a small piece of equipment and he thinks he has 15 ft. of reach to the far edge but that's from the center of the machine it's mounted on the back so flat out he has an effective reach of about 12 ft. and 12 ft. straight up. He said buying one would be a better option because they're going to spend \$8,000 this year and the price is only going to go up.

Mrs. Titus said that is crazy and she would do it herself if she could.

Mr. Brannan gave Mr. Vachon a quote for a trackless machine and said this was in Dec. so it is probably about \$5,000 shy.

Mrs. Morin said she thought it is worthwhile to do it this year because they are so overgrown and they haven't been done in about 5 years if that.

Mr. Brannan said one of them is a unit that goes on the front of a tractor and that one is a tractor with a unit on it. He said it was on the Marketplace and it's a used tractor.

Mr. King said it's certainly used at 6,600 hours.

Mr. Vachon said the one he was looking at does work and it's similar to the unit they have.

Mr. Staples asked even if they buy a machine how they would do it-not grade the roads. We have 3 guys he said.

Mr. Brannan said they have one part time guy coming in and he has an interview with a gentleman tomorrow. He said the ideal situation would be that they get a full staff and are capable of doing this. You're not getting much for \$8,000 he said.

Mr. Staples asked if they could do it any cheaper than \$100 an hour for fuel, labor and the machine.

Mr. King said they can do it but they can't spend \$36,000 because that's \$28,000 different.

Mr. Vachon said not on a piece of equipment that's a 2001.

Mr. King said he didn't know if that's a good price or a bad price and they don't know what shape it's in.

Mr. Brannan said it depends on how it has been cared for.

Mrs. Morin asked for the prices on the quotes Mr. Brannan provided.

Mr. King said one of them was \$4100 on piece of equipment that he questioned was big enough to do the job.

Mr. Brannan said that price was in Dec. so he would say it would probably be closer \$4,500. He said they would be talking \$8,000 a year over 6 years.

Mr. King said he didn't disagree with that in the long term but for this year they have to get somebody to do it.

Mr. Brannan said at this price of what this gentleman is charging they are probably going to be at least 6 or 8 years before they get around this town at that rate.

Mr. King said based on what they have for a budget this it's not like they have the extra money lying around or have the manpower to run it.

Mr. Brannan said they could take the money out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Staples said they still have to run it. He asked if this would work for doing the levee too.

Mr. Brannan said both pieces of equipment would get down a certain distance and he thought it would be close to reaching ½ of it and there are other machines you can put on a steep slope for mowing. We may be able to see if we can rent something to help with the rest of it he said. Mr. Staples asked if they have mutual aid with other towns like the Fire and Police Depts. have because Rochester has a pretty decent mower.

Mr. Brannan said no and they have one on the front of their loader.

Mr. Staples said when he saw them over by Lambert's he was off to the side whacking some trees down with it.

Mr. Brannan said that unit will go to both sides and it's about \$90,000.

Mrs. Morin asked if they needed a motion for the \$8,000 for mowing.

Mr. Vachon asked where it's coming from.

Mr. Brannan said they still need to do roadside trimming too up in the air and the top. He said if you take a ride down Meaderboro Rd. towards the Rochester line you can literally see the shape of the road or the traveled way.

Mr. King said it's the same way on Ten Rod Rd. He said he can't see out of his driveway without pulling out onto the road.

Mr. Brannan said one thing about having our own unit if they get free time on a rainy day somebody can get in it and go and even if they do just intersections, a couple 100 ft. either way on an intersection so people can see because that is getting to be a problem too. He said to get somebody like this to come in and run around and just do that you're going to spend a lot of money and just ride down the road.

Mr. Vachon asked if Fairfield has anything on the ground over there used because there isn't much to those it's pistons, hoses and a motor or a pump.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't think so and there's a place in Saco, ME that has 2 of them one is completely assembled and one is in pieces and if he had the crew he wouldn't hesitate to go get it, rebuild it and mount it on the front of the loader.

Mr. King said they need to look at some more options. He said they need to figure out if they are going to rent one and where they would get the money, if they're going to buy one and where they would get the money and what they want to look at and if we buy one how we would actually get anything done. Right now we're talking about manpower we might have available but it's going to be snowing pretty soon he said.

Mr. King then asked if they had any luck finding the part for the grader.

Mr. Brannan said no.

Mr. King asked if the mechanic got the 10-wheeler back together with the front end, the turbo and everything back on it.

Mr. Brannan said it is and it's been running and they've had it moving and they are doing something with the power steering right now. He said there has been some issues with it, it had a leak in it so they replaced the hoses and he had it running this afternoon and has to get it bled

out.

Mr. King asked if there were any issues with the exhaust.

Mr. Brannan said there doesn't seem to be and once it's run a little bit they'll have to re-torque the front u-bolts and get back into the turbo to check it and make sure everything is snug. It seems to be all good so far he said.

Mr. King asked where else they have major mechanical fixes before plow season.

Mr. Brannan said they have another truck that is going to need kingpins and they have a 2004 that just came back.

Mrs. Morin said she thought it was fixed.

Mr. Brannan said there were 2 trucks with kingpin issues-one with the front end that had already been redone and one of the tires was out of alignment and it wore the tire really bad and that one has been fixed. He said the problem with the other one is the rubber covering to the bearing is gone so you can see the inside of the bearing and it's not going to last.

Mr. King asked which truck this is on.

Mr. Brannan said it's a 2005 International six-wheeler. He said they have to get it done in-house or send it out and get it done but that has to get done. He said he ran the 2004 International last year in town and it has a one-way blade and he would like to get a power angle blade to put on that truck. He said it is a six-wheeler and it's the one that has just the sander body on it. They usually put the water tank on it to do the calcium in the summer and the sander in the winter. It has a straight one-way blade on it but it has a high wing set up so the rear of the wing can lift up and they can re-plumb it to put on a power angle. It would suffice the downtown much better and one-way plows don't do cul-de-sacs very well he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if he has priced that out yet.

Mr. Brannan said he would try to find something decent used.

Mr. King asked what size blade he needed.

Mr. Brannan said he thinks it is 11 ft. He said the cutting edge is usually two 4's and a 3.

Mrs. Morin asked if he had any luck with getting any manpower or temporary people to come and help us out.

Mr. King asked if the person they interviewed accepted the position.

Mr. Brannan said he's all set to start.

Mrs. Morin said they were supposed to be reaching out to temp agencies.

Mr. Dickie said he hasn't gotten any "bites" so far.

Mr. Brannan said like he said earlier there is one gentleman he will be interviewing tomorrow for a full time position. He said he didn't know what he has for experience but he has a CDL A and that would definitely help out.

Mr. Staples asked when they are going to get the roads paved.

Mr. Brannan said he spoke with the gentleman last week and they don't have an actual date but he is thinking sometime in mid-Sept.

Mrs. Morin said that's pushing it kind of late.

Mr. Brannan said he has seen them done in Nov. not that he would want to be out that far. He said he hopes he will have a RFP to see if they can get somebody to do the culverts first. We don't want to pave those roads unless you make sure what is underneath is good first he said.

Mr. King asked how many culverts they have to replace.

Mr. Brannan said Cross Rd. has 6 under the road on either end of the road. He said if you come in from the Bay Rd. end and come up on the flat, once you get to the end of that flat before you go down in the little dip there's one that runs at a severe angle that's about 140 ft. and then there's three 24 x 30 squash culverts.

Mr. King asked if the one that is 140 ft. if they planned to put it back in the same way.

Mr. Brannan said they really don't have a choice.

Mr. King asked who was on the list they were going request quotes from.

Mr. Brannan said Barron Brothers, Brooks and they will have to find at least 1 or 2 more. He said Dick Dame Lane has a squash culvert and then there's a smaller 12 inch plastic single wall that need to be replaced.

Mr. Vachon asked how deep under the road it is.

Mr. Brannan said it's about 2.5 to 3 ft. down and that one they may camera to see if it is still structurally good and they might be able to leave it because it is plastic.

Mr. Vachon asked where that one is located.

Mr. Brannan said it is just beyond Juniper Lane which is where they had the water issue. He said if you are going up Dick Dame Lane Juniper Lane is on the right just above it there's a catch basin with a cross culvert and it might be worthwhile to put another catch basin on the lower side of Juniper Lane to help catch any water if it does flood out and they should be able to build back to the first catch basin to tie it in. We haven't had any issues with it but if we do maybe we can get the water to go into that instead of down the road he said.

Mr. Vachon asked for the size of the cross culvert out of that basin.

Mr. Brannan said it is 12 inches.

Mr. Staples asked if they got to fill in those craters on Meaderboro Rd.

Mr. Brannan said hopefully they will get to it tomorrow.

Mr. Staples asked if they were going to put pavement in or dirt.

Mr. Brannan said hot top and it's probably going to be a short day doing it depending on the temperature. He said on Green St. they did a water service and they're going to help them patch that up and they work with them so they will work with the Water Dept. to get that done and some of these potholes in town. We've got one across from Crowley's but I don't know if we're going to get that one right now. We've got the one by the Town parking lot, Bunker St., High St., a couple on School St. and we have a list of the worst of the worst he said.

Mr. Staples said the lower part of Dick Dame Lane where they filled in those big craters with dirt worked well until we got all that rain and now they're back and a lot of residents are upset.

They are destroying their cars on those craters again he said.

Mr. Brannan said they can try to fill them back in. He said they would see how the weather is and he didn't know if they would be able to get 2 days of work in. He said one thing they have to watch out for too if they do any paving later this week is the heat. He said 90+ degrees and humid is forecast and people that do it on a daily basis are used to that.

Mr. Staples said he would just throw dirt into the holes on Dick Dame Lane because they are going to rip that road up anyway.

Mr. Brannan said he would keep an eye on the crew because he didn't want to see them go down because they work hard and we need them. I've seen that happen before and have been close to calling an ambulance and I don't want to see that happen to these guys. We can always do a load in the morning before it gets too hot he said.

Mrs. Morin said she knew Fridays are a no-work day but if Friday early morning is working and they need to leave early on another day she didn't see why that would be unreasonable.

Mr. Brannan said one of the guys has worked 3 or 4 Fridays in a row and a Saturday and he was hoping to have his 3 day weekend for a change.

Mr. King said Friday is going to be the hottest day with a high of 87 degrees and there's a 30% chance of rain on Thursday.

Mr. Staples said all next week it is supposed to be in the 70's so they'll be all right.

Mr. Brannan said if it's in the 70's and dry that would be great.

Fernald Park Playground- Mrs. Morin asked where they are at with the playground and they've had it roped off so nobody can use it for a couple of weeks.

Mr. Dickie said he is debating on tearing it back down because he is not sure when the 500 Club is getting down there with their contractor to remove it (the existing playground equipment). He said he has to meet with Dan Woodman to try to figure it out and if it's not going to happen anytime soon he would take the tape back down and let them play on it until they can get that removed.

Mrs. Morin asked if they could get a specific time.

Mr. Dickie said the new playground came in on Friday and is sitting in the Highway garage right now because he didn't want it sitting outside where it could be pecked apart. He said he had to get with Mr. Woodman to figure when the old one is going to be removed so they can get in there with a bobcat or something to skim it down to 9 inches below and then fill it in with the bark once they get everything in there. He said they have to notify the company to come in and put the post holes in as we agreed we are going to do and then he will get the staff together and they will go up there and put the thing together and get it going. That's where we're at right now and it all hinges on when the 500 Club can get out there he said.

Mr. Vachon said they were planning on by the end of last week but they couldn't get the contractor in. He said the last time he talked to Mr. Woodman he was calling the contractor to see when it was going to happen.

8). New Business:

Bradsher Property Closing- Mr. Dickie said the closing would be on Thursday and he is going up to Laconia to the office of the firm that is doing the closing for us. He said he had to get a bank check for \$299,529. He said the title insurance was \$860 and they thought it was going to be \$800 so he has to have a Town check cut for \$60 then he can go up Wednesday and drop it and then close on Thursday. He said right now the mail is so unpredictable he would hate to put it in the mail and have it not reach there. We've got stuff sitting weeks on end in Farmington that's just not moving so I have to have to get it to them by Wednesday he said.

Mr. King said he could use UPS or FedEx overnight.

Mr. Dickie said he would do that and he just wants to make sure they are going to have it so when they get up there on Thursday they have everything they need and they can proceed with the closing. It's at 10:30 in Laconia so I'll be up there signing on behalf of Farmington he said.

Old Fire Station Parking- Mr. Dickie said they had the presentation as Mr. LeMere touched on earlier with the EPA presenting and they also had a couple of ladies from Boston that are part of the EPA and there was a woman from NH DES in Concord. He said they did their presentation and they suspect by the end of Oct. that the test holes will probably be in and then it went into different areas of old Fire Dept. as to where they want to put these test holes in and monitor them.

He said they are going to have to have some vehicles moved as there seems to be some more than long term parking and there are some motorcycles that are covered over and there is a car in there that is not registered so Mr. Brannan is working with Mr. LeMere to get some signs up there because they don't want to ban the overnight parking because sometimes people park in there when they work and take the Coast bus to go to work and come back but we don't want any long term parking in there either.

He said in talking with Mr. King about 15 years ago there may have been some type of agreement made and he will have to learn what that is.

Mr. King said there may have been some site plans where they went to the Board of Selectmen to meet their parking requirements and there was at least one case where to meet their parking requirement for their multi-unit downtown they were allowed to use that. He said there may be 1 or 2 units that were granted some access and if they post it they may come in and say who they are but he didn't remember them offhand. If we ever do sell that we're going to have to reserve some for municipal parking anyways he said.

Mr. Dickie said when other areas of the parking lot are going to get drilled they will have to post stuff on the Town website to ask them to move their cars out of the way so they can get those test pits in there so they can get the tests completed. He said the \$80,000 we got to do this covers them putting these test pits in and the first round of monitoring of the well.

He said Planning Director Kyle Pimental mentioned that they (SRPC) had \$400,000 or \$500,000 that they got to cover any additional costs above and beyond for additional testing if that's

required.

Mr. King said or for cleanup.

Mr. Staples said the cleanup would be a whole different thing.

Mr. King said Mr. Pimental said the money they got could be used for cleanup.

Mr. Staples said the EPA said if things were found and it had to get to that they could put in for more funds. He said when they were down at the old fire station he noticed that the stairs going up the side of the Fire Dept. are not barricaded or blocked off and there are no signs saying keep off and they are in horrible shape.

Mr. Dickie said they need to be taken down.

Mr. King said they should just block the access to the stairs not take them down. He suggested they put up some 2 x 4's and some signage and tell people to stay off.

Mr. Dickie said if they don't take them down somebody is going to up them and is going to fall and get hurt.

Mrs. Titus said once they put up the 2 x 4's and the sign that should cover the Town legally if somebody goes up there.

Mr. Staples said he accompanied Mr. Dickie when he escorted the EPA and DES reps into the building and it was humiliating the way that building has been left by the he previous staff. He said whoever was in charge of transferring from the old Fire Dept. to the new Fire Dept. should be embarrassed because as a Selectman he was humiliated and as a taxpayer he was pissed. He said they left everything and there's a gym in there, they left their computer desks, there's a bunch of paperwork everywhere, all the beds are there, there's air conditioners and TV's everything is scattered in there and what really upset him was apparently that was a volunteer Fire Dept. that was built by volunteers and their plaques are discarded like trash and thrown on the side of the Fire Dept. wall that were in honor of companies and people around town that donated that should be up on the Fire Dept. wall down there (at the Public Safety Building).

Mr. King said he couldn't disagree with that.

Mr. Vachon said he brought this up a couple of years ago.

Motion: (Staples, second King) to get those plaques from the volunteers that donated to build that building put up on the new Fire Dept. wall;

Discussion: Mrs. Morin asked if it is safe to go into the building to get the plaques.

Mr. Staples said yes the building is safe to be in.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. King asked if they need to get a roll off over there.

Mr. Vachon said oh yes but the paperwork should be gone through to see if there's stuff there they should keep.

Mr. Dickie said he needs to get some of the old volunteer Firefighters in there because the old trucks have been completely stripped and taken apart and all that stuff is across the whole bottom of the fire station and he doesn't know what stuff goes where.

Mr. King asked if the old trucks that were at Collins & Aikman are over there and disassembled. Mr. Dickie said they're the old 1935 pumper truck that came into town and the 1938 is the ladder truck. He said the ladders are still on the truck but the hoses and the pump that was on the front of the ladder truck has been taken off and everything on the pump truck has been taken off.

Mr. King asked if they were given permission by a prior board to store them in there and disassemble them.

Mr. Dickie said he does not know who did it and he has no idea. He said he knows they're there and they're disassembled and there's stuff scattered across the 4 bays and a lot of that stuff belongs on those trucks.

Mrs. Morin asked how long ago they moved into the new building.

Mr. King said it's been 5+ years.

Mrs. Morin said a lot of our Firefighters were still here in those 6 years so they should know how those things got there and what the paperwork is.

Mr. King said he didn't think it was unreasonable to expect that when they have some free time of our current Fire Dept. to go in there to do what needs to be done.

Mr. Vachon and Mr. Staples said it should have been done in the first place.

Mr. King said he agreed and if we have time to wash trucks we have time to go up there and clean that place up.

Mr. Staples said he was shocked because he has been in the old Police Station and saw how the Police pulled out and left it and he was expecting the same thing. He said if you go in the kitchen the stove is in there, there's a brand new refrigerator in there, all the silverware and all the dining stuff is still left in there. They took the trucks and left he said.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie if would get on this. He said he sent him some contact information for a former Firefighter and that he could probably scrounge up a few more if needs them.

Mr. King said their ability to keep those vehicles there is coming to an end.

Mr. Staples asked who the trucks belong to.

Mr. Vachon said those trucks are owned by the Firefighter Association. He said they were allowed to store them there and they were at the Highway Dept. before. He said you can get storage containers for fairly cheap and they will fit in storage containers because that's where they were stored on Mount Vernon St. in storage containers on private property by a former Firefighter.

Mr. Staples said that he could see the downstairs may have been storage and that maybe the Fire Dept. put some parts downstairs but what is upstairs is complete laziness.

Mr. Vachon said he believes the stuff on the first floor is expired gear and things that are out of date and cannot be used in fire safety.

Mr. King said then it's trash and somebody needs to pick up the trash.

Mr. Vachon said they are trying to sell that building and nobody is going to want to have to pay

to get rid of all stuff as well as paying for the property which was his complaint when he first got on this board and found it in that state. I brought it up on a couple of occasions and nothing got done with it he said.

Mr. Vachon and Mr. King said they hope that doesn't happen this time.

Selectmen said they had a feeling Mr. Dickie will get on this.

9). Next Meeting: Monday, July 31, 2023

10). Non-Public Session B:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Compensation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Morin, Staples, Titus-aye) at 7:38 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:13 p.m.

11). Non-Public Session C:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Titus, Staples. Morin-aye) at 8:13 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:35 p.m.

12). Non-Public Session D:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) 8:35 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:44 p.m.

13). Adjournment:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 8:44 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon, Recording Secretary

Gerry Vachon, Chairman




Charlie King, Vice Chairman



Ann Titus

Penny Morin



Douglas Staples