

Minutes of the May 30, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Joe De Freitas, Bill Hall, Delbert Cloud, Sandra Stevens, Janet Bennett, Lisa Campbell, and Amy Danley-White for the "Herald of Randolph."

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, this meeting being held in lieu of the "regular" meeting of May 28th, that being the Memorial Day holiday. The Board initially approved the weekly payroll and payables, and Chairman Fox then opened the meeting to public inquiry or comment.

Sandra Stevens and Janet Bennett asked if the Town would look at the way in which the Town plow truck deposits snow at the end of the class 3 portion of Bryant Road, because it can be difficult for the resident on the class 4 portion (Janet Bennett) to get out. It was agreed that Delbert Cloud would look into the matter prior to the next winter maintenance season, with the expectation that an agreeable solution could be found.

Lisa Campbell asked for clarification of the membership on the Parks and Public Places Committee. It is understood that some present members on the Committee are not actively involved, and that some members have interest in certain elements of the tasks, but not all of them. It was further agreed that it appears more rational to have one Committee rather than two, as the present structure implies (there is a sub-committee charged with urban forestry matters). Neal Fox suggested, per discussion at the previous meeting on May 14th, that Lisa Campbell be appointed as Chair of the Parks and Public Places Committee with the charge that she determine who has interest in serving on the subject committee and to report such information to the Board, enabling the Board to formalize current membership appointments. This suggestion was placed in the form of a motion by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried.

The minutes of the May 14, 2012 meeting were then approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried. The Board next considered amendments suggested for the minutes of the April 9, 2012 meeting of the Board. It was agreed that some additional information about the discussion of follow-up "Irene" issues should be made to the record, and the amended minutes were approved by motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

The Board discussed the meeting schedule for the month of June, noting that the present meeting does not provide opportunity to spend much time on several matters of business requiring the Board's attention due to the joint meeting in Royalton starting at 7:00 PM. It was also noted that a member of the Board has a conflict in his schedule for June 11. It was thus agreed that the next meeting should be scheduled for June 4, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Bethel Town Office, and that the second meeting of the month would be on the regular date, June 25, 2012.

The Board next reviewed and placed on file the following minutes of other Boards and Committees: (1) Planning Commission "notes" of May 16, 2012; (2) Bethel Recreation Committee minutes of May 14, 2012; (3) Transportation Advisory Committee minutes of May 10, 2012; and (4) regional planning commission minutes of April 25, 2012 and May 2, 2012.

Delbert Cloud then explained the basis by which the Green Mountain Water Environment Association, Inc. had become aware of the extensive amount of work various water and wastewater operators had performed in the aftermath of Irene which had contributed immensely to the recovery effort, and supported the public need at the time of crisis. The Town of Bethel Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, Tim Mills, was one of the people recognized by the Association. A much-deserved award was presented by the Association to Mr. Mills at the Association's annual meeting in Killington on May 24, 2012.

Regarding the continuing recovery work necessitated by "Irene," the Board noted that two workshops are scheduled in June to provide training for citizens who wish to help in disaster responses. One of these relates to assisting in the operation of relief shelters, and the other relates to coordination of volunteers and dissemination of information. The

Board members will consider how to best ensure that people interested in providing such assistance know about the training opportunities, and the matter will be discussed again at the next meeting.

A “News Release” dated May 17, 2012 from FEMA was reviewed and placed on file, this advising of the fact that FEMA financial assistance for repair of public infrastructure would be increased from 75% to 90% of eligible costs. The Board also examined a FEMA “Project Worksheet” setting forth the cost of repairing Town Bridge #49 on Town Highway #79 (Old Route 12) at \$929,941.47. FEMA officials have questioned if it is in the public interest to spend that much money on a structure serving a limited purpose when the FEMA “Alternate Projects Policy” may provide the Town with up to \$753,252.58 to spend in other way(s) which might provide a broader public benefit. It was agreed that this subject would be taken up at the next meeting on June 4, 2012, to establish a direction to proceed. It was also noted that a letter dated May 18, 2012 regarding this matter has been received from Sandra Ford et. al.

Under “other business,” the Board endorsed a “Dog Warrant” for issuance to the Town Constable for his use in dealing with unlicensed dogs within the Town.

By motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM to reconvene in joint session with the Royalton Selectboard at 17 North Windsor Street, Royalton, Vermont to discuss business associated with the solid waste program. Minutes of the joint session were kept by the Royalton Selectboard and will be available separately from the Town of Royalton. At approximately 8:15 PM, the joint session concluded, and on behalf of the Bethel Selectboard the motion was made by Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, to adjourn from this evening to the next meeting date of June 4, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Bethel Town Office.

Neal Fox

Joe De Freitas

Bill Hall