

Minutes of the June 4, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Joe De Freitas, Bill Hall, Delbert Cloud, Abbie Sherman, Nick Nikolaidis, Heidi Nikolaidis, Ellen Nobile, Geneva Gaiko, Mary Floyd, Derrick Wright, Laura Rubenis, and Jennifer Marx for the "Herald of Randolph."

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, the Board first reviewing and approving the weekly payroll and payables. E-mail communications from Willy Walker and Kristin LaFromboise were received and placed on file, these commending the cooperation of the Town Crew in certain work done at the school athletic fields.

Chairman Fox then requested public comment or inquiry; Joe De Freitas advised that he had been asked to introduce two concerns for the full Board's attention. First, he spoke of the request still before the Board for consideration of the Town Hall's usage and how to promote such usage, as well as consideration of applicable rates for the usage. Nick Nikolaidis affirmed that he and others do have interest in further discussion on this subject. It was agreed that the matter would be placed on the agenda for the meeting on July 23, 2012, and that people interested in reviewing rates for use of the Hall could contact officials who have authority over other facilities to see what rates are presently being charged for use of their buildings.

Secondly, Mr. De Freitas said several people have indicated confusion over the status of appointments and responsibilities of members on the Parks and Public Places Committee. Heidi Nikolaidis provided a summation page of activities and projects which the Committee has done, many of these being annually recurring. Discussion ensued which identified various points on which people seek clarifications, and it was agreed that the subject would be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting on June 25, 2012.

Chairman Fox then directed the meeting to the order of the agenda. The minutes of the May 30, 2012 meeting of the Selectboard were approved by motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

Two workshops are currently being offered under the auspices of Vermont Emergency Management for citizens who wish to prepare for future disaster events and be better able to provide assistance for the public good. Since he has attended a recent workshop on "emergency shelter" issues, Joe De Freitas offered to speak with various individuals who have background experience that might be helpful in operating shelters, to see if they would be willing to take the training. It was also agreed that information should be inserted in the "Herald of Randolph" about the availability of the second offering which is for citizens who might wish to participate on a "Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)." It was confirmed that Joe De Freitas would discuss the matter of funding for an emergency generator with school officials, and Delbert Cloud would speak with David Eddy to identify matters associated with sizing of a generator and associated installations, with the intent of filing an application for financial assistance with Vermont Homeland Security to procure an appropriate generator.

The Board next considered the potential amendment of the Town's "Ordinance Limiting the Discharge of Firearms in the Town of Bethel," the concern being about the safety and nuisance issues of firearms being discharged at the Town's former gravel pit on Peavine Boulevard. It was agreed that Chairman Fox would see if a Game Warden or other law enforcement official having familiarity with shooting range set-ups might be available to speak with the Board at a forthcoming meeting.

Delbert Cloud then explained the association between several documents (FEMA Project Worksheet, FEMA Alternate Projects Policy, and a Preliminary H&H Assessment done by Dubois & King, Inc.) and the question of whether, or not, it is in the public's best interest to reconstruct the second of two bridges on Old Route 12. He informed the Board of the time factors inherent in making a determination on this matter, and suggested that if an "Alternate Project" were to be evaluated, the process set forth under Vermont Statutes Title 19 Sections 708-711 should be initiated soon. After due consideration, motion was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and

unanimously carried, to initiate the procedures whereby a Public Hearing could be held at the Board's meeting on July 9, 2012.

Cloud next explained the information provided by a FEMA report about the levels of public assistance given in various Towns. He also summed up the projects still to be completed in the recovery from Irene, noting that bid invitations are to be available this week for many of the remaining items now that both insurance settlements and FEMA reviews are being finished. He added that he is pleased with the final resolutions made recently between the Town, FEMA, and the Federal Highway Administration regarding repairs on Peavine Boulevard. He then explained requests from two property owners for assistance from the Town to repair their lands which had been damaged in conjunction with Town responses to flood damage, recommending in both cases that these matters should be accepted as Town responsibilities. The Board members concurred, and motion in both instances was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried, to provide appropriate repair at Town expense.

At 7:50 PM, the motion was made by Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried, to enter executive session to consider matters associated with litigation in which the Town is a party. Delbert Cloud and Abbie Sherman were the only people remaining with the Board during the executive session; no minutes were kept. Upon return to open meeting at 8:12 PM, no motion was forthcoming. The Board continued to other business.

In consideration of the Town's "Wellness Program" and a May 15, 2012 memo from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, it was agreed by motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, to include "Dental Benefit Plan #4" as a Town employee benefit.

It was agreed that Joe De Freitas would speak with officials of ECFiber to see if quotations of cost for provision of services to various Town facilities could be expedited.

Delbert Cloud informed the Board that the communications tower at the Town Garage site might in fact be built this summer, as a tenant for the tower has seemingly contracted with the Vermont Telecommunications Authority for use of tower space.

As business of the Boards of Water and Sewage Disposal Commissioners, allocations of 810 gallons/day of water and 840 gallons/day of sewer were authorized by motion of Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried, for property at 102 South Main Street currently owned by Adam Hadlock.

By motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Hall and unanimously carried, it was clarified that employees could include grandchildren within the season pass privilege for use of the Town Recreation Center.

The only other item of additional business was to review and place on file the May 30th results of streamwater quality testing done by the White River Partnership. With no further business to attend, the motion to adjourn was made at 8:37 PM by Bill Hall, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

Neal Fox

Joe De Freitas

Bill Hall