

SELECTMEN'S MEETING-- July 1, 2024

Present: Chris Ellms, Margo Connors, Richard Bielefield
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Judy & Larry Sawyer, Brian Beaulieu, John Tardelli, Claire & Fred Von Karls, Paul Reid, John Barth, Nancy Martland, Fire chief Allan Clark

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

The board will not meet on July 15th, 2024.

RICHARD BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the minutes, of June 24, 2024, seconded by MARGO CONNORS. The motion passed unanimously

The board received additional information regarding the Sabados appeal from administrative decision.

Jennifer advised that the tax maps are up online and waiting for the town to review. Links have been sent to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission for comment.

Chief Ho-Sing-Loy has continued the FEMA process for the December 2023 storm and it has been submitted for review.

Community Power announced a rate of 8.6 cents for Granite Basic for the August 2024 to January 2025 period.

MARGO CONNORS spoke with Melissa Elander about the municipal solar grant that is due August 1, 2024. Jennifer will look for the solar information that was previously used regarding placement of an array behind the Crapo Building.

The board discussed additions to the 10 Year Plan for North Country Council. Will add the area by Polly's regarding pedestrian signage and the pull off scenic vista across from Iris Farm. The board also advised that NCC Sugar Hill Representative Carl Martland was working to try and get the speed limit on Route 117 down to one speed as currently is 30, 35 and 40 in different places. Also discussed placing of Welcome to Sugar Hill signs on either end of the Main Street area.

The board received correspondence from the Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee and they are looking for another representative from Sugar Hill. Anyone interested should contact the Select Board office.

The temporary driveway permit applications are being reviewed by Road Agent Glover and they need to be marked. Jennifer will contact GZA and have them reach out to Doug.

The Board of Adjustment approved a variance for Mike Cavanaugh to add apartments at 580 Route 117. The ZBA has appointed John Colony as temporary Chairperson as Mike Hern will be leaving. The Select Board would like to acknowledge Mike's service on the board since 1991.

The board approved the use of the Crapo Lawn on the following dates:
Sept 20-22, Sept 27-30, Oct 4-7, and Oct 11-14.
The Crapo Parking Lot July 23rd and Augst 20th for the Pizza Truck

The USDA Wildlife Services in NH notified the board that they will be setting traps in the fall with the town's permission. This is for skunks and raccoons which are then tested for rabies. They will also be distributing oral rabies vaccine baits in Grafton and Coos County in August. 2023 results showed rabies in 36.7% of raccoon samples tested. (18/49). Of the three skunks, one tested positive.

The board reviewed a Septic that was approved for construction:
Map 220, Lot 8 Michael Bucior (old Map 219, Lot 11)

CHIEF CLARK met with the board to present a petition to form a mutual aid district for the regionalization of resources related to Hazardous Materials incidents in the North Country. It is felt that this is the most efficient and effective method of dealing with the high risk, low frequency incidents. Chief Clark presented the By Laws of the Northern NH Hazardous Materials Mutual Aid District. Twin State and North Pac Mutual Aid agreed in 2022 to jointly form a District. This is also endorsed by the NH State Fire Marshalls Office and grant funding has been received to purchase equipment. The cost for Sugar Hill to belong is \$250 and an annual per capita fee of .30 cents per community. Approximately \$490.00 total for Sugar Hill.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to sign the petition to form a mutual aid district, seconded by MR. ELLMS, the motion passed unanimously. This is just to form a district and the board would vote to join once it is formed. The Chief also stated that there have been 13 fire fatalities in the state and that 11 of the deaths there were no working smoke detectors. The department hopes to do a program at no cost to the town to offer smoke detector inspections and provide detectors when needed. The Chief also reported on an illegal burn on Route 18 just on the town line. The State will review as it was unpermitted and commercial. The owner will be billed for the time of seven men and an engine and tanker to respond. In addition, Chief Clark advised the board that there was an illegal recreation vehicle set up and hooked to electric and water which is against town zoning regulations. The board had previously advised the owner that it was not a permitted use and they will be sent a letter and time line to remove or a daily fine will be assessed. It is also believed the owner intends to add a dirt bike track for personal use. There was also a possibility of a wetland violation.

JOHN TARDELLI said that he had not been contacted by the Town Engineer or the Road Agent about his drainage. Jennifer will follow up. Mr. Tardelli also noted that there appears to be building activity across the street and that a driveway cut had been made up the road. Both issues will be followed up.

With no more business before the Board, MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday July 8, 2024, at 5:00 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator