# SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 5, 2020, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Shawn Cochran, Rebecca Kirk

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** Fire Department complaint, Shooting in the sand pit
**Public Comment:** none
**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes of March 2, April 7, April 21

**Complaint:** The Town received a complaint from Rebecca Kirk and Shawn Cochran regarding the way they were treated by Tim Maclay during a recent bonfire at their house. Shawn stated that Tim Morris apologized for Tim Maclay because "that is just the way he acts." Jonathan Matthew was also on scene. Shawn is a former firefighter and has never seen firefighters act that way. He feels that he was treated unprofessionally. He was having a brush fire at his house. His neighbors were also having a brush fire at the same time. He didn't realize that a burn permit was needed. Rebecca stated that she felt threatened and assaulted by his language and his actions, stepping towards her and her son. They feel that the issue must be dealt with and they feel that the Plainfield Deputy Chief on scene should have asked him to leave because he was abusive.

Laurie expressed surprise that a firefighter would not know that burn permits are required. Bobbi noted that burning anything other than brush and untreated wood is not allowed even with a permit.

Rebecca explained that they apologized for not realizing that a burn ban was in effect, but regardless of whether or not a permit is needed, Tim's conduct was completely unprofessional and they should not have been treated that way.

Shawn and Rebecca also noted that only one of the responders was wearing fire gear.

Chris stated that he wants to hear from the other members of the Fire Department that were there. The Board will also follow up with the Fire Chief.

The Board discussed the best way to do a special meeting, either in person but distancing, or via video conferencing. Laurie will ask those who were present to give a written statement, and then the Board will hold a special meeting via Zoom.

**COVID-19:** Dan has estimated $650 to do the modifications to the Town Office to install a sneeze guard. The Board approved the purchase.

**Dogs:** The Board will extend the date to apply late fees to May 16th.

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**Railroad Bed:** Forest Farmers applied for a permit for work that they have already done under the Railroad Bed. The Board approved the permit, with the condition that they mark the location of the underground line. Rich Baker noted that Green Mountain Power has also done work on the Railroad Bed without a permit. They cleared an area at the end of Bailey Pond Road, approximately 15' x 100'. Rich noted that this would make a nice parking area.

**Humane Society Cat Contract:** tabled

**Highway Grants**: The grant application deadline has been extended to May 15th. Chris will follow up with the Road Foreman.

**Sand Pit:** Chris received a complaint about people shooting in the sand pit. Chris noted that this was a problem in the past, but after Safety Zone posters were put up, the problem seemed to go away. Chris is going to put up new signs.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll**: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. The Board authorized Rich to sign on behalf of the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the May 5, 2020 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk

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