

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2016
6:00 PM
1 Monument Square
Alton, NH 03809
Approved: December 5, 2016

Cydney Johnson convened the meeting at 6:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following members and staff were present:

Cydney Johnson, Chairwoman
Lou LaCourse, Vice Chairman
Philip V. Wittmann, Selectman
Virgil MacDonald, Selectman
John Markland, Selectman
Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator

Approval of the Agenda

Cydney Johnson requested moving the Non Public Session to after Public Input II and Virgil MacDonald seconded with all in favor.

John Markland made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Virgil MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements:

- Town Office's will be closed on Thursday November 24th and Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Appointments:

Jeff Hayes, Director; Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC)

Mr. Hayes was called to the table for his presentation. He brought visual examples with him which showed the work that has been done on behalf of the Town of Alton:

- Parks and Recreation Commission ~ Map of the Parks and Trails
- Department of Transportation ~ Map of the Scenic Byway for the entire region with a spur off to Route 28A
- 10 Year Transportation Plan with NH DOT prioritized by projects ~ Route 11 project from Minge Cove to Ellacoya State Park

- Public Works ~ Catch basins; did GPS and mapped over 300 locations for the community which are important for infrastructure
- Hazard Mitigation Plan ~ Being worked on by applying for a grant with the State and to be eligible for FEMA funding
- Town Planner ~ Some inquires with that Department
- Household Hazardous Waste ~ Very involved with the product facility; feasibility and funding; running a 24 Town HHW collection each year.

Mr. Hayes urged the Board to continue the Town's membership with Lakes Region Planning Commission (further referred to as LRPC).

Virgil MacDonald questioned the fact that LRPC works with the State for regional transportation projects so why is LRPC not pushing for the rumble strip situation? Mr. Hayes responded that they could be pushing on the issue, that they are always willing and able to participate, if they are called upon.

Phil Wittmann viewed in a pamphlet that LRPC addresses items such as climate change, energy efficiency and housing choices and has done grants for workforce housing. As a former member Phil feels that some of these things may be of a political agenda. Mr. Hayes does not believe that they are a political organization; they are member organized with a governing board which is controlled. Phil voiced his concerns, talked about LRPC working with Granite State Futures and he is not overly in favor of the organization. Many people could or would construe that this organization has a political agenda. Also, Phil noted his displeasure with federal grants.

Mr. Hayes stated that no federal grants are being pushed on the Town of Alton and that he is in no way any part of any conspiracy, we certainly don't want to push anything on anyone that doesn't want help, we are completely voluntary and you can choose to be a member of the organization. We are advisory and have no regulatory authority. We try to listen to the membership and give you the best assistance and information that is asked for which is what we try to do. We have no agendas.

Phil Wittmann noted that he did not think personally Mr. Hayes has a political agenda but some people may construe that the organization may have one and would not want their tax money supporting it.

Cydney Johnson stated that based on the 30-member community membership if the majority decided not to have a particular speaker then it would have been a decision of the governing body to have had a different topic of discussion. The topics being discussed are what the majority decide upon.

Mr. Hayes responded that all of the decisions that are made are done in a democratic fashion by the governing body which are the 30 communities in the region.

Cydney Johnson further stated that if we want to have a say in what goes on in the communities around us it would behoove us to be a member verses stepping back and not being a member and let the others decide what is going to happen. Mr. Hayes was in agreement and felt that someone needs to be there to voice their opinion in order to make a difference.

Virgil MacDonald inquired about the membership with Mr. Hayes responding there are 30 communities in the Lakes Region and all 30 communities are members.

Mr. Hayes stated that it is of great concern to their organization that the Town may not continue with their membership.

Mr. Hayes was thanked for taking the time to speak with the Board.

Jay Johonnett; Ransom Consulting & Engineering, Inc., Route 11D Bore Drilling

Jay Johonnett from Ransom Consulting approached the Board to speak on behalf of his company which is an environmental engineering consulting company. The project is a long ongoing project on Route 11D that is a historic petroleum remediation project. DES has asked that we do some additional investigation related to the property that will involve bore drilling in the Town's right of way. The proper channels have been gone through; the preliminary approvals have been obtained and he is here to seek the Board's approval. The location back in the 1970's was a former gas station, several years later in 1998 it was discovered that there was petroleum contamination leaking from the tanks that remained in place which have since been removed however there is some residual contamination likely underneath the roadway heading towards Alton Bay. There will be six (6) drillings which will not impede traffic too much; three (3) on each side of the road so there will always be a lane and one half open. This will be about a two (2) day project. Cydney Johnson inquired as to the timeframe of which the work will need to be done? Mr. Johonnett responded ASAP; hopefully within the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Virgil MacDonald made a motion to allow the bore drilling on Route 11D and Lou LaCourse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

It was noted that there will be Police coverage.

Sylvia Leggett; Rumble Strips

Sylvia Leggett approached the Board and read the following prepared statement:

Good evening. My name is Sylvia Leggett. I reside at 76 Gilman's Corner Road and I own a business at 1439 Wolfeboro Highway, Roberts Knoll Campground. I would like to start by thanking the Alton Board of Selectmen for their support in this on-going rumble strip issue. I am here tonight to ask that the Board continue their support.

After reading NHDOT Commissioner Sheehan's letter of October 31, 2016, I was very disheartened to see that she identifies this letter as the 'Alton Final Response'. I was also disheartened by the Board of Selectmen response at their November 7th meeting. I for one believe the Town and its citizens have a very good argument for the removal of the centerline rumble strips.

I will go way back to April 10, 2015 and the only communication that I know of that NHDOT made with the Town regarding the rumble strip project. There are several facets of that letter that bear attention.

- 1. The specific road identified in our community where rumble strips were proposed was along Suncook Valley Road (NH Route 28). To me this identifies NH Route 28 south of the traffic circle and we all know that those rumble strips were installed in error.*
- 2. According to the letter, not all of NH Route 28 is receiving rumble strips. The only other section of NH Route 28 in Alton is north of the traffic circle, where we had triple strips initially installed!*
- 3. The NHDOT Department's Guidelines for the Installation of Milled Rumble Strips was attached to that correspondence. Those guidelines were dated September 9, 2013 and state that 'A public informational meeting will be held within the affected communities'. The guidelines were revised on August 23, 2015 and made a public meeting a recommendation. To my knowledge, that revision was not sent to the Town and I therefore strongly believe that the NHDOT needed to live by the guidelines presented to the Town. A public informational meeting should have been held. This is a legal question that the Town should explore.*

Now let's fast forward to the July 29, 2016 letter from NHDOT Commissioner Sheehan. In her opening paragraph she acknowledged the concerns of the Alton citizens – constant noise from the rumble strips, loss of sleep, location of the strips on the edge line, the potential impact to vacation business and property values, and the lack of advance notice or opportunity for public input in advance of the project. She stated, "given the level of negative feedback, the Department believes remedial action is warranted to address and rectify the situation". Commissioner Sheehan noted four actions. Numbers 1 and 2 were addressed, with the removal of the centerline rumble strips south of the circle and the edge line rumble strips north of the circle. Number 3 stated that the center line rumble strips would remain. After meeting with Assistant Commissioner Cass, and receiving no agreements for further remedial action, you asked for a meeting with NHDOT Commissioner Sheehan, which took place on September 19th. What was not addressed at that meeting nor in Commissioner Sheehan's October 31st letter was action #4 in her July 29th letter. "We recognize the concern about passing zones and will consider eliminating/stripping out passing zones in areas of particular receptors and with consensus from the community". From that statement, I took it to mean that in passing zone areas where disturbing levels of noise had been identified, that NHDOT would take further action. I do not think that their one-week analysis of one or two passing zones equates with too much consideration for the citizens of Alton!

Now I want to ask why Alton has a Noise Ordinance. I believe the answer lies in the Alton Master Plan. In a community survey done in 2005 in an effort to update the master plan, citizens were asked "What makes Alton A Good Place to Live?" Included in the top four answers: small town atmosphere, scenic & natural environment, lakes, and uncrowded & **quiet living conditions**.

Our Noise Ordinance was in pursuance of and for the purpose of securing and promoting the public health, comfort, convenience, safety, welfare and prosperity and the **peace and quiet of Alton and its inhabitants**. Under the violation section A, it shall be unlawful for any person to make, continue or cause to be made or continued any excessive, unnecessary or unusually loud noise which either annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others, within the limits of the Town. I believe that the rumble strips installed by NHDOT are in direct violation with this ordinance and offer a further legal avenue that should be pursued by the Town.

In closing, I want to challenge the Alton Board of Selectmen to continue to fight for the citizens of Alton who have had their quality of life turned upside down by the installment of the rumble strips. I believe that the argument that this is NHDOT's final answer with no opportunity to further argue the point is defeatist and not in the interest of Alton's citizens and taxpayers. You need to look beyond just the financial point of view of just the legal aspect. Alton's property values anywhere adjacent to NH Route 28 north of the circle are or will be adversely affected. Who wants to live next to the noise given a choice? However, the greatest reason you need to continue this fight against these rumble strips, is to restore the quality of life to the citizens of Alton who live within hearing distance of these unwanted and unlawful loud noises. In other words, enforce the Town of Alton Noise Control Ordinance!

As stated in this past Sunday's NH Sunday News, **State Fumbles Rumbles**. The NHDOT is now working on new guidelines. They acknowledge that its "one size fits all" approach and lack of public hearings in affected communities contributed to an unanticipated and potentially costly backlash. According to the NHDOT spokesman Bill Boynton, "with sufficient public pressure under the right circumstances, they can be removed". Let's keep the pressure on NHDOT. Please do not roll over for the State and make us live with these rumble strips.

Thank you.

Sylvia Leggett provided copies of the NH Sunday News article on rumble strips to the Board and explained that Bill Boynton is NH DOT's Public Relations Director; she has sent several communications to him with no response back from him or from other folks at NH DOT that have been communicated with; there has been no personal response what so ever.

Public Input I (limited to 3 minutes per person; subject matter ~ agenda items only)

The following residents/taxpayers voiced their concerns:

- Joe MacDonald ~ Voiced that if something is not done about the rumble strips now they will be back in every state road; they were brought up as a safety issue with only two (2) accidents in ten (10) years. This needs to be stopped now and will only get worse. They are destroying our lives
- Rick Perrault ~ In speaking about the rumble strips it might be coordinated a bit with the federal government by more money being given if the strips are installed. Safety issues were discussed. He believes that the Board and committees of the Town are the best option for running its own community and is not in favor of regional things such as LRPC and is not in favor of the Town's membership.
- Lael Paulson ~ Thanked the Board for their effort and voiced he is deeply disappointed with the results of the removal of the rumble strips and urged the Board for the need to push for something further even if it means additional compromises such as removal of the rumble strips at the beginning of each of the passing zones, extend the zones at each intersection or less aggressive rumble strips. He further requested that DOT be closely monitored to see what they do moving forward and as a Town to push DOT to replace our rumble strips with a friendly design that they may adopt in the future.
- David Countway~ Voiced the impact of the rumble strips on the residents and Town then urged the Board to take and be led by the example of the recent decision of the Concord City Council by turning down federal grant monies like their recent decision. He felt keeping this issue alive was important; it was federal grant money that brought this issue to the community and if there was an opportunity to be heard it could have been spent better with safer sidewalks or a breakdown lane or for safety issues that could be addressed. He is not against federal money. Speaking as a realtor this does have an impact on the property values and residents of Alton to sell their homes with the additional noise.
- Barbara Howard ~ Spoke about the last meeting downstairs regarding the rumble strips; in speaking with the state they have made the roads narrower to save on paving costs. In her opinion they are shoving this down our throats without any consideration; there is no room for error. If they are going to draw a hard line in the sand maybe, we ought to boycott by not paying the state portion of our taxes. The state should not be interfering with how our Town should be run. Her belief is that we should not be having a say in another town's business or them in ours. She is not in favor of LRPC
- Ray Howard ~ Referred to LRPC being commissioned by the federal government and funded by HUD. Are we getting the amount of services that we are paying for; these are our tax dollars. It is his belief that none of the communities should be paying dues to them to be a member. SB146 regarding accessory dwellings was referenced; this will kill NH. He questioned the Town's receipt of the updated flood plain map. LRPC should be notifying us when DOT is involved in projects.

- Russ Wilson ~ It was his opinion that there are paid employees here in Town to access federal grants, we can choose the grants that we need rather than having an outside group (referring to LRPC) steering us to their agenda. Our residents know more about our needs than outside agencies.
- Mona Perrault ~ Voiced her support of Phil Wittmann's statement and that she is not a supporter of the LRPC. They are rooted in the UN, Agenda 21. She also referred to global warming or climate changes which is not scientific data; there is no base, it is political.
- Jonathan Downing ~ In his experience with rumble strips just the noise alone is a distraction and it is his observation that the water with freeze/thaw issues would cause more problems. As far as the LRPC, his relationship with them through the Parks and Recreation Commission has been very positive. We probably don't have the representation and recommends that if a Board member cannot attend their meetings they should appoint somebody that can report back to them. He is in support of continuing with LRPC.
- Jeff Hayes ~ It is NH RSA:36 that creates regional planning commissions, it is NH legislation that makes it voluntary for Town's to be a member if they so choose. There is no federal mandate, 10% to 15% is collected from dues from the communities; with membership being our governing board. Rumble strips are implemented to save money being a low cost way to keep drivers from going off the road; low cost doesn't always make the most sense. There is recognition that they are a big issue; believing that there is an opportunity to turn this issue around.
- Ray Howard ~ Reiterating RSA:36, stating it was an enabling RSA to allow the federal government to come in here to set up these planning commissions, there is no state government it is all federal through HUD or some other federal agency; it is our tax dollars, we should not have to pay dues.

Lou LaCourse inquired of Mr. Hayes where the other 80% of funding for LRPC comes from?

Mr. Hayes' response was currently they have zero dollars from HUD in their budget, a lot of the funding comes from NH DOT, private foundations, contracts with communities to work on their master plans. It changes yearly depending on the needs of the communities and what involvement there is throughout the year. There is no control from the federal government. He urged the Board to please read RSA:36. Sometimes LRPC applies for federal grants. Virgil MacDonald inquired about LRPC operating budget with Mr. Hayes responding for the normal operating core budget that is where the dues come in. There is nothing in the LRPC bylaws or by anybody but the representatives of town government that shows the federal government governing our organization and he would be happy to show anyone who would like to see them.

Lou LaCourse wanted to make it clear that at the last meeting when the decision was made to post the NH DOT letter on our website and in the newspaper it was not for any other reason other than informing the people of Alton. We did not put it there to say this was the end, we've stopped fighting or anything like that. We received the letter, felt that some people would see it on the website, some people would not so we asked the representative of the newspaper if he would put it in the paper so that all the Alton citizen's see it. This was the only reason it was put in the paper, for information. Phil Wittmann agreed and stated with the new administration in Concord, Joe Kenney is already aware of the rumble strip situation and is told that the new governor elect is not a person who likes stayed bureaucrats and agencies to mess with the Town's too much so we may find that we have a new ally in the new governor.

Sylvia Leggett inquired if there were any plans for further action or is it going to be a wait and see?

Virgil MacDonald stated that it is still being discussed. The ball has not been dropped, we are still discussing what avenues to take, trying to come up with some type of plan.

New Business:

Petition Warrant Article; Zoning Ordinance

The Town Administrator, Liz Dionne stated that RSA 675:4 shows that anyone that produces a petition warrant article for a zoning change, historical change or a building code change, it has to come to the Board of Selectmen to determine whether it is written correctly. Virgil MacDonald stated that the name is supposed to be printed and written with the address; this petition has no printed names. Liz Dionne noted that this has not been certified by the Town Clerk's Office yet. Cydney Johnson mentioned that this is simply to see if it is written correctly and it is up to their office to approve the signatures. It was written correctly and it was referred to the Town Planner who assisted in the draft of the writing. Virgil MacDonald asked why the Board was looking at this? Liz Dionne responded; state law requires it to be approved by the Board then secondly by the Planning Board and as the representative to the Planning Board you will be seeing this in the near future. The Board is just validating that it is written correctly, this is for informational purposes only. Virgil stated that he was not in agreement that this come before the Board. It was reiterated, state law requires it!

Old Business:

Harmony Park Retaining Wall

Kellie Troendle and Ken Roberts approached the table to speak on behalf of the issues with the Harmony Park retaining wall.

Lou LaCourse initially had concerns regarding the work but after seeing the pictures it appears to be necessary. Virgil MacDonald asked if a rip-rap permit was obtained. Kellie responded “no” that we are looking to do a temporary fix. Kellie further explained that the wall was being repaired by the masonry contractor, he reported an issue with the structure. As he was repairing and re-pointing the wall about 300 pounds of material fell out of the wall onto the staging area he was working from. The mason reported that the wall was failing. Cindy Balcius was contacted to see what the repair options would be under the DES permit; Ken Roberts was consulted and it was determined to stabilize the wall for safety by inserting concrete into the existing wall. Cindy Balcius contacted DES about the Town filing for an emergency permit which has been received. The mason recommended that the entire wall be replaced and rebuilt. Based on the size and the location of the wall the Town will have to have the wall engineered prior to construction. This type of project will need to be budgeted for as a capital project. Lou LaCourse questioned why this was not seen by the mason previously. It was explained by him that the front of the wall was all mortared and he was not able to see this at the time, behind the wall were dry rocks that were placed and not tied into anything else, just filled in so everything behind it is just pushing through the wall so he was not able to see it at the time. Virgil MacDonald talked about power grouting the wall for stabilization. Kellie was told that this type of wall was not built to stand forever, it’s a manmade structure and it will always need to be maintained. Water goes into it and it doesn’t come back out, it is not draining properly. There is a long term solution which is to put in a new type of wall and remove this stone wall with a precast type of interlocking wall. Virgil voiced that if we go through engineering etc. it could be upwards of 100K. Ken Roberts interjected stating that the wall that is failing, we are looking to do something temporary, he understands his point, you cannot dig out in the water and there is a very steep slope. None of this could be seen at high water. Years ago anything like this was dug out a mortar wall was built in front and then loose rock was thrown behind, that’s what is falling out of the current wall. The long portion of the wall is still stabilized and that this could be done in phases; there is 33’ section that needs to be dealt with currently. Ken mentioned the possibility of a warrant article and different options without having engineering done. Ken has spoken with someone from Redi-Block and we could use something similar to the beach with an interlocking type of wall to make things appear uniform. They will come in, give an estimate by their engineer, at no cost for the designing and show you exactly what you want and how it is done. A crane will be necessary to do the work due to the steepness of the slope at

the location and you can't go in the water. Ken recommended for the first phase to do the temporary work. Rocks have already been set aside from the cemetery. Virgil asked the cost for the temporary fix with Ken and Kellie responding other than man power \$4,600.00 for the crane and the barge. If the funding fails, we can get a DES extension. Lou questioned the holes in the wall that he saw which have already been filled in by the mason as part of the temporary fix. The rocks from the cemetery department will be put in place by using the crane and barge. They can begin the work on December 5th.

Lou LaCourse made a motion to allow the temporary fix so that there is time to discuss a long term solution and Virgil MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

New Riverside Cemetery Project Update

Ken Roberts spoke on behalf of this issue. Maps were provided to the Board of the areas in question which noted that they have hit ledge on the right hand side as well as behind the maintenance building. He is requesting permission to remove an apple tree. Ken has had a meeting with the State; they have donated some grates and we would like to install a catch basin towards the end of the property near the cross culvert and the State will allow us to tie into it and they will be responsible for the cleaning. Virgil inquired about a road coming out near the catch basin. Ken responded "no". Roads would be something that needs to be looked at in the future. At the second entrance there would be another catch basin by the State which will catch everything, shooting it across the road to a cross culvert so no water comes across the entrance. The stone wall will be rebuilt in line with the present wall at the cemetery. Once it is decided where the roads will be we can figure out where other catch basins might be located. Removing and rebuilding the wall, removing the apple tree then when the surveyor is done we will try and plot the ledge issue. The ledge elevation is almost flat with the maintenance shed. The septic system is behind the shed and also to left of it is ledge. The front side from the maintenance shed down is the area that is currently being worked on then we can work on the other areas in the back. There is almost 2000 yards of stone that has been screened but there is no good gravel in the area this cannot be used on roads. We will continue to screen and bale the materials.

Lou LaCourse made a motion to allow the tree removal and taking the stone wall out and resetting it back into the property line and Virgil MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2017 Insurance Quotes; Life/AD and Short Term

Summarized insurance quotes were provided to the Board. Liz Dionne recommended HealthTrust which had the lowest cost. The recommendation is not because of that but because they are the best company to work with; they deal only with municipalities; they understand us and we understand them.

John Markland made a motion to go with HealthTrust and Cydney Johnson seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 opposed, Virgil MacDonald.

Voting; Pearson Road

As requested by John Markland he wanted the Board's opinion on continuing with the voting at the Pearson Road location or whether to look at other alternatives. He was present at the election from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM and received many complaints regarding parking issues. There was a quick turnaround at this election however at the March election it will be a lengthy ballot. Lou noted that the Moderator had voiced renting additional parking from the garage next door; possibly this might not be enough. Cydney likes the idea of the possibility of using St. Katharine's Church and noted that the school doesn't work for many reasons. Virgil voiced closing the school for election day however we don't have the authority to do so. Lou voiced concerns of the distance to the church and he will speak with Father Cole regarding the use of the church facility. Virgil will check with the school about shutting down the school. We need to make a decision for the March Election. Liz Dionne mentioned that by law it is the Selectmen's responsibility to find the place for voting then it goes to the Moderator and the Town Clerk.

Virgil MacDonald requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the abutters that allowed parking on their properties. It was the consensus of the Board to send the letters of thanks.

Town Administrator's Report and Updates by Liz Dionne

Town Administrator Draft Job Description

A draft was provided to the Board of the Town Administrator's job description. Liz noted that no decision was necessary tonight.

Request PMHS Student using the Water Bandstand for a concert

A request from a Tri-M Music Honor Society student was received to use the water bandstand for a band concert. Our insurer was consulted and responded that it would be treated as any other structure that the Town owns. Regardless, the recommendation would be: not to be involved with any transport to or from the water

bandstand. The Board was in agreement that this request was a little premature and it will be revisited at a later date.

New Durham interest in contracting ambulance transport services

An email was provided to the Board from the Town of New Durham in regards to providing regional ambulance services to them. Also there is a response from our Fire Chief to this request. New Durham is seeking a response from the Board. Virgil MacDonald voiced that he is not in favor of the request. It was suggested possibly that time be taken to digest the request. It would be our ambulance going to New Durham. Cydney noted that if there was to be further discussion on this issue that the Board sit with our Fire Chief to discuss this in detail. Liz Dionne noted that there is a lot more to this such as staffing, paramedics etc.

It was the consensus of the Board to have our Fire Chief come in to discuss this issue.

Sample ideas for a thank you to the Garden Club

Sample ideas were provided to the Board for their review regarding a previous request for thanking the Garden Club for the beautification project in the Bay. The Board would like to take some time to look them over. Virgil MacDonald mentioned checking with Ken Roberts to see if there is any blasted granite that he might have somewhere then it can just be lettered. Liz Dionne will bring this up at the next meeting.

Lakes Region Tourism Association Contract

A staff report was provided to the Board in regards to the Lakes Region Tourism Association. They currently use an office in the Bay Community Center. Cydney Johnson suggested this be moved to Non-Public Session under (c) reputation with Liz Dionne in agreement.

Special Warrant Articles; Provide Recommendation

Liz Dionne has discovered that the warrant articles for nonprofit organizations are considered special warrant articles (money type) and that they do need the Board's recommendation. Recommendations have been made in the past from both the Board and the Budget Committee. Our DRA representative was consulted, she recited a specific state law that addresses the need for recommendations. Liz will provide a copy of the state law.

Selectmen's Committee Report

Phil Wittmann reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission had met he has not received any minutes yet however the Commission is requesting to come before the Board at the first meeting in December for their annual meeting. It is possible that they may have a request for an addition to the new bylaws for additional alternate members of the commission aside from the Selectboard.

John Markland reported that the Budget Committee has finished with Town Department heads. They will be voting on the budget on December 6th. Also they met with the school department to go over their budget.

Lou LaCourse met with the Conservation Commission walked and marked some of the boundary lines on the conservation property around Gilman Pond which currently has a little over 500 acres.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes:

November 7, 2016

John Markland made a motion to accept the minutes of Public Session I, November 7, 2016 as presented and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, Cydney Johnson.

John Markland made a motion to accept the minutes of Non Public Session, November 7, 2016 as amended (date change to November 7th) and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, Cydney Johnson.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Cydney Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and John Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Approved stipends for Cemetery Secretary and Parks and Recreation Director; \$1,400.00 for each.

Approved conditional hire Stacy Bailey, Part Time Secretary, Administration; \$13.78 per hour.

Approval of Land Use Items:

1. 2016 Application for Current Use-needs original signatures

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Rollins Stephen P | Off Mount Major Hwy | Map 17 Lot 2 |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|

2. 2016 Land Use Change Tax-needs original signatures

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|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| Hotchkiss Robert | 241 Drew Hill Road | Map 19 Lot 65 | \$5,400 |
| MAKS 4 Irrev Trust | Roberts Cove Road | Map 19 Lot 4-2 | \$11,000 |

3. 2016 Veteran's Credits \$3500.00

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|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Armel James | 137 Lockes Corner Rd | Map 1 Lot 16 | \$500.00 |
| Brushie Peter D | 129 Spring Street | Map 36 Lot 3 | \$500.00 |
| Kalishman Stanley | 55 Sleepy View Lane | Map 20 Lot 2-2 | \$500.00 |
| Ross James | 39 Austin Road | Map 37 Lot 54 | \$500.00 |
| O'Rourke Terence | 15 Stonewall Road | Map 2A Lot 26 | \$500.00 |
| Smith Richard | 17 Frohock Brook Rd | Map 10 Lot 26-6 | \$500.00 |
| Thomson Christopher | 11 Marsha Drive | Map 70 Lot 51 | \$500.00 |
| Total | | | \$3500.00 |

4. 2016 Veteran's Credits 100% \$1400.00

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|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| Ridemer Larry | 14 Falcon Drive | Map 6 Lot 1-4 | \$1,400.00 |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|

5. 2016 Administrative Abatements \$1036.00

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Cook Gloria | Off Depot Street | Map 29 Lot 81 | \$66.00 |
| Merrymeeting MH Park | 295 Heron Point Rd | Map 9 Lot 14-77 | \$12.00 |
| Simonds Malcolm | 10 Osprey Road | Map 6 Lot 1-29 | \$369.00 |
| Total | | | \$1036.00 |

Public Input II (limited to 5 minutes per person; subject matter ~ any Governmental/Town Business)

Jonathan Downing approached the Board stating that the last time there was a concert on the water bandstand was in the 1980's with speakers wired to telephone poles located on the mainland. These were very successful and would like to see the return. There were boat and water ski races held however they ended due to a boat getting too close to the bandstand. He continued that he has been paying very close attention to the retaining wall at Harmony Park and he is not fond of the solution that was voted on tonight. It is a bandaid by putting the big rocks in place you will need to remove them at some point, it will not take care of the backwash. A better solution would be a bond beam at the base of the existing wall and tie it back into the wall as best it can be. This would be more of a permanent solution, but still a bandaid. There was no footing put under the original wall. Weep holes were mentioned and the need for the water to be able to drain through the wall. He suggested and would appreciate the Board's reconsideration to the solution.

Ray Howard approached the Board in regards to the Granite State Futures which is the program that was initiated which gave us the Regional Planning Commission. The first two paragraphs mention Regional Planning six (6) times. It says that each Regional Planning Commission is tasked with working with local communities in seeking direct input from citizens when developing a regional plan. It says nothing about being part of a membership. The next paragraph states it is funded through a grant from HUD. He suggested that the Board ask them for a financial statement that will tell you where the money comes from and where it goes.

Steve Parker approached the Board to reiterate what Jonathan Downing stated. The wall has been deteriorating for years. Also, he felt that the voting at Pearson Road was not that great, it will be colder and there is not much parking. There just isn't a lot of room there. He suggested that the school was for the community, that the people approved it and we would be able to use it; the Board should try and shut it down for the day; they can make it up at the end of the year. He would like to see the water bandstand upgraded and see a warrant article in the amount of 40/50K for upgrades, possibly fix both bandstands at the same time. Let's "bite the bullet!"

Loring Carr approached the Board suggesting that the Board work with the school to possibly change a teacher workshop day or possibly using the music room which is closer to the parking lot.

Barbara Howard approached the Board inquiring about how Jeff Hayes knew to come to the meeting tonight to address the Board? Liz Dionne responded that the Board had previously voted not to renew the membership with LRPC; she in turn notified our representative who advised her that the director would most likely be contacting her for a scheduled appointment to speak to the Board and show the Board what LRPC does for the Town, which is exactly what he did tonight. Several weeks later Liz Dionne was contacted that he wanted to schedule a meeting. Ms. Howard also wanted to clarify the point she wanted to make in regards to the housing issue with HUD. Our town rallies together very well and it could be done in house and feels that there is no reason to continue to give our tax dollars for things that we are capable of doing right here in our own community. Each town is unique and she would like to see it stay that way with no global planning and no individuality.

Mrs. William French approached the Board and agrees with what was just stated with central planning versus local control when it comes to LRPC. She is opposed to a different way of global planning. We have a better finger on our what our community needs.

Non Public Session

Cydney Johnson made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (c) and John Markland seconded. The Board was polled in the affirmative with all in favor of the motion.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Jarvis

Mary K. Jarvis
Recording Secretary