

**TOWN OF EPSOM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, May 10, 2010**

Bob _____
Joanne _____
Keith _____

Final _____
Accepted _____
Accepted as Amended _____

Present: Joanne Randall, Chairperson; Keith Cota, Vice Chairman; Bob Blodgett; Darlene Phelps, Recording Secretary

Not in Attendance:

Also in Attendance: Kathy Bailey; Gordon Ellis; Mary Frambach; Jay Hickey; Nancy Wheeler

6:15pm Joanne called the meeting to order and asked Gordon to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

6:15pm Gordon Ellis requested that the sealed bids for paving on New Orchard Road be opened tonight to give him time to review them this week. Gordon stated that the bids may be interpreted in different ways, due to a change in quantities / line items. The following bids were received:

Pike Industries, Belmont, NH - \$399,576.25

Brox Industries, Dracut, MA – Each line is bid individually, with no grand total.

Advanced Excavating & Paving, Suncook, NH - \$436,260.50

Gordon said the poles are supposed to have been placed on New Orchard Road as of today. Once that is complete he can complete his grading & paving.

Bob said The American Legion would like one of the BOS members to speak at their annual Memorial Day breakfast. Joanne said she'll be available to be at the American Legion. It begins at 9:30 AM. Bob said he'll be speaking at the school.

6:30pm Staff Discussion - Barbara said DRA was in today doing the review for certification for the town. They reviewed all Current Use & they will be back on Thursday to do exemptions & credits. She updated the file with a lot of information about 175 Copperline Road, so when it during the discussion tonight, the BOS will have all the info they should need. The new office was taped & mudded today & the wiring for the cable is being completed. She did make an inquiry to Unitil about an energy audit, but have not had any response yet. The landlord is holding off on making any lighting updates until a response is received from Unitil, so the work isn't done twice.

Jay Hickey said he previously had discussed a cease & desist order to be issued to Mr. Bob Griggs for the area beside the bank. Jay said he spoke to Mr. Griggs before the footings were poured & advised him not to pour, but he poured anyway, at his own risk. He has brought fill in to the flood plain & has disturbed the flood plain. Jay said when Mr. Griggs knew that Attorney Soltani was working on this, he stopped working. Jay said there are several issues that need to be addressed. The rebuilding is over the 25% allowable expansion.

Jay said he received a call about a possible failed septic system in Bartlett's Trailer Park. Jay & Cec Curran went to inspect it and said it appears that a hole was dug & it looks like they were trying to drain the septic into the wetlands. The tenant said Mr. Griggs dug the hole, and Mr. Griggs said the tenant dug the hole. Jay said the State of NH Subsurface Bureau has inspected it & will be sending a letter & assessing fines. Jay said they tested the water & it did not pass the EPA drinking water levels. Jay said some other tenants advised Jay that they had not had good drinking water for 16 years. Jay and Cec are going to try to meet on Wednesday & test for

some more items. Some tenants have not been cooperative because they fear having to leave their homes. Jay said he met with Stacie & Robert Griggs and requested a copy of the well test, but he's not sure there is one, as they have not been able to produce it. Jay said a lot of the issues are near the kids play area.

6:45pm John Klose – Republican Meeting at Webster Park – John Klose wanted to advise the BOS that on June 12 from 2-5 pm, a Republican Meeting will be held at Webster Park. There will be a pig roast, and all the major Republican candidates will be in attendance. He expects about 300 guests. They have the required insurance – there will be no fee for attendance. The Boy Scouts will be doing the clean up.

FOR SIGNATURE

1. **Accounts Payable** was signed.
2. **Manifests** were signed.
3. **Leave Requests** were signed.
4. **Warrant for First Issue Tax Bills** was signed.
5. **Timber Tax Warrant** – was signed.
6. **Abatements (3)** – U06-1 Abatement Request for \$211,900 – Avitar provided an explanation that they feel the property was over-assessed originally, due to the large amount of wetlands. Keith made a motion to grant this abatement as recommended by Avitar. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.
R09-22-2 Albert Nye Drive Abatement Request for \$7,200 – Keith made a motion to grant this abatement as recommended by Avitar. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.
R13-12 Reed's Lane Abatement Request. Keith made a motion to deny this abatement request as recommended by Avitar. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.

FOR DISCUSSION

- A. **Epsom Generator to be located at Library** – Last week Barb suggested that the generator be moved to the library rather than the new office building, because initially it was placed at the current town office because the EOC was to be located here. Bob asked why not have it hooked up at the new office space, so if there is a power outage, it can be used. Joanne said that when the power goes out – basically the only thing that cannot be done, is registering cars. Joanne has no strong feelings either way. Keith indicated that there will be a cost to wire the generator, and \$300-\$400 to pour a concrete pad. If a resident wasn't moving the generator for free, the whole process could cost approximately \$1000. There was a discussion about the use of the library & the Meetinghouse as a shelter. Mary said that currently it cannot be used for a shelter due to the lack of showers, which is a requirement. Keith noted that showers could be installed at a later date. Barbara suggested that the current landlord be asked if the generator can be left here for an additional 30-60 days, as long as it is disconnected. This will be one less thing that has to be done before June 1. Barb will contact Larry Caraway & will let the BOS know if he's willing to let it be

stored here for a short period of time. Bob will try to talk to the Library Trustees to discuss the possibility of moving it to the library location – and will advise them that any costs associated with the generator will be absorbed by the BOS, except for a very minimal amount of propane which is needed to test it monthly.

B. Deeded Property – This property includes a home that is occupied. When the deed is transferred, then the property goes on Town insurance. The Town will need to prepare a lease & monthly rent amount. The Town needs to determine the amount required for the resident to purchase their property back from the town. This happens very rarely, so we do not have a template for leases and Town counsel will assist

with its drafting. Barb will be working with Tony to get the paperwork together. A letter will be sent to the resident tomorrow advising them of the tax deed transfer.

C. State of NH Lab Services – An account was set up by Jay Hickey to have water samples tested at the State of NH Lab.

D. Protect Your Health Reserves – Senators & Representatives – The BOS reviewed the memo from LGC as to warning about pending legislation on controlling or limiting the amount of reserves to be held for the health trust. **E.**

Request for Fundraiser 8th Grade Washington DC Trip for 2011 – Request from Debbie Swanson, who is the fundraiser coordinator for the 8th grade trip. She'd like to sell raffle tickets to a Red Sox game to support the 8th grade Washington DC trip. Keith made a motion to approve this raffle fundraising as presented. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.

F. Next LCHIP Grant Round 9– A workshop is scheduled for the next LCHIP Grant. July 1 – August 20 is the application period. Applicants must attend a mandatory grant writing workshop on Wednesday June 16 at 9:30 – 11:30 AM. This information will be forwarded to Meetinghouse Committee & the Stewardship Committee.

G. Letter from Phil Goodacre – 179 Copperline Road – This is regarding a drainage issue in the front & rear of his property, which is causing some erosion. This is a Town road. There was a \$10K Maintenance Bond on file, which expired 12/30/09. Barb said the site plan was designed & the home was built by RJ Moreau. Keith said he visited the site over the weekend, and explained the drainage pattern to the BOS which does lead the water into this homeowner's front lawn. Keith said it appears to him that when the home was built & the site layout was designed, the drainage from the roadway was not taken into consideration. Bob suggested that Gordon Ellis be consulted about a way to correct the problem. Perhaps a drainage easement needs to be obtained from the homeowner. Keith questioned if the homeowner should go back to the RJ Moreau and try to get

restitution, or if the Town should take responsibility for it. Barbara said the letter from Mr. Goodacre was cc'd to RJ Moreau, so they are aware that there is a problem. Joanne noted that this is private property, so the Town cannot spend money to correct it. The problem is not due to the Town road, and has not been caused by or aggravated by anything the Town has done, so the BOS cannot get involved in a repair on private property. Barb will prepare a letter for the BOS approval to be sent to the homeowner advising them to seek restitution from RJ Moreau.

H. Request for Raffle to Benefit Breast Cancer – A request was received from Stacey Osborne who will be walking in the Susan G Komen 3 Days for the Cure walk. She'd like to sell raffle tickets for an IPOD, with the drawing on May 30. She'll be selling to friends & family & will be requesting to set up a table to sell tickets at the Epsom Circle Restaurant on May 30. Keith made a motion to issue a raffle permit to Stacey Osborne as requested. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.

I. Letter from Citizen – A letter was received from Gloria Reeves indicating her disappointment about the wage increases for Town employees and the Town Office move. Joanne said the letter has some misinformation about the expenses incurred for the move, which she explained to Gloria in an email response... Joanne would like to work with Deb to draft a letter addressing her concerns. Joanne also suggested writing a Letter to the Editor, because she has heard other residents questioning some of these recent decisions made by the BOS. She feels a letter to the newspaper will clear up misinformation that is being discussed among residents. The BOS is supportive of this idea.

J. Joint Meeting – Suncook River Avulsion – A meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 15 or 16. This meeting will include Epsom, Allenstown, Chichester, and Barnstead.

MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

- **Draft – May 3, 2010** - Joanne made a motion to approve as amended. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.
- **Final – April 26, 2010** - Joanne made a motion to approve as presented. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.

CONFIDENTIAL

- Letter from Devine Millimet

FOR YOUR INFORMATION (No action required)

- John Zanolli – “Web Presence”
- Town Building Inspection Reports

ANY OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE BOARD

Board Member Liaison Reports

Bob said that Gary Perry is cleaning up in the field where the skating rink was located. Bob signed some Purchase Orders for light work (energy efficient bulbs, etc.) in the park. Bob suggested that all BOS members go see Sally Nason – as the BOS previously indicated to her that when the weather was better, the Board would look at the issues she's having. Bob wondered if Betsy has heard anything from Demoulas.

Keith said Chief Preve reported that all of his staff has received their ICS training 100 and 200 levels. They will be working on coordinating ICS 300 & 400 training for the Police Chief and Sergeant.

Keith indicated that he has received an email from a resident on Lord's Mill Road with concerns about turning in & out of Lord's Mill Road with the impending traffic light that is being installed. Keith replied to the resident that the Epsom BOS did indicate their concerns to the State of NH, and that there were discussions as to the possibility of relocating the entrance to Lord's Mill Road to North Road. Keith suggested to the BOS that this resident be invited to come in to the BOS for a discussion about this next week. Keith said the State of NH is installing the signal hardware now. He suggested the BOS organize a Lord's Mill Road committee with interested residents to investigate options. Town representatives could be Road Agent, member from Planning Board and a Selectmen's liaison.

Joanne said the NH COOP Storm Response Meeting is Wednesday at 9 AM in Raymond. The May 31 BOS meeting will be held on June 1st at 4pm and will be a work session with her & Bob only in attendance.

The next Stewardship Committee meeting is June 7 at 7 PM.

June 5 is the Tabletop Exercise at 8 AM at the Fire Station.

Joanne asked the Building Inspection reports be sent to her & George Carlson.

Darlene mentioned that the nameplates that were purchased for BOS & ZBA members last year are part of a release program that has a storage time of 1 year. If additional plates are not pulled from the program by June, then the program is considered abandoned, and all stored plates will be forfeited. The BOS will give consideration to what nameplate(s) should be purchased to keep the program active.

8:00 PM Joanne made a motion to adjourn. Keith seconded the motion. All in favor.