

**Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting****7:00 pm****Town Offices****Tuesday, September 15, 2009**

Present: Keith Hall, Roger Boise, Pam Marsh, Pat Paquette, Kathleen Ready, Treasurer, Barb Torian & Town Clerk, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Leon Demers, Iva Menard, Matt Ford, Betty Bell, Jim Walsh & Al Karnatz

**AGENDA RESULTS:****VISITORS BUSINESS:****1. Leon Demers, Iva Menard & Matt Ford – Concerns about River Park:**

Leon Demers approached Iva Menard and Matt Ford about several trees they had cut down in the park. He acknowledges that Ms. Menard and Mr. Ford were cutting on behalf of the Park Committee, which Ms. Menard is a member. However, Mr. Demers feels that professionals, hired by the town should be doing the cutting and trimming on town property. [Several years ago Suzy Roorda, a Park Committee member and Phil Busier, from the Road Crew marked numerous trees to be cut at the River Park. This is the guideline that Iva Menard and Matt Ford were going by.] Mr. Demers said that if too many trees are cut along the river, the banks will start to erode. This past spring the Northland Job Corps. were asked to help the town trim and cut trees; unfortunately the program has run out of funding for this year. Mr. Demers suggested the Forestry Service through the Vocational Center in Middlebury may be able to help. Iva Menard said two years ago she was granted permission by the Selcetboard to brush-hog and cut back the trees that were encroaching on her property from the Park, which they have done.

When they were cutting in the River Park they were clearing the path to the beach to make it more accessible, and acting on behalf of the Park Committee. Ms. Menard said in no way did they mean to upset anyone and they stopped cutting as soon as Mr. Demers approached them; which left one large log on the lawn of the Park and some branches dangling. Iva Menard and Matt Ford agree with Leon Demers about not cutting down too many trees, because many of them buffer their property. Mr. Demers also raised concern that the wood that had been cut will go to the benefit of Ms. Menard and Mr. Ford. Mr. Demers feels the wood should go to the needy living in New Haven. Pam Marsh agreed with Leon Demers, but if there was a prior arrangement to allow the people cutting to keep the wood in return for the work being done. Pam Marsh made a motion to allow Iva Menard and Matt Ford to finish cleaning up what they have already cut. No further cutting unless under professionals assistance preferably through Job Corps or Hannaford forestry programs. Useful wood from future cutting will be donated to the needy in town. Seconded

by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no

Leon Demers is also concerned that the three properties that run to the north of the park are encroaching on Town property. He would like a fence to be installed to keep the property lines clear. Keith Hall suggested the Fence Viewers meet with Mr. Demers to define the boundary line of the Park, and the Menard, LaFlam and Moye's property.

Discussion about paths from some of these houses that run down to the river as well as some open and quite deep wells that are a danger to many who frequent the Park.

Keith Hall made a motion to have the fence viewers look at the property lines and have the road crew fill in the open wells. Seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no

Iva Menard said in the spring it is very difficult to get to the beach because it is so overgrown, she wondered about the timeline to clear the pathway. Discussion on when to clear bamboo and driftwood that created hazards getting to the beach. Park Committee may clear driftwood and other debris that washes into the park. Pam Marsh said the Park Committee should approach the town if trees aren't being cleared in a timely fashion.

There is also concern about the amount of trash being thrown over the bank that is accumulating. Suzy Roorda had a crew clean up the trash there on Green Up Day, but new trash is accumulating. No one is sure at this time whose property it is on. Keith Hall suggested the need to identify who owns the property, then the town can take action.

**2. Planning Commission Chair, Al Karnatz and P.C member, Jim Walsh:**

The Planning Commission held their public hearing on the Horn property on September 3, 2009. The hearing was held because of a mistake made on the zoning map in 2000 /2001. It seems the wrong map was inadvertently sent to Regional Planning for computerization. The Horns Property went from being listed on the zoning map as Highway Commercial to Residential. Unfortunately, the error wasn't discovered until recently. Historically the Town voted to change that portion of Route 7 in November, 1980 to Highway Commercial. Now it is a matter of correcting the error that was made. The Selectboard will hold their public hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 7 pm in the Town Offices.

**3. Betty Bell –** Asked if there was a gun ordinance in town. She expressed concern about Wayne Marcelle shooting at coyotes that were worrying his sheep one night last week. Pam Marsh said that Wayne Marcelle had called her and explained the situation. There is a state statute that reads if dogs are worrying your livestock or if an animal is rabid; you are allowed to shoot to kill them regardless of the time of day. Suzy Roorda said Wayne Marcelle did sneak around so that his direction for shooting was away from any houses. There is a gun ordinance for a radius of half mile within the village.

**TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:**

1. **Animal Cruelty Investigation, Level III Training – Wayne Marcelle** would like to attend this training. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve Wayne Marcelle attending the Level III Training to include the \$7.00 registration fee and \$30.00 required manual. For a total of \$37.00. Seconded by Keith Hall. 5 yes / 0 no
2. **Halloween Party, request for funds** in the amount of \$300.00. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the request of \$300.00 for the Halloween Party, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 5 yes / 0 no

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

1. Payroll – Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll, seconded by Keith Hall. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Pay Orders – Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Keith Hall.
3. Barb Torian has put together a notebook of expenses and revenues for the Selectboard.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Kathleen Ready & Keith Hall – Update from subcommittee meeting on Town Hall maintenance.** ( see draft minutes attached )The Selectboard reviewed the minutes from that meeting. Discussed the bids for the plowing around Beeman and whether it is cheaper for the Town to do it or to hire out. Estimated cost is \$2,500 total. Roger Boise made a motion to have the School District hire someone to plow Beeman Elementary School parking lot and driveway at a rate of no more than \$75.00 per hour. Seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no  
Also discussed was the custodial service in the Town Hall and the increase in cost for Beeman. Barb Torian suggested a separate contract for the custodial services; as selectboards change overtime. That way there is clear definition of what is expected. Keith Hall said the end document will be a combination of both.  
Pam Marsh made a motion to adopt a draft agreement with Beeman Elementary School in principle to be refined and to be recorded in the land records in the Town Office. Also to include pay Beeman School \$5,920.00 towards the new custodial service for the year 2009 - 2010. Seconded by 5 yes / 0 no  
Town Hall custodian Wayne Marcelle should carry on as usual until he hears otherwise. The Selectboard will write Wayne Marcelle a letter notifying him of the change of hands for the person responsible for custodial services in the Town Hall. Barb Torian requested Wayne Marcelle needs to turn in his time cards; she hasn’t had one from him in quite some time.  
Keith Hall will call Greg Burdick at the Superintendents office about the motion regarding the plowing.

2. Resignation letter from Milo Schaefer from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. Keith Hall made a motion to accept Milo Schaefer's resignation from the ACRPC, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Vermont Energy Investment Corp. – There is grant money available. This could be used for things such as the Windmill Project Suzy Roorda has been working on. Or making the Town Garage / Fire Dept. building more air tight and efficient.

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the minutes from September 1, 2009, seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no

**MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. New Haven School District Warning – Mills Church
2. VT Emergency Management Operations Courses – Info. sheet
3. Current Town Hall Policy
4. Informational handout on Fiscal year v calendar year
5. CVPS – Informational meeting on Sept. 21, 2009, 6pm RE: Proposed line construction between Middlebury, Weybridge & New Haven.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Town Hall Application – Kathleen Ready will be holding the Democratic Party Caucus on September 22, 2009 in the Town Hall Cafeteria from 6 – 7 pm. Keith Hall made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
2. Barb Torian wanted the Selectboard to be aware of issues she and Pam Kingman have discovered in the land records; and it is going to take considerable time to correct them.

Adjourn: 9:15 pm  
 Respectfully submitted:  
 Pam Kingman  
 Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keith Hall, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Roger Boise

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Pam Marsh

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Pat Paquette

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Kathleen Ready