

TOWN OF THORNTON
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2009

On, Wednesday, October 28, 2009 the Thornton Board of Selectmen met at the Town Hall, 7:00 PM. Board Members present: Jim Parziali, Chairman, Roy Sabourn, and Tim Tyler.

Other present: Jim Demerett and Marianne Peabody, taking notes.

At 7:12PM Chairman Parziale called this meeting to order.
Beginning with the first item on the agenda.

State Register of Historic Places – Old Town Hall

Sally Kriebel and Giff Kriebel present. Sally Kriebel approached the Board with a letter from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources informing the Thornton Historical Society that their division has reviewed the inventory form prepared for the Old Thornton Town House, and has determined that it is eligible for listing in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. Sally Kriebel is requesting that the Board of Selectmen sign the form presented to list this property on the State Register, pending the Resources Council's approval. The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to have the Chairman of the Board sign. Sally Kriebel on behalf of the Thornton Historical Society thanked the Board for their cooperation.

Paul Hatch – tentative – Hazardous Mitigation Grant – Cancelled

Selectmen Sabourn explained to the Board that this afternoon Paul Hatch happened to be in the office while he was there and explained to him that he was unable to attend the meeting this evening, as scheduled, and wanted to take the time to explain what the procedure is to update the Thornton NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management Plan, also how to apply for grant dollars to renew it. Selectmen Sabourn asked that the minutes reflect that he spoke with Mr. Paul Hatch and requested that a motion be made to request that Mr. Paul Hatch attend a Selectmen's meeting to explain further this process to update. Voted 3-0. TA Beaulieu also may be able to shed some light on the process when she returns from vacation.

State of NH Homeland Security & Emergency Management

A motion was made and seconded to sign The NH Homeland Security & Emergency Management project completion and certification report for disaster #1787-NH certifying to the best of their knowledge and belief all work and costs claimed under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance program is complete. This pertains to the July/August disaster of 2008. Voted 3-0.

Acceptance of Audit Requirements DR 1787 (July/August 2008 Flooding)

The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Audit dates are beginning January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2008. Failure to complete the form will result in the Town's grant not being awarded or cancelled. Audits are required when federal dollars exceed \$500,000. Thornton does not receive greater than \$500,000 in a fiscal year.

Jim Demerett – Stone Dam Road

Jim Demerett, Chairman Zoning Board of Adjustment informed the Board there is an application before the ZBA for a "Use Variance" on Stone Dam Rd. The applicant proposes to construct a 50 x 100 commercial building to operate a spray foam insulation business. The concern is with the narrow condition of Stone Dam Road. Stone Dam road was a Class VI road until building permits were issued for single family homes and the Town began plowing it. This brought the road to a Class V. Presently we plow to Stanley Freeman's driveway. The proposed "use variance" is 2,000 ft above that point. The concern is Stone Dam Road is not considered to be up to town road construction standards. It is very narrow with one lane traffic in places. Chairman Demeritt explained the ZBA held an onsite inspection and there is a concern with a safety factor with tractor trailers traveling this road on a daily basis if the road cannot be brought to standards. It does not appear the way it was originally laid out it would be possible to bring Stone Dam Rd up to road construction standards to make it safe. Jim Demerett informed the Board there is a possibility that the applicant could consider constructing the commercial building in the Town of Woodstock. After discussion a motion was made and seconded to notify the Town of Woodstock that there is a safety concern with tractor trailer traffic, since Stone Dam Road is the sole access through the Town of Thornton to the Woodstock Town line and for the subject property.

VOTED 3-0. It was also discussed since this area of town is currently a residential area, and due to the very narrow road perhaps the zoning ordinance should be looked at and amended to become a rural or general residence zone.

Dick McCormack – Assessing

Mr. McCormack owns property at 1887 NHRT 175. He is before the Board of Selectmen with concerns, questions and matters of performance relating to Avitar Associates, the Town of Thornton's contracted assessing firm. He informed the Board that since 2002 there has been uninterrupted errors which have been made to his assessment record, and when brought to the attention of the assessors he has always prevailed. It is now becoming a nuisance, and he feels like he is being penalized or singled out. Some of these errors have to do with view factors, quality of construction, feature in particular the value on his pool. He has made and submitted many comparables from parcels in his neighborhood and outside of the area. Mr. McCormack feels that every time he is in the town hall he needs to request a copy of his assessment record to see if any changes to his value have been made. The Board of Selectmen informed Mr. McCormack that he does have to option to appeal to the Board of Land & Tax Appeals. Jim Demerett agreed with Mr. McCormack's concerns. Mr. McCormack asked if the Board of Selectmen have given any consideration to other assessing firms.

Action Folder

The Selectmen meeting minutes of October 7, 2009 were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept. VOTED 3-0.

Present: Realtor, David Lorey for a proposed buyer.

Tax Collector, Susan Lyons enclosed a note addressed to the Board of Selectmen outlining history relating to an original current use lien release form regarding PID 06-01-09. According to the research Susan Lyons did, this parcel was never charged for the land use change tax of \$500.00 in January, 1992. This parcel is transferring ownership and the title search brought this issue to light. The Board of Selectmen asked the record to show this file has fallen through the cracks and the \$500.00 CU Penalty should be paid by the seller. If this is not resolved the Board of Selectman feels the interest & penalties should be paid from the date of onset. The Board of Selectmen has requested the Tax Collector send a letter to the Attorney involved relative to this transfer of ownership.

Volunteer Liability Release Form

The Board of Selectmen was informed that Duane Johnston phoned relative to the volunteer tree cutting practice at the Old Town. The Selectmen preferred to hold off this practice until Administrator Tammie contacted Town Council relative to a signed liability release. Duane Johnston will be contacted and asked to cancel.

DOT Department of Transportation The Selectmen have received preliminary estimate for bridge improvements and aid for the Covered Bridge Road over Mill Brook. Copies were made for Selectmen to study.

Road Agents Report – Road Agent Tom Dubey submitted in writing the following:

1. Mowing is not done because of serious break down on MB Tractors part. They have not been able to get a part that is properly made. They are hoping to have the tractor back here by Friday October 30, 2009.
2. Road Agent Dubey requested in writing to purchase more 15" culvert. They have used all 15" that was in stock. The price is \$7.48 per foot. A 20' section would be \$149.60. He would like to purchase 10 section's which would equal \$1,496.00. Tom informed the Board he has enough funds in the road repair line item in his budget.
After discussion a motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of 15" culvert as requested. VOTED 3-0.
3. Town of Thornton conditions of roads list was submitted from Road Agent A with being best and D-being worst.

Letter of credit release recommendation –The Planning Board wrote a memo to the Board of Selectmen recommending they release a letter of credit for the amount of \$12,500.00 for the Highland Pointe Subdivision. A motion was made and seconded to release. VOTED 3-0.

Other Business

Grafton County Treasurer – County tax for 2009 \$501,353.00

Fire Commission meeting minutes submitted for meeting date September 14, 2009

Building permit for Owl Street Associates – Installation of short tower wind turbines as manufactured by Mariah Power. A motion was made and seconded to turn over intents to construct wind turbines to the planning board for site review and recommendation back to the Board of Selectmen. VOTED 3-0.

Manifest for 10/23/2009

Signatures

Building Permit Applications Approved:

Joseph & Jean Monagle 10-01-02-12

Stephen Macera 06-02-03

Larry & Donalee Downing Trust 16-07-23

Lee B. Knight 13-10-01

Owl Street Associates 16-01-07-04 (referred to Planning Board)

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber

Bryan Anderson 10-01-05-17 -10-01-05-25

Selectmen Tyler –Received an e-mail from a concerned citizen Bruce Kominz over the lights being out on the Six Mile Bridge, and wanted to know what it is going to take to be put them back on. Selectmen answers. The lights at the Six Mile Bridge are not owned or operated by the Town of Thornton. They are owned and maintained by the Gateway Homeowners' Association. It was suggested that the people in the neighborhood either take care of the lights or petition the town and ask the voters if the town should take over this expense. .

Mr. Bruce Kominz also is upset over losing his Veterans Exemption. The Town has no control over the dates set by the State of NH regarding eligibility for Veterans Credits. The Board of Selectmen recommends that Vets contact their State Representatives and Senators to get this law charged.

This meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted

Marianne Peabody

Support Staff

Posting Date:11/02/09

