

Minutes from the Roxbury Selectmen's meeting July 25 2016

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O'Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; Reagan Bissonnette and Wendy Weisiger of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the meeting of July 18 were approved.

The selectmen reported on surveys of four local towns about whether they annually issue property inventory forms to residents. The following was learned: Sullivan continues to send out the forms on an annual basis; Richmond stopped sending out such forms about 5 years ago (the current administrative assistant reported "No one's lacking any information as a result."); Alstead town does not send out such forms; Harrisville stopped sending out the form at least five years ago. The selectmen agreed that the town should suspend the use of such forms. It was agreed that the Department of Revenue Administration will be contacted regarding what steps need to be taken to end the practice.

Selectman Rousmaniere reported that the town archives maintained by the city of Keene do not apparently contain any information regarding policies regarding the distribution of funds in cemetery trust funds.

Reagan Bissonnette and Wendy Weisiger of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests paid a scheduled visit to discuss the status of a road that's alternately known as Wheeler Brook Road and the Old Nelson Road on property known as the Taves Reservation. (The Society owns the 678-acre parcel and also a conservation easement on it.) The Society has previously questioned whether the road is a private road or a public road; it wishes to have the road formally designated a private road. The Forest Society representatives said that the current discussion is related to a plan to shift ownership of the easement to the Monadnock Conservancy, a local land trust. A complimentary interest involves concerns about how to prevent or otherwise limit damage to the property by motorized all-terrain vehicles that use the road. Ms. Weisiger said that, in the event that the referenced road is deemed a private road, the Forest Society would invest resources in a damage-prevention strategy. Forest Society researchers have apparently not turned up any document that identifies the road as being public. A 2007 written communication by town selectmen indicates that the town believes that the road is public. At the conclusion of the discussion the selectmen committed to continue their research into the matter.

It was reported that Vicky Ayer of the Department of Revenue Administration will pay an introductory visit to town hall on August 29.

It was agreed that the selectmen will invite former selectman Chip Drogue to visit town hall to discuss the fee schedule for document fees. The current schedule includes some categories that are not immediately clear.

Selectman Davis prepared the manifest of bills to be paid; the manifest was signed by the selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

(Draft Minutes by Selectman Rousmaniere)