

## Minutes from the Roxbury Selectmen's meeting May 16, 2016

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O'Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; Fred Baybutt of Granite Gorge; citizen Chip Drogue

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the meeting of May 9 were approved as written.

It was noted that two responses to reminders regarding timber cut filings had been received. In one case, the cut was not carried out, and in the other case a harvest was recorded. The selectmen await more responses from parties who had previously filed intent-to-cut documents but have not followed up with reports on those cuts.

Selectman Davis reported that he had spoken with two banks – TD Bank and the Savings Bank of Walpole – regarding the town's plans to secure a tax anticipation note in the amount of \$225,000, as recommended by Treasurer David Jewett. The rate offered by the Savings Bank of Walpole (1.5%) and the ease of processing were found to be far superior to those of TD Bank. The selectmen voted unanimously to go with the Savings Bank of Walpole. (It was noted that the Savings Bank of Walpole has provided this financing service in the past.) Documents requested by the bank were assembled for presentation to the bank by Davis.

The selectmen signed two documents for the state Department of Revenue Administration, including forms MS-232 and MS-636, both relating to the March town meeting. The documents will be sent to Lee-Ann Urquhart of the DRA.

Fred Baybutt of Granite Gorge reported that a "shine and show" event scheduled for next weekend that had received a special event permit from the town has been cancelled. He asked that the \$100 filing fee for that permit be applied to a June 18 motorcycle hill-climb for which he submitted a permit application. The selectmen raised the matter of parking on the slope side of the access bridge that the current Granite Gorge site plan limits to 12 vehicles. There was some discussion regarding general differences of interpretation regarding that provision and also specific discussion regarding the planned June 18 event as to whether motorcycle haulers constituted "vehicles" in the site plan use of the term; the selectmen said that their feeling was that such haulers, if they are not trailers, are to be considered vehicles and therefore would count toward the site plan limit of 12 vehicles. Baybutt appeared to agree that he would arrange to meet the 12-vehicle limit at the June 18 event. The selectmen agreed to review the permit application for that event at their next meeting. There was some discussion regarding prior statements by Baybutt that he planned to work with the town Planning Board to make changes to the Granite Gorge site plan that among other things would allow for more parking on the slope side of the access bridge than is permitted on the current site plan. The discussion was inconclusive.

Baybutt further requested that the town and its property valuation advisor arrange a site visit to Granite Gorge to inspect a part of the property that he believes has been over-assessed. The request followed receipt of a letter by Baybutt from the town that expressed the view of the valuation advisor – Avitar – that the current valuation is appropriate. The selectmen agreed to alert Avitar to the request for a site visit.

Baybutt reported that economic conditions for ski areas have not been favorable. He asked generally that the selectmen grant some sort of hardship consideration. The selectmen took his request under advisement.

There was discussion regarding the bidding process for the proposed kitchen upgrade in the town hall. Chip Drogue participated in the discussion. The selectmen expressed concern that the absence of specific requirements for the proposed project complicated the competitive bidding process. There was extended discussion regarding the matter of specifications for the project and whether contractors who might be interested in the project, which has been approved by town meeting voters, should (a) be given specifications for the proposed project or (b) asked to base any bid on what they would do in the kitchen space; that discussion was inconclusive. Further, there was discussion regarding a bid from the Bergeron Company that has apparently been mislaid; it was agreed that Bergeron would be asked to resubmit such bid. It was agreed that the town needs three bids in order to proceed, and it does not have that number yet.

There was discussion regarding an observation made by Lee-Ann Urquhart of the Department of Revenue Administration to selectman Rousmaniere that Article 27 of the warrant that was approved by town meeting voters on March 8, 2016 may have been improper. The specific article, the last of the town meeting session, concerned "other business." The minutes from the meeting regarding that article are: "Make a motion to expend the sum of up to \$1,500.00 from the Roxbury General Fund for the purpose of building or adding a concrete pad or ramp on the front of the Roxbury Town Hall to conform with the ADA Specifications and the construction to be overseen and approved by the Selectmen." The issue at hand is whether the motion (a) improperly involved new spending that had not been appropriately noticed to the voters prior to the meeting or (b) properly involved spending from a fund that the voters had previously approved and that could be tapped for such a project. It was agreed that Rousmaniere would go back to Ms. Urquhart for clarification. On a related matter, there was discussion regarding whether concrete, as specified in the article, was the appropriate material for the project; there was also some discussion regarding the layout and design of the proposed project.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

SIGNED: May 17, 2016

Gerry Davis, Selectman

Tim O'Brien, Selectman

James Rousmaniere, Selectman