

Minutes from the Roxbury Selectmen's meeting May 9, 2016, 2016

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O'Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; Treasurer David Jewett; Road Agent Kenneth Buffum; Fred White.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the meeting of May 2 were approved as written.

The Selectmen received a letter from Fred White announcing his retirement from the position of Emergency Management Director. The Selectmen accepted his request to retire and thanked him for his worthy service to the town. The Selectmen appointed Chip Drogue to fill the position. It is understood that Mr. Drogue will visit Mr. White and take control of radio and other equipment that comes with the job.

Selectman O'Brien completed letters of inquiry to be sent to parties that previously had filed intent--to-cut plans with the town but that did not subsequently file reports about their harvests.

Treasurer Jewett provided a short course in accessing the town budget on Quick Books; spending activity in the budget is generally updated once a week.

Treasurer Jewett reported that at this time of year the town customarily borrows roughly \$250,000 in a tax anticipation note from a local lender (the sum, including interest, is paid back in December when property tax payments arrive. He recommended that the town borrow \$225,000 this year, effective June 1. Selectman Davis agreed to talk with local lenders about rates and other particulars.

Road Agent Buffum discussed in general plans to use the summer maintenance budget in the coming months. It is understood that he will return to the next week's Selectmen's meeting with detailed plans for road care and maintenance this year.

There was some discussion regarding whether to put any surface treatment on Middletown Road as it rises to the northeast from the curve near the town hall. It was agreed that selectman Rousmaniere will contact Donna Hanscom of the Keene Public Works Department to get an updated schedule of planned upgrades to the Babbidge Dam that will involve considerable truck traffic on the road.

Buffum explained that his job clearing leaves from ditches on the sides of roads would be easier and more economically efficient were he to have access to a leaf-blower of adequate size. He reported that the town of Marlborough recently put such a machine to use to good effect. Selectman O'Brien recommended that the town approach the selectmen of Sullivan about borrowing their leaf blower in the fall to test out the use of such a machine.

The selectmen and Buffum inspected the parking area in front of town hall that is being considered for paving. The project, which surfaced at this year's town meeting, would be undertaken to assist wheelchair users.

The selectmen and Buffum also generally discussed long-standing plans to build a new and larger salt shed at the current salt shed location.

The selectmen received a resident's letter of concern about noise associated with events at Granite Gorge that have been subject to permits. The selectmen agreed to take the letter under advisement.

There was general discussion regarding voter-approved plans to upgrade the kitchen in town hall, which serves as an emergency shelter. Selectman O'Brien said that he will get ahold of detailed plans for the project so that it can be put out to bid.

The selectmen mailed to the trusts office of the state attorney general's office a signed document that spells out the investment policy of trust funds held by the town.

The manifest of bills to be paid was prepared and signed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

(Minutes approved by the selectmen)