

Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen's meeting Oct. 3, 2016

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O'Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; a representative of the NH Department of Transportation; citizen Greg Amend

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the meeting of Sept. 26 were approved.

The selectmen signed a second copy of the draft of the police patrol agreement with the city of Keene with regard to its watershed lands in Roxbury (the initial document was signed the prior week; the second copy was requested by the city.)

A representative of the NH department of Transportation spoke to the Selectmen about the state's plans to widen and otherwise improve a stretch of Route 9 from the bridge in Sullivan to that part of the road that's already been widened, just west of Houghton Ledge Road in Roxbury. The project is expected to begin in 2017 and will take an estimated 18-24 months to complete. The planned end result is a widened highway with guardrails and with rip-rap on the banks of Otter Brook

Granite Gorge submitted a \$100 check as a filing fee for a 4x4 truck event and an ATV hill climb on Oct. 8; attendance of between 100 and 300 is expected. The selectmen preliminarily approved the application with the specified conditions that standard highway markers be used and that there be appropriate police presence and adequate traffic control. It was agreed that the permit will be submitted to Police Chief Rob O'Connor for his review on Tuesday, Oct. 4.

It was noted that Granite Gorge has not filed requested information regarding the ALS charity that is scheduled to benefit from an event on the Granite Gorge premises on October 15.

Greg Amend, a Roxbury resident, asked whether a Halloween Party is in the works for Town Hall. He reported that he and others had a fine time at last year's party, which was organized entirely by volunteers. The Selectmen responded that they will reach out to the organizers of the 2015 event to see if they have plans for this year.

The Selectmen reviewed communications from Avitar and the law firm Upton & Hatfield regarding a continuing assessment-related matter that involves the valuation of property owned by Fairpoint in town. Avitar had reported that it was nearing a settlement with the phone company; at the request of the selectmen, Upton & Hatfield discussed the matter with Avitar and reported back that it makes sense for the town to go with Avitar's proposed settlement. It was agreed that Avitar would be informed that a \$4,542 abatement of Fairpoint assessments had been approved in 2011, the assumption being that such abatement would reduce Avitar's proposed calculated credit to Avitar totaling \$20,083.

It was reported that the Bergeron Construction Company had not responded to a call from Selectmen to complete its repair of the Town Hall roof, as was discussed during the Sept. 26 Selectmen's meeting.

The Selectmen reviewed a bill from Cheshire County for \$89,154 constituting the county's share of local property tax payments. The sum is nearly identical to the bill submitted and paid the prior year. Treasurer David Jewett will be alerted.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

(Minutes approved by selectmen)