

Town of Chatham

July 7, 2016

Attendance: William Perry, Wayne Infinger, Bill Briggs, Jason Eastman, Tricia Pitman, Doug MacPherson, Ellie Eastman, Lisa Lewis, Steve Eastman, Jeanne Eastman, Jen Zulker

Meeting called to order.

Wayne Infinger made a motion to accept the minutes of the last board meeting, Jason Eastman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Jen Zulker asked the Board to appoint her to the Planning Board. Maryann Eastman is stepping down from her position on the Board. The Board chose to appoint Jen Zulker to the Planning Board.

Old business-

Suzie Laskin made a request that the Board consider lowering the list price for the property owned by the town on Province Brook Road from \$30,000 to \$25,000. The Board chose to leave the list price at \$30,000 for now. The Board may consider changing realtors at a later date when the current contract expires.

Primex- The new cost to provide insurance coverage for the town will now be \$1,421. This is a significant decrease from the \$6,400 dollars spent on insurance coverage from PLT. The bill will be sent to us in July. Wayne Infinger had received a letter form the Historical Society asking if the town's insurance would cover the property owned by the Historical Society located in

the school house. The regular contents of the Historical Society would be covered, however items of high value should be appraised and scheduled and insured by the Historical Society. Wayne suggested that the Historical Society hire a professional to appraise the property.

Road Agent Report- Dewayne Pelkie was hired to cut brush. Bill had cleared the bridge deck on Dewin Road.

A tree company working for Eversource will be removing trees that are potentially hazardous to the power lines from property owned by the town.

New business-

Signed Vouchers. The Board was asked if they wanted more vouchers to be ordered from the Write Stuff in Fryeburg or if they wanted to switch to the system used by the School Board in which all expenditures are listed on one piece of paper that the Board would have to sign. The Board chose to continue to use the vouchers and more will be ordered.

Signed request for PA-28 forms.

The Board received a notice from the Dept. of State indicating that it would be the responsibility of the Selectmen to appoint inspectors of the election if the two major parties did not do so. The two major parties have until July 15 to make their appointments. Bill Perry will look into this matter further as it has not been done before.

The Board set the date of Saturday, July 9 to drive through the town and check for property changes that may have taken place on properties that inventory forms were not returned on.

An Intent to cut wood was signed for Nathan Hutchins.

A letter was received for the Board from Senator Kelley Ayotte's office.

The payment in lieu of taxes for 2016 will be \$58,942.

Two abatement requests were granted based on the recommendation of Rod Wood.

The Secretary of State's Office was contacted concerning whether or not there would be a conflict of interest for one of our supervisors of the checklist to be running for state office. The Secretary of State's Offices said that the supervisor could perform all of the duties encumbered on him with the exception of counting the ballots.

The Board voted to veto voucher number 5935 for Pope Security.

The town hall has been placed back on the foundation. There was more structural damage than expected so the total cost to repair the town house may exceed \$52,000 but not by much. Bill reported that they were able to go four feet prior to hitting ledge.

Ellie Eastman questions why the town house now sat higher than the pavement. Bill responded that the difference was for the ramp that would have to be set into place.

Wayne Infinger is going to contact David Emery to find out how much more it will cost to repair the structural damage than previously expected.

The outhouse in the town house is now closed. Bill Perry is going to find out the cost of portable toilets.

School House-

HEB report was received and will be kept on file.

Bill Perry reference several different points from the report and read the recommendations.

The Board decided to have Bill Briggs put a barrier up around the chimney area so that no debris would fall off and hit someone.

Lisa Lewis was asked if her husband, John, would be willing to work on the Chimney. The report stated that work needs to be done to the chimney including securing the chimney to the building. She asked if there would be any conflict of interest due to her being on the Budget Committee. The Board did not perceive any conflict. Jason Eastman was in favor of keeping the work local.

The Board discussed what the possible options were for future use of the School House. The School House currently houses a private library and the Chatham Historical Society. The Chatham Historical Society has a 510C status. Bill Perry had obtained a copy of the Chatham Historical Society's original charter and 510C's status.

Wayne Infinger would like to hold a public hearing on possible uses for the School House. He would like to hear from the town's people as to what they would like to see done with the building. The Board would like to see the building sold to an entity such as the Chatham Historical Society and the land leased to the same entity. Lisa Lewis questioned whether the land would be sold. The Board responded that the land would just be leased. Ellie Eastman questioned as to whether the town would still be responsible for insuring the building. The Board responded that the town would no longer be responsible for insuring the building. Doug MacPherson suggested having the public hearing on the same day as the town picnic. Wayne Infinger stated that he would rather it be on a separate day. The Board will set a date to hold a hearing at the next meeting.

Steve Eastman stated that there are currently key members on the Chatham Historical Society that think that taking over the

School House would be too much for the Society to take on. He asked if the Board could give him an idea of what the proposal would look like so that he could give that information to the Societies members. Bill Perry suggested that the town sell the building to the Society for one dollar and lease the land to the Society for one dollar.

Doug MacPherson stated that he would want to know the cost involved in making the needed repairs to the building. Wayne Infinger responded that the cost is dependent on the use of the building and who is using it. Private entities are not subject to the same regulations as towns are. Steve Eastman asked if he could send out a letter to all of the current Society members to see if the members are interested in the proposal mentioned above. The Board approved of such a letter being mailed out. The Selectmen plan on putting together a warrant article for next year's town meeting to address what the future use of the School House will be based on the information gathered at the public hearing.

Doug MacPherson then asked the Board if they were going to hold off on making the repairs needed to the chimney. Bill Perry responded that the Board would not hold off on making the repairs because he considered it a liability to the town at this time.

Town Roads and Forrest Service-

There will be a meeting on July 15 at 10:00 at Peter Malia's office to discuss the status of Toad Hill Road. The Board received a report from the Forrest Service via Peter Malia. In summary the report states that the Weeks Act in 1920 gave ownership of the roadway in question to the Federal Government. Road Conscriptation does not apply in this case. Bill Perry stated that the Road in which he resides on, Upper Kimball Road, was owned by the Federal Government as well but that he had asked the

Forrest Service to turn the road over to the town and that they did so. He is hopes that the same can be done on Toad Hill Road. The Board has asked Peter Malia two questions:
Can Gene Chandler attend the meeting?
Does this meeting have to be a public meeting?
The answer to the second question will determine whether or not Jason Eastman and Wayne Infinger will attend the meeting.

Special Events Policy-

At the last meeting the Board had decided to post the town's property around the School House with no parking signs due to a concert being held on Toad Hill Road. Two residents contacted Wayne Infinger concerning the posting of the land. They were concerned that it would appear to be targeting a specific event. Wayne Infinger had also stated that within two months a use of public property policy would be put in place. After doing further research on the matter Wayne determined that there is a lot to putting a public use policy into place. Wayne stated that he would have a template of what an outline for such a policy would look like for the next meeting but suggested tabling the discussion for this meeting. A motion was made to table the discussion, it was seconded and all were in favor.

Mel Cherry and Bonnie Arbogast had sent a letter requesting that they be placed on the agenda for this meeting. They did not attend the meeting so the request will be carried over to the next meeting.

I asked the Board if the letters thanking the Building Committee members had been sent. Bill Perry stated that he would contact Ron Briggs for the list of members.

Comments from the public-

Doug MacPherson asked the Board to add him to next month's agenda. He would like to discuss RSA 32:16. (The role of the Budget Committee in setting the budget.)

A motion for the meeting to be adjourned was made and seconded.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Pitman