

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY MAY 26, 2020**

**Select Board Present: Chris Hutchins & Michael Sununu & Jamie Thompson
Others Include: Brian Knipstein, Don & Richard Wilson**

Call to order at 7:00 pm.

The Select Board reviewed and approved the following items:

Checks Dated	05/08/20:	Payroll Manifest	\$26,094.49
	05/29/20:	Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 8,005.19

The Road Agent, Brian Knipstein, came in to discuss the circle on Evergreen Court. Brian would like to change the structure of the circle to accommodate snow plowing. This area is creating issues with the plowing, as well as drainage from the snow melt. One resident's fence is affected when the area is plowed. Chris mentioned that Sharon Moore advised him the Evergreen residents are in support of this project. Brian informed the Board that it is just a matter of engineering and hopes to complete this project next year.

Brian also advised the Board of the sinkhole status located at the Grella property on Pleasant Street and what he is doing to resolve the situation. Brian confirmed that it is not affecting any foundation. The sink hole was caused by drainage and runoff from the road. Brian is working on repairing the drainage pipes and filling in the area.

Brian informed the Board he received a quote for paving Hervey Court and down by the salt shed. If he has enough money in his budget it will be done at the end of fall. If the Town choses to pave these when Brian does the Water Treatment Facility, it may save a few thousand dollars.

Don Wilson attended to discuss the following several issues with the Board:

- 1) His side driveway continues to be plowed in by someone when it snows. This subject was originally brought up with the Town Office. Mr. Wilson believed the Town, or possibly the Fire Station, was plowing the snow into his drive. The office reached out to the Road Agent and the Fire Station. Both denied plowing onto that drive. Jamie suggested it may have been a new driver. Michael believes it is most likely the State plow, which is harder for the Town to control, but asked Mr. Wilson to update them if it continues again this winter.
- 2) Mr. Wilson's second parcel of land had a tree taken down that he believes was not in the town's right of way. As this tree was taken down by Eversource, not much can be done at this point.

- 3) When the cemetery - which abuts his property, was cleaned of leaves and debris with a leaf blower, the person blew the items over the fence onto his property. When he first addressed this issue with the Town Office, he was advised to contact Lynne Sweet, a cemetery trustee. She offered to have someone come to clean it up, but Mr. Wilson preferred not to have anyone on his property with the pandemic. Michael told Mr. Wilson to reach out to the Board at the end of the summer/early fall and they will have someone clean the area.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to approve a Genpad for the replacement generator. This will keep the generator level and lessen the stress on the gas piping. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Board extended the grace period for the return of the 2020 Inventory Forms from Newfields residents. Residents have until July 1st to return the forms to the Town Office without a penalty.

The Board was notified that the Town Office will be returning to its normal summer hours effective June 1st. The office will be open from 8:30-2:30 Monday through Thursday, 6:00-8:00 Tuesday evenings and closed on Fridays. The Town Clerk is asking residents to wear a mask when they come into the Town Office. In order to maintain the recommended spacing between individuals, only one person will be allowed in the office at a time. No appointment is necessary. A plexiglass barrier has been placed at the counter for additional protection. The Town Health Officer approved of the precautions. He advised placing sanitizer/masks at the counter for the residents to use, if needed. He also offered to provide signage for the door, if Sue feels it is necessary.

Michel motioned, seconded by Jamie, to approve the Town Planning contract with GKG Planning from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board signed a veteran's credit PA-29 form for map 102 lot 29 which was approved in 2013 but never signed.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to approve the following amounts for the Health and Human Service donations:

American Red Cross	\$ 300.00
CASA	\$ 500.00
Child Advocacy Center	\$ 700.00
Cross Roads House	\$ 400.00
HAVEN	\$ 550.00
One Sky Community Service	\$ 600.00
Ready Rides	\$ 250.00
Ritchie McFarland Children's Center	\$1000.00
Rockingham Community Action	\$ 750.00
Rockingham Nutrition & MOW	\$ 700.00
Seacoast Mental Health	\$ 750.00
Waypoint	\$ 500.00

The Board approved the Conservation Commission's request to have the Town Office email his letter to Newfields residents informing them of a future conservation land purchase.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to approve the 5/12/20 Select Board Meeting Minutes, as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Select Board requested the Cemetery Committee attend the next meeting to discuss the condition of Piscassic Cemetery's rock wall, as well as, the debris on Mr. Wilson's property.

Michael updated the Board of his discussion with Attorney Derek Durbin regarding the Hazell property, Pawtucket Land Trust and Garvey. Michael informed the Board that Derek has prepared the materials necessary to proceed and will file them with the court. There may be a delay due to the Covid-19 situation. Derek believes they should have a court date and an action in place by July. Michael believes this will leave plenty of time for the Town to determine what needs to be done, and get it completed by fall. Regarding the Pawtucket Land, if and when the hearing takes place, Derek will have a conversation with the Planning Board to ensure Derek is knowledgeable of what occurred and when, but given the information he has been provided, Derek is comfortable with the Town's position. As to the Garvey Court situation, Derek felt that at this point in time, Garvey just wants to settle. It is just a matter of what other fees/penalties the Board wants to add to what Garvey is already covering. Michael asked Derek to obtain information from Garvey and their desire to settle, the costs that have been expending and then have a discussion on additional expenses we want to add to it.

Jamie, who is the sitting Board Member for the Planning Board, informed Chris and Michael of the Planning Board's request for more time regarding the Pawtucket Land Holding decision. There is a provision in the statues that allows the Select Board the ability to grant an extension up to 90 days. Jamie motioned to grant the Planning Board a one meeting day extension (less than 30 days) to allow the Planning Board more time to deliberate. Michael asked if they can make additional extensions after this one. Jamie responded that the statute allows for up to 90 days. In his opinion, he believes all requirements for the permit have been met and the Planning Board needs to make a decision. Michael seconded the motion to allow for an extension. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Select Board decided on the following dates for upcoming meetings:

June 16th & 30th

At 7:38 pm, Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Therrien