

## TOWN OF BARNSTEAD

### TOWN HALL

### SELECTMEN'S MEETING

### MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2015

**Attendance:** Chairman Gordon Preston, Priscilla Tiede, Richard Duane, David Kerr, and Edward Tasker.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Signatures:** Payroll and Weekly Manifest, Minutes of 12/2/2015, (1) Abatement Application, and Inter-Office Memos/ Letters/Forms. P. Tiede made a motion to have the Chairman sign the 2016 HealthTrust Agreement, which was seconded by D. Kerr and passed with a unanimous vote.

**On a motion** to go into non-public session at 5:04 p.m. per RSA: 91-A 3II (b) made by D. Kerr and seconded by P. Tiede; the Board voted: G. Preston, yes; P. Tiede, yes; R. Duane, yes; D. Kerr, yes; and E. Tasker, yes. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 6:03 p.m. and on a motion by P. Tiede, seconded by R. Duane the Board voted unanimously to seal the minutes of that meeting.

**On a motion** to go into non-public session at 6:06 p.m. per RSA: 91-A 3II (a) made by R. Duane and seconded by E. Tasker; the Board voted: G. Preston, yes; P. Tiede, yes; R. Duane, yes; D. Kerr, yes; and E. Tasker, yes. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 6:25 p.m. and on a motion by P. Tiede, seconded by R. Duane the Board voted unanimously to seal the minutes of that meeting.

The Board had a brief discussion with Sgt. Grow regarding an upgrade that MetroCast did without notifying the Town causing the internet services to be down for most of the day. Grow reported that their telephone service provide, Bayring, is through the internet, but the station had the fax line and all calls to the police station were redirected to dispatch. Karen explained that it was a huge issue for the Town Hall, because the town clerk could not process any motor vehicle transactions where the State site is through the internet. The Sgt. left at 6:36 p.m.

**Public Input:** At 6:36 p.m. G. Preston opened the meeting for public comment. There was a brief discussion about the soccer field at the school. The public input session was closed at 6:38 p.m.

**Appointments:** J. Doucette, Road Agent was present to discuss the 2016 Highway Department budget. Road salt, paving, and road maintenance were discussed and E. Tasker had questions about the fluctuating prices of diesel fuel. J. Doucette indicated that the price of diesel fuel has been going down and the last delivery was at a cost of \$2.25 per gallon. The Board agreed that it would be appropriate to lower the figure proposed for diesel fuel in the 2016 budget. E. Tasker brought up the issue of road salt usage, and the difference between 850 vs. 1,000 tons for application. J. Doucette explained that the sanders were not properly calibrated last year,

and that weather conditions resulted in a very rough winter. The Highway Department probably used more salt than needed under those circumstances. The average snow storm was between 20 – 25 degrees and the state recommends an application rate of approximately 33 pounds per mile per lane for road treatment during storm events. J. Doucette explained that the more snow is removed from the road surface, the less salt is required for adequate treatment. Barnstead has 33 miles of paved roads. A full road treatment is applied town wide at the start of each storm. A “hot mix” or a sand/salt mixture is used on hills and at intersections. The Highway Department currently uses approximately 29.7 tons of sand/salt per storm.

There was discussion of the sand that is made available to the public, outside of the locked gates at the Highway Garage for use by Town residents. There is a problem with contractors loading up their trucks with the sand for business use. E. Tasker stated that some of these contractors use the rationale that their clients are Town residents. Yet, this is using a Town resource for commercial benefit. J. Doucette requested a surveillance camera to monitor this activity and for a sign to post that the sand is for “Resident Use for Personal Property Only”. It was a consensus that the salt budget would be for 900 tons at \$55,853.

There was a discussion about the 2016 Paving Proposal. The proposal to reconstruct Varney Road includes reclaim, concrete injection and an asphalt base. The cost for an overlay in 2017 will be \$116,007.50. Pennichuck Water will provide \$81,071.51 (20%) of that cost upfront. The total cost is proposed at \$405,357.55. There was discussion of leaving Varney Road as a gravel road for 2016. Overlays are needed for Pitman Road, Peacham Road, Beauty Hill West Road, Parade Hill Road and Parade Road. The Board agreed that work on Parade Road should start fresh, and not be an overlay. There are still a lot of issues that need to be resolved before reconstruction can occur on Varney Road. Reconstruction of four culverts that drain towards the lake will require DES permits. J. Doucette will develop a plan for these drainage facilities that will include a sump system and ecosystem filtering between the culverts and the lake. The four culverts are currently underground on the property of four private landowners. The plan will require cooperation between the Highway Department, DES, and the landowners. This could require some type of injunction. DES will require retention and treatment of the run-off at least 50 feet from the shoreline. It was a consensus of the Board to direct the Highway Department to maintain Varney Road as a gravel road for 2016, and continue to work on the ditching and obtaining DES permits for the four culverts. This will allow the crew to concentrate on Parade Road.

J. Doucette presented the results of the Traffic Count Survey. There were 6,983 counts on Parade Road in one week. R. Duane noted that the total cost for Parade Road would be \$250,000. There was further discussion about the costs for different aspects of the work on both Varney and Parade Roads. J. Doucette requested permission to pave a gravel portion of Colbath and Vail Roads. The hill has been rebuilt 15 – 20 times in recent history, and it washes out continually. It was a consensus of the Board that this should be done.

P. Tiede left at 7:28 p.m. There was further discussion of budget priorities with Varney Road being maintained as a gravel road. There is the cost of \$116,740.80 for the overlay pavement for Pitman Road, and approximately \$250,000 to reconstruct Parade Road. This would leave

approximately \$30,000 for culvert work on Varney Road. D. Kerr asked about the chip seal/sand seal portion of the 2016 Paving Proposal. It was explained that this work would be subcontracted out. J. Doucette has received some quotes from Busbee for possibly subcontracting the paving on North Barnstead Road vs. the cost of the Town Highway Department doing the work. The Board asked him to not spend a lot of time on that proposal, as the work would depend upon a Bond at Town Meeting and there wasn't enough time to prepare for that. D. Kerr asked about maintenance of driveway culverts that were improperly installed by the Town in the past. J. Doucette explained that some of these are now popping up, but most of them can be reset and saved. Some will require that plastic flares be installed. This can be done in conjunction with the routine ditching maintenance. G. Preston asked about the \$20,000 tree shear machinery that the Highway Department is requesting. R. Duane stated that he would like to see an actual demonstration of the equipment in use, rather than a video, prior to consideration of such an acquisition. J. Doucette has received a quote from Asplundh to do a one-time trimming for the Town at around \$15,000. Acquisition of the tree shear machinery would be a long term asset to the Town. The discussion with the Road Agent ended at 8:38 p.m.

**New Business:** There was discussion regarding Carpenter Road and an issue of two rocks that have been placed within the right of way on the Class VI portion of the three rod road. There is a disagreement between abutting landowners about the placement of the rocks. Mr. Malone has placed them and Mr. Carpenter wants them removed. There was discussion as to whether or not the road should be declared an emergency lane so the Town can maintain the rest of the road and that portion could serve as a useful turn-around area for the Highway Department. K. Montgomery informed the Board that a Public Hearing would be required prior to declaring the road to be an emergency lane and requires fourteen clear days of public notice.

The issue of emergency lanes was further discussed and S. Mulcahy, Acting Fire Chief, will be presenting a list of proposed emergency lanes to the Board of Selectmen for consideration in the future. Currently the Building Inspector cannot issue a Building Permit on a Class VI Road without the owner bringing the road up to Class V standards and signing a waiver that the Town has no liability for public or emergency services to the lot. There was discussion of the possibility of declaring the land from Bob Strickland's driveway to the Town Line as an emergency lane.

**On a motion** by E. Tasker and seconded by D. Kerr the Board agreed to hold a Public Hearing to declare the Class VI portion of Carpenter Road and the land from Bob Strickland's driveway to the Town Line as emergency lanes. The motion passed unanimously. A notice will be published in the Suncook Valley Sun on December 16, 2015 for a Public Hearing to be held on December 29, 2015. There was discussion of declaring Province Road as an emergency lane for maintenance purposes for annual grading. It is the oldest road in the state.

**Old Business:** K. Montgomery reported on development of an Employee Physical Policy. It is recommended that physical examinations be done on an annual basis.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. on a motion by R. Duane, seconded by D. Kerr and passing with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Francesca Latawiec, Recording Secretary

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Gordon Preston, Chairman

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Priscilla Tiede, Vice-Chair

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Richard Duane

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David Kerr

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Edward Tasker