

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Bethlehem Selectmen Office

April 7, 2014

Present: Chairperson Laleme, Selectman Blanchard, Selectman Culver, Selectman Glavac

Chairperson Laleme opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Josephine Belville and David Cornell from the Department of Revenue came before the Board to discuss the revaluation now that it is complete. Ms. Belville asked the Board how it went and how it was going now. Chairperson Laleme said it went well and asked Ms. Belville and Mr. Cornell what was next, if we should do cyclical. Mr. Cornell explained the cyclical process and suggested we talk with KRT about what we should do next. He said our data is good now and if our assessor picks up all building permits and keeps the data accurate we would have options on the next step.

The Board reviewed the minutes from 03/31/14. Chairperson Laleme moved to accept the minutes as written. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Laleme said there is a request for the Town to buy flood lights for \$34.00 to light up the Town Building blue for autism awareness for the month of April. Chairperson Laleme moved to purchase the lights for \$34.00 and light up the Town Building for the month of April for Autism awareness. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Laleme discussed town cell phones and mentioned that some employees are going over their usage. Chairperson Laleme said all the police officers have a cell phone, the building inspector, one for the after school program and one employee has a stipend. The amount to add more cell phones on to the account would be \$49.07 a month per phone. More research will be done on this.

Chairperson Laleme stated that the front step is raised again and asked if we should put cones out. Selectman Blanchard thought we should put up cones with a watch your step sign.

The Board discussed the skating rink work that we encumbered funds for. Rhienna Miscio asked the Board if they wanted to have the outer concrete lip removed or to have cuts in it to make it ADA. The Board asked Rhienna to draft up bids based on doing just the cut outs. There was discussion about putting down gravel or loam. Selectman Blanchard will call Bethlehem Earth Works to get their input on what would be best. Selectman Glavac said the bid needs to specify the ground needs to be level, not to specify removal of current material.

The Board discussed 2 properties in the 04/14/14 sale that we don't have tax collector's deeds for. One of the properties was part of the old ski slope on Agassiz. The deed says it can only be used as a ski

slope and restricted from residential building. There was discussion on whether or not we can change the deed to Town of Bethlehem (from Bethlehem Ski Club). The Board asked that April ask LGC about it.

The second lot is on Railroad Street in Littleton. The Board suggested checking Littleton's deed for the abutting property on the Littleton side.

Selectman Culver raised a concern about a pile of trash on town owned property. He said it violates our bear ordinance. Chairman Laleme said there were concerns about oil and gas with this property and said if we start cleaning the ground we might find a bigger problem. The Board discussed that there needs to be no trespassing signs put up on the property. Selectman Culver moved to have the garbage cleaned up from the property on River Road. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Chairperson Laleme suggested having Dave Wiley go as the Health Officer to determine what should be cleaned up. Selectman Culver moved to amend his motion to include "based on what David Wiley recommends". Selectman Blanchard seconded the amendment. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Laleme said she will address the update to the previous weeks request by a citizen to hire an engineer to review the application from NCES. Chairperson Laleme said she looked at the agreement with the landfill and the 8.06 acres in the application for expansion is what is in the agreement. Chairperson Laleme said she looked at the maps, went to the landfill, called Paul Gildersleeve at Des and he said all components have been submitted but it hasn't been reviewed yet. Chairperson Laleme said Mr. Gildersleeve said it is a straight forward application and engineers of solid waste review the application. Chairperson Laleme said she feels that the Town doesn't need to hire another engineering firm to review other engineers and doesn't feel it is warranted to have the Town pay that expense. Selectman Glavac agrees with Chairperson Laleme that Des can make an informed decision. Selectman Culver said he also agrees that DES is competent and doesn't see the need to spend taxpayer's money on another engineer. Selectman Blanchard said it is DES' job to protect the citizens of NH and agrees that the Town doesn't need to hire another engineer. Chairperson Laleme said there will be 8-10 people from DES at the hearing on the 17th.

Rita Farrell expressed multiple concerns and stated the Board should not characterize the application in any way. Chairperson Laleme said they were discussing whether or not to hire Aries and suggested she voice her concerns at the hearing on the 17th.

Jeanne Robillard asked if other Board members have looked at the application. Selectman Blanchard said yes he has looked at it. Selectman Culver moved to not send or hire Aries engineers to review the Application. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Ms. Robillard asked the Board to describe what is going to be happening there (landfill). Chairperson Laleme said it will increase the capacity. Ms. Robillard told the Board as the leadership of the Town that it is their responsibility to know and articulate the plan. Selectman Culver said that State of NH DES is paid by all of NH citizens and that they will do their job.

Cheryl Jensen said in the past when Aries has reviewed applications they have picked up on things that were missed.

Rita Farrell referred to a lawsuit that former Selectman Dr. Lovejoy had against the State of NH regarding a wetland issue and how he won.

Ms. Robillard said in the last application the walls and berms were so high that the Town's engineers pointed out to DES that it wasn't safe and that it was unstable. She said that application was denied.

Selectman Blanchard said he takes his responsibility very seriously and doesn't appreciate people impugning on that or any other Board members. Chairperson Laleme said the Board took a vote to not hire Aries so they need to finish with this discussion.

Ms. Robillard asked Chairperson Laleme about the corrective action plan she referred to. Chairperson Laleme said it was for groundwater quality and that no remedial action is required at this point. She also told Ms. Robillard that a copy of it is available in the office.

Chairperson Laleme asked to have Selectman Glavac work with April on the list of Town owned property to determine what should be sold in the next sale. The Board determined that November 3, 2014 will be the next sale date. Selectman Glavac and April will get information on Auctioneers.

The Board discussed the 155B order for the Cruft building and said the lienholder's hadn't been noticed. Selectman Culver said there are no lienholder's because the Town owns it. Chairperson Laleme moved to sign the 155B order to notice the lienholders. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Laleme asked if there was any public input.

Cheryl Jensen announced that the roadside clean-up date for this year will be May 3 with a rain/snow date of May 17. Ms. Jensen said the Bethlehem Elementary School will do a clean-up day on May 2nd.

Chris McGrath asked if the Town owns the Stoney garage that was discussed earlier about cleaning up the garbage because he wants to know if he needs Town permission to go on the property to clean it up. There was discussion about that and there were concerns with liability.

Rita Farrell asked the Board for permission to take responsibility of the planter at the Bethlehem Country Club and said she will take no credit for it and not put up a sign. Chairperson Laleme said she believes the Board voted that the sign was ok and said it wasn't Casella asking for the sign to be put there. Chairperson Laleme said it was Mr. Baker who asked for the sign to be put there and said there is no reason for the Board to not have Mr. Baker continue to tend to the garden. The Board will research minutes on the flower garden discussions.

Jeanne Robillard said she has tended to a planter for many years and wants a sign on hers. Selectman Culver moved to put a sign on her flower pot courtesy of Jeanne Robillard because she loves the town. Nobody seconded so motion failed.

Rita Farrell said Chairperson Laleme was squelching public input. Selectman Glavac said there is a lot of back and forth and said he supports Chairperson Laleme and felt she did a fair job as Chairperson.

At 7:20 Chairperson Laleme moved to go into non-public session per 91A :3 II (a) & (c). Selectman Glavac seconded. Chairperson Laleme did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

Mary Jackson recommended hiring of a deputy tax collector and deputy town clerk. Chairperson Laleme moved to hire Marie Brockway for 20 hours a week at \$11.00 an hour. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed a possible legal issue. Selectman Blanchard moved to have Chief Ho-Sing-Loy talk with Mr. Kendall. Chairperson Laleme seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed personnel. Chairperson Laleme moved to pay Dave Pilotte for 3 days work. Selectman Blanchard seconded. 3-0 (Selectman Culver abstained).

At 9:00pm Chairperson Laleme moved to come out of non-public. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Chairperson Laleme said Rebecca Brown asked for permission to do an environmental study on the town owned Mt. Cleveland road property. Chairperson Laleme moved that due to having to check on liability no to environmental study. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

At 9:10 Selectman Blanchard moved to adjourn. Chairperson Laleme seconded. Carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

April Hibberd

Administrative Assistant