

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Bethlehem Town Building Meeting Room

July 10, 2013

Present: Chairman Blanchard, Selectman Culver, Selectman Laleme, Selectman Fiorentino, Selectman Glavac.

Chairman Blanchard opened the meeting at 6:31.

Rhienna Miscio came before the Board to inform the Board about a community service program that the students at Profile are involved in and how they could help the Town. Rhienna said they could paint the comfort station and the single serve volley at the tennis courts and the Town would only need to purchase the supplies which Rhienna estimated to be \$220.00. Selectman Laleme said she thinks it is a good idea. Selectman Laleme moved to approve the project venture group from Profile School to paint the comfort building and the single serve volley for \$250.00 taken out of building maintenance. Chairman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

Rhienna also updated the Board on a fundraiser she would like to have at the Country Club to raise money to replace the fencing at the ball fields. She said she has a quote from Caswell for 1430.00 for the fencing. Selectman Glavac asked Rhienna to get another quote.

Chairman Blanchard opened the sand bids. There was only one bid submitted and that was from Bethlehem Earth Materials for 6.50/yard with a cost for the 2013 – 2014 season being \$16250.00. Brett Jackson said this is the same price as last year. Selectman Laleme moved to accept the bid from Bethlehem Earth Materials. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Blanchard read a request from the library to appoint Sara Plumley to fill the vacant library trustee position until the town meeting of March 2014. Chairman Blanchard noted that the vacancy was posted in the town building and at the post office for 2 weeks and they received 4 applicants. The library interviewed all 4 applicants. Chairman Blanchard moved to approve the nomination of Sara Plumley to fill the library trustee position until March 2014. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board signed the KRT assessing agreement that they previously voted on.

The Board reviewed the Fairpoint easement paperwork needed for the library construction. Selectman Culver pointed out that the library should look at Time Warner for competitive pricing for services once building is done. Chairman Blanchard moved to approve the easement for placing of the pole. Selectman Laleme seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed an abatement request from Beech Crest Club. Selectman Laleme moved to approve the abatement of \$6400.00 per the recommendation of our assessor. Chairman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed and signed the Conservation Easement Deed from NCES, Inc.

The Board discussed the library the request of the library being able to sell their furniture. Selectman Laleme said we could use some of that furniture and may decide to keep it. She suggested tabling it for now. Chairman Blanchard said he agrees that it should be tabled for now and can be addressed later when the new building is done and they know for sure what they are bringing with them.

The Board reviewed the minutes from 06/10/13 and 06/24/13. Selectman Laleme moved to approve the minutes from 06/10/13 as written. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 3-0 (Selectmen Fiorentino and Glavac abstained).

The Board reviewed the minutes from 06/24/13. Selectman Laleme moved to approve the minutes as written. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 4-0 (Selectman Culver abstained).

Rita Farrell asked the Board how to correct misquotes from minutes the Board already approved. The Board said they can amend minutes after they are approved.

Rita asked the Board what the decision is about the Casella sign at the flower garden and presented to papers to the Board (part of ordinance and sign permit). Chairman Blanchard said it was not put there by Casella but by Mr. Baker. Rita asked what the Town's policy is for signs on town property. She was told there isn't a policy. Selectman Laleme said it depends on the situation. Selectman Glavac asked if Mr. Baker was caretaker of the garden. He was told yes. Selectman Culver said if a donation is made and someone wants to put a sign up the Board can decide if that is ok or not. Rita said she would like to see the minutes from when the Board approved the sign and also said she is not the only person in town that doesn't like the sign. Chairman Blanchard asked where she got the document (ordinance page) because she didn't turn it in beforehand as she was supposed to. Rita said it came from the ordinance but agreed it should have been qualified prior to the meeting. Rita was told April would get her the minutes she requested.

Rita asked what the speed limit is for trucks going through town. She was told they have the same speed limit as everyone else which is 30 MPH. She asked if it could be reduced to 25 MPH. Chairman Blanchard said the chief is aware of the problem of speeders on Main Street and addresses it. He also said it is a State Road so the Town cannot change the speed limit. Rita said the state will look into it if there is a request.

Rita asked if the trucks going to Casella still use route 3 instead of coming through town. Kevin said they do still go Route 3 unless they need to fuel up which they do as Presby's.

Rita asked for clarification about the tax situation; about the tax bill and the new appraisal and when do they talk about the new assessment. Selectman Culver said the July bill is always last year's rate and assessment. He said everyone will receive a letter with the value and have the opportunity to discuss

the value. If someone wants to file an abatement they have until March 1st to do so. Chairman Blanchard said KRT intends on having hearings.

There was discussion about the market value versus the assessed value. Selectman Laleme pointed out that they look at sales when they determine values.

At 7:20 Chairman Blanchard moved to go into non-public per RSA 91 –A: 3, (d) and for personnel. Selectman Laleme seconded. Chairman Blanchard did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed payment arrangements for properties due to be deeded.

The Board discussed the sale of Town owned properties.

Selectman Culver moved to add the deeded properties from the Town Report (Map 205 Lot 037, Map 205 Lot 37.1, Map 404 Lot 32.1, Map 405 Lot 81, Map 413 Lot 41, Map 416 Lot 28) and sell all properties as sealed bids; all properties will have a minimum bid of 20% of assessed (non current use values) value with 20% of their bid due with the bid, non refundable if bid is accepted. Certified check for bid and cash or check for balance within 60 days. Bids will be accepted beginning on August 17 and ending on Sept. 9th and will be opened at the Selectmen’s meeting on Sept. 9th at 6:30pm. Chairman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board discussed new hires and seasonal employees. It was noted that per the Dept. of Labor the Town runs all year and does not have seasonal employees.

At 8:45 Chairman Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

At 8:45 Chairman Blanchard moved to adjourn. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

April Hibberd

Administrative Assistant