

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes -DRAFT
Bethlehem Selectmen Office
July 13, 2015

Present: Chairman Culver, Selectman Staples, Selectman Laleme, Selectman Blanchard.

Chairman Culver opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

Phil Beaulieu from NH DOT came before the Board to update the Board on the Culvert project on Route 302 by the Visitor Center building. He reviewed a plan he showed to the Board but said it is preliminary and may change. There was discussion about the Visitor Center Bridge, brick path, and two retaining walls being affected. Mr. Beaulieu said he would ask if the bridge could be replaced. Mr. Beaulieu said DOT doesn't take any responsibility outside of right of way but will be doing work beyond the ROW in this project because it is a public and private benefit but said they usually don't do that. Brett Jackson asked Mr. Beaulieu what the ROW is for the state and was told 20 feet. Mr. Beaulieu said they will begin advertising for the project in Jan 2016 with construction beginning in August 2017. Carole Hammarberg asked if it will impact the Visitor Center operating and Mr. Beaulieu said there would be an impact and said the project will take approx. a construction season to complete.

Mary Jackson came before the Board. Mrs. Jackson explained to the Board about an error that caused a resident to not receive a tax bill for multiple years and has accrued interest. She said the resident wasn't aware the taxes were not being paid because they were supposed to be escrowed and he never received a bill because he was not the listed owner in the Town's tax system. Mrs. Jackson said he immediately brought his taxes current but is asking for the interest in the amount of \$751.74 be waived. Selectman Blanchard moved to waive the \$751.74 due to tax bill being sent to wrong person and address. Chairman Culver seconded. Carried 3-1 (Selectman Laleme opposed).

Mrs. Jackson also discussed with the Board a property that is due to be deeded in July but there is a IRS seizure on the property and the IRS has requested that the Town delay deeding for 60 to 90 days so they can sell it. Mrs. Jackson will call the IRS and ask if the IRS doesn't sell it in the 90 days can the Town then deed it. Selectman Laleme moved to delay the deeding for 90 days on the IRS property. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Mrs. Jackson showed a document to the Board about when the Village District became incorporated on 03/11/25 but asked the Board if they knew if that document was accurate to go by or if they knew if there also needed to be a town vote. Mrs. Jackson said she needs to sign and certify that information for the Village District so they can obtain a grant. Selectman Blanchard suggested that Mrs. Jackson call the Secretary of State and she said she would do that.

Mrs. Jackson said her office will be closed from August 10 through the 28th and said she wants the townspeople to be able to still register cars and discussed the option of having Marie

Brockway (deputy) work for those weeks in the assessing office. There was discussion about the responsibility of the registration tags and how they need to be locked up. Mrs. Jackson said she looked into the options of having Franconia or Littleton do them for that time period but she said Franconia is too out of the way for people and Littleton has a lot going on. Mrs. Jackson will look into Mrs. Brockway working in the assessing office or meeting room if Profile Technologies can set her up and if not she will work something out with Franconia. Mrs. Jackson said she will put in ad in the Courier for 2 weeks and also try the radio stations to get the word out.

The Board discussed a request about a youth needing community service to do it at the Town Building. Chairman Culver moved to approve the request. Selectman Laleme seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board reviewed a Notary Services Policy that will charge a fee for non Bethlehem residents. Chairman Culver moved to adopt the proposed policy. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

The Board discussed a request to reappoint Nancy Czarny to the Bretzfelder Memorial Park Committee. Chairman Culver asked if the position was posted or not. Selectman Laleme asked why the Town is involved in this because the Town does not own Bretzfelder Park. Selectman Laleme moved to reappoint Nancy Czarny to the Bretzfelder Memorial Park Committee. Selectman Staples seconded. Motion failed 2-2 (Chairman Culver and Selectman Blanchard opposed).

The Board reviewed and signed a letter to Regan Kulak congratulating her on winning Miss Littleton Area Outstanding Teen title.

The Board discussed a letter from Don Lavoie as Trustee of the Trust that states he will not be running for trustee again and he suggested using a firm to handle the trust accounts in the future. Selectman Laleme said the trustee's should decide this after the next election. LGC will be called for input on this.

The Board reviewed the minutes from 06/01/15 and 06/22/15. Selectman Laleme moved to approve the 06/22/15 minutes as written. Chairman Culver seconded. Carried 3-0 (Selectman Blanchard abstained). Selectman Blanchard moved to approve the 06/01/15 minutes as written. Chairman Culver seconded. Carried 3-0 (Selectman Laleme abstained).

Respectfully submitted,
April Hibberd
Administrative Assistant