

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Bethlehem Selectmen Office

July 28, 2014

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

Chairperson Laleme opened the meeting at 6:30pm and welcomed the Planning Board to the meeting. Chairperson Laleme said she would be making a motion and then taking questions from the Planning Board if they have questions on the motion made. Chairperson Laleme moved that the Select Board put the owner of the proposed Dalton Drag Strip project, Mr. Doug Ingerson, on notice that he is required to submit for site plan review pursuant to RSA 674:53 and Churchill v. Dover ZBA. Further, we will request the Town's attorney draft a letter for us to send to Mr. Ingerson. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Peter Roy asked if the Select Board chose to enforce. Chairperson Laleme said they have chosen to send a letter to Mr. Ingerson saying he is required to come in for Site Plan Review. Carried 4-1 (Selectman Fiorentino opposed).

Andrea Bryant asked if they could see the attorney client privileged advice. Chairperson Laleme said they are not waiving attorney client privilege at this time. Don Lavoie asked for a brief description of normal procedure and steps. Chairperson Laleme said the Board is taking the first step on attorney's recommendation and will not be discussing any other steps at this time. Jeanne Robillard asked what if it happens again, what steps will the Board take. Chairperson Laleme said the Planning Board attorney's advice was that the Select Board had the option to enforce or not and that the Select Board would look at each individual circumstance and also wouldn't speak for future boards. Andrea Bryant said if the Planning Board sends something to the Select Board to enforce that the two boards should meet to discuss it.

At 6:38 Don Lavoie moved to adjourn the Planning Board meeting. Andrea Bryant seconded. Carried 6-0.

Selectman Blanchard said the Select Board should work more closely with the Planning Board.

The Board reviewed the agreement for the GIS mapping. Selectman Culver moved to sign the agreement. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme said the Board previously approved a police cruiser lease but Dept. of Revenue said the Warrant Article is not specific enough so Chairperson Laleme moved to take 1st years lease payment out of the operating budget and do a Warrant Article for next 2 years. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Chief Ho-Sing-Loy said he would like to purchase the cruiser instead using the money in the Capital

Reserve account (approx. \$ 26,000.00) and making up the approx. 8,000.00 difference with his operating budget. Chairperson Laleme and Selectman Blanchard withdrew their motion and second. Chairman Blanchard moved to utilize the balance of the capital reserve and use remainder from budget to purchase the police cruiser. Chairperson Laleme seconded. There was discussion about the condition of the current cruisers and all the maintenance required on the Impala over the last year which totaled approx. \$11,000.00. Chairperson Laleme asked the Chief if the Impala would be traded in and the Chief said it wouldn't be worth it because they will only give a \$500.00 trade allowance. The Chief said the Impala could still be used for details and traveling to court and trainings. Dick Robie said he didn't think Bethlehem was a 4 cruiser town. Rita Farrell asked if the officers are leaving employment with the Town of Bethlehem and going to other towns because of pay. Chairperson Laleme confirmed that 2 officers have recently left but said she couldn't discuss why they left. Ms. Farrell said she believes we need the 4th cruiser. Selectman Blanchard said he thinks we should investigate what the cruiser is worth as a trade in. Selectman Glavac said he thinks it is wise to keep the cruiser and utilize it as the Chief said. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed abatements. Chairperson Laleme moved to approve the abatement for Victor Hoffman for \$220.00. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme moved to approve the abatement for Victor Hoffman for \$5,204.00. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed the deed waiver. Chairperson Laleme moved to accept the 5 waivers. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board discussed the date for the next sale of town owned properties. Chairperson Laleme moved to change the next sale date to 11/08/14. Selectman Blanchard seconded. The Board explained that we will be using an auctioneer for the next sale. There was discussion about why a property is waived from the deeding process. It was explained that if a property had an issue that could cause a liability, expense, or be a burden to the town to own it we could waive it. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme said Rhienna Miscio submitted a request to get bids to correct issues with the skate rink. Chairperson Laleme said Ms. Miscio is looking to get quotes to cut out a portion of the cement barrier, create a berm, and asphalt to level the rink. Chairperson Laleme said we encumbered \$6,678.00 to do this work. Chairperson Laleme said initially Ms. Miscio wanted to remove all the asphalt but that is too expensive. Chairperson Laleme moved to allow Ms. Miscio to obtain bids for this work. Selectman Glavac said in the scope of work it should specify that we want it level and leave it for the bidder to determine best way to obtain that. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Julian Czarny asked if ice was made this past winter by an employee of the Village District without doing any work to the rink. Chairperson Laleme said yes there was. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme said she had a letter of intent agreement between the Town and Habitat for Humanity. She said it was reviewed by our attorney and they gave the ok. Chairperson Laleme moved to sign the agreement. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme said they have a bill to review where Road Agent, Brett Jackson bought some wheels for the grader from an employee. Mr. Jackson wrote an explanation on why he purchased them from an employee and explained that because of the year of the grader you can't find parts. Selectman Glavac moved to accept the bill. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Chairperson Laleme said we are treading light ground when you purchase things from an employee and it should be avoided unless absolutely no other option. Carried 5-0.

Chairperson Laleme said she received information about the RSA to change the speed limit on a town road and said the RSA said the Board has the authority after doing a study. Selectman Blanchard said he doesn't want to reconsider the speed limit on Maplewood Hill Road and said the speed limit was also lowered on Brook Road. Chief Ho-Sing-Loy said there are a lot of accidents on Maplewood Hill Road. Brett Jackson said he thought the RSA said a study needed to be done if you were lowering below 25 MPH. Chief Ho-Sing-Loy said he believes there was a study done on Brook Road.

The Board discussed a request to close the top portion of Park Ave. the day of the art festival on August 16th during the festival. Chairperson Laleme moved to allow them to close the road on 08/16 for the art festival. Selectman Glavac seconded. Selectman Culver said we should check with the Gables to confirm it is ok with them. April will call to confirm that. Carried 5-0.

The Board also discussed creating parking spaces on Park Ave.

The minutes from 07/14/14 were tabled.

Chairperson Laleme said getting 5 signatures on documents is sometimes difficult especially on weeks when the Board doesn't meet so she discussed with the Board having the documents released after getting 3 signatures. The Board all agreed on this.

Selectman Glavac said the pool looks great.

Selectman Blanchard said he has been hearing how the Country Club is in really good condition.

Rita Farrell asked who is in charge of the sidewalks in town and was told it is the Village District. Ms. Farrell said she went to the auction for the former Sovereign Journey property and cautioned the Board to look into the new company and asked if the property should be rezoned.

Ms. Farrell said Casella was fined \$100,000.00 by state of NY because of anti-trust action and monopolizing area.

Julian said he wanted to speak on the ice rink issue again and said improving something is always good but useable ice was used this past winter. He said the police expenses are needed to support the dept and how the pool is very nice but unknown budget numbers at this point. He suggested that the Rec. dept. put the brakes on because we don't want a high rec budget. Chairperson Laleme said they are monitoring the pool budget very closely and in the 1st year there will always be more expenses. Chairperson Laleme also said the money for the rink was encumbered from last year's budget and said cutting out the concrete makes the rink accessible for everyone.

There was discussion about leveling ice rinks and Selectman Culver said he knows about leveling rinks because he used to do it and when it is not level it takes longer to freeze and it melts quicker.

At 7:47 Chairperson Laleme moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) & (c). Selectman Culver seconded. Chairperson Laleme did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed police personnel. Selectman Blanchard moved to hire Zachary Bushway for police position at \$15.00 an hour with an increase to \$17.00 after academy training and completing FTO. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

At 8:37 Chairperson Laleme moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Fiorentino seconded. Carried 5-0.

At 8:37 Chairperson Laleme moved to adjourn. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

April Hibberd

Administrative Assistant