

Cooper Select Board's Meeting
Oct. 5, 2011
Held at the Grange Hall

Attending: Sandy Lyon, Scott Jamieson, Karen Holmes, Joanne McMahon, Donna Timpe, John Viselli, Micah Perkins, Ann Marie Flood, Ronnie Flood

Starting time: 6:44 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: The Treasurer's Warrant was reviewed and signed.

Agenda Item 2: Sandy brought up the heating issue, mentioned that we need heat by the Nov. 8th election, and that her father, Ralph Flood, (who had helped put the furnace in originally) had looked it all over. He said that it can be put in running condition; it is only missing a part. Ronnie said he can come over with Ralph and help get it running. It was approved for them to contact the heating company, and work together with them to get the heat working again. The heating company can bill the Town direct.

Agenda Item 3: Micah has drafted a letter to send the State to have them take over issuing Concealed weapons permits. The State is willing to take this over and it does not cost the Town (or individuals who apply) anything. The State will do the back ground checks and issue permits faster than we can. Micah presented a copy of the letter for Sandy to mail and to make a copy to keep on file.

Agenda Item 4: Micah had a letter for Fair Point, per Jeanne's email. It basically says the matter has been turned over to the Town. Rojean called Micah yesterday, they discussed the situation, and we should now be seeing the trucks. The letter will be sent with the petition.

Rojean called Karen about the Connect ME grants, Karen found out that Axiom was the one with the tower on the hill, and she thinks we may want to work with Axiom. The next chance to get a grant for Connect Me is 2012.

The idea of a Town email list was again discussed. It would make sharing information about the progress with Fair Point quicker and cheaper. Micah is collecting email addresses to expedite this process. There is a website possibility that Erica Perkins is looking into, it will be free or low cost. Ann Marie mentioned we would want to have our Tax Maps put online, as most other Towns have done already. Everyone was in support of Erica continuing to work on this.

Agenda Item 5: Ronnie was asked to talk about the last snowplow contract. He said it was a three year contract, and that the Town has to vote on any contract over one year. He is willing to do the plowing again; however, 1 year is okay with him. Micah said he was learning as a new Select Board member, and asked if perhaps we should have done this already. Next year this will be done sooner. Ronnie was asked to share anything he wanted them to know: Ronnie said that we have a large area to plow, Route 191 traffic packs the snow, and he compared it to some other local towns. He mentioned the things to consider when getting the side roads done. He has done this his whole life. People call his house to complain, and Ronnie has had someone at a Select Board meeting complain about him not doing what they consider he should be doing. Ronnie knows what needs to be done, and he needs support.

Micah asked how many people he had trouble with. Ronnie said 2. Then he mentioned the day his truck slide into the ditch, the reasons why, and how it took 6 hours to get it out. Ronnie listed the order to do

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the roads: Always do Route 191 first, then the North Union, the East Ridge, and then get to the side roads. Some side roads have traditionally been left to plow last, when the storm is over. When Ronnie was asked how much he wanted, he explained some of the support Alexander gives its snow plow man, Jimmy Davis. Then he asked for another \$5,000. Micah asked for input: Sandy mentioned the price of fuel. Donna was in support, and mentioned that before the meeting tonight, John and Donna rode with Ronnie on the Town roads that the contract covers. She had never before been on two of the roads. There is a lot of road to plow. Ann Marie mentioned cost of the insurance that they pay, and the \$7,000 for fuel last year. Ronnie also spoke of the cost of insurance. Micah said it sounds reasonable. He suggests the Select Board discuss in executive session. Scott asked about who does the plowing here at the Grange Hall. Sandy said the previous year's agreement was \$50 for a person Ronnie appointed. Scott asked who was responsible for the handicapped railing's damage. Ronnie said it was a front end loader that was operated by Allen Spear. The snow was that deep. Ann Marie will talk to David Townshend and have him do the repairs soon. A flag needs to be put up before snow flies this year to clearly mark it.

Ronnie was asked some other questions, and then the Select Board went into Executive session. Board entered Executive Session at 7:31; Returned from Executive session at 7:47.

Micah said he thinks we should list the roads in the contract, Ronnie agreed and they will be added. John said that the Crowe road should be a priority, because of the bus, and then the others as he can get to them. Discussion continued about the Green Hill road, and how we divide the care of the road with Alexander; they do the summer maintenance and we cover the winter snow plowing. There is an issue with the end of the Green Hill Road on the North Union side, being blocked off and seeded down, with stakes. No one knew why this happened.

The Contract was awarded to Ronnie; it will be changed to include \$5,000 more, the current Select Board names, and the names of the roads. Micah asked Sandy to type the new version, and gave her a previous contract to use as a guide.

Then John mentioned the Bob Smith road, and it was discussed. It will continue to be part of Ronnie's contract. Then the Vining Road was discussed, we will need to do a contract for the road, does anyone know if Chris McCormick is still interested? John will contact Chris to find out.

Ronnie spoke about the Breakneck Road, and Scott said it is in very good condition now. Sandy mentioned that heirs of the Vance family, relatives of David Crosby, are interested in the old family homestead lot on the Breakneck Mountain Road. Ronnie said we have not done summer maintenance in for 50 years, and we need to make it a closed road. Now is the time to do this, before we get into a mess.

Ronnie has a copy of the McCormick contract. We will work on it next time. Then we discussed the merits of salt sand shed.

Agenda Item 6: It is too cold to discuss anything else tonight. Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

The meeting next week will be Oct. 20, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. Judy East will attend Nov. 3rd meeting.