

Town of Goshen
Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting
October 5, 2009

Present: Jim Carrick, Ed Andersen, Sr., Clark Wamsley, Cindy Rouillard, Alfred and Joyce Guillemette, Duncan Domey, Ed Andersen, Jr.

- The Board met with Ed Andersen, Jr. and Duncan Domey
- Please find attached the Police Department service calls for September. If you need more information please see Chief Andersen.
- Lars Nelson was present to update the Board of Selectmen in regards to the Cemetery. Lars stated that he would bid out the mowing for 3 times a year, Memorial Day, 4th. of July and Labor Day. There have been a few complaints that it needs to be mowed more often. Lars stated that he would like to have 5 cuts a year. Lars stated that he would not put 5 in the budget he would rather bring it up at town meeting to let the town know there has been complaints and if the towns people want to bring the mowing up to 5 mowing than the change will be made. Jim stated that the board was discussing having the highway department do the mowing. Lars stated the cemetery is a lot of mowing.
- The driveway on the right side of the cemetery has been washing out. It needs to be regarded and repaved. Last time it was paved was probably in the 50's. Jim stated that Lars needed to get a petition warrant article for the town meeting. There is a Capital Reserve Fund established to use for current paved roads.
- Alfred and Joyce Guillemette were present to discuss their driveway culvert on Rand Pond Road. Mr. Guillemette showed pictures to the board of his driveway. Courtney Heath the new Road Agent took all the information and will discuss this with the Highway Department to see what could be done to fix the culvert.

The following were present to discuss the Road Agent Position: Lars Nelson, Jack Warburton, Jesse Johnson, Julia Serrentino, Bea Jillette, Virginia Schendler, Rick Costello, Lilyan Wright, Peta Brennan, Kenny Warburton, Jack Scranton, Dan Peterson, Jim Carrick, Ed Andersen, Sr., Clark Wamsley, Cindy Rouillard.

1. Rick Costello stated that we are facing challenging times. What is the point in creating a position? Do we really need to have paper work done by Courtney Heath?
2. Jim stated we have gone through 3 or 4 road agents in the last few years. The previous road agents have left the town with problems. The last 2 years the road department has been run by committee.
3. Peta asked if the money for this position is coming from the money that is for the highway helper and if is where would the money come from if there is

storms that require a helper if the monies are all used up. Peta stated that Courtney has a fulltime job and a part time job when is he going to have time to do the job as road agent.

4. Kenny Warburton stated the Road Agent position was not advertised as a part time supervisor Jim stated that Courtney's title is Road Agent. Kenny stated that there is 17 miles of road and they need another person to help. Jim stated "apparently so". Kenny asked what experience Courtney has.
5. Bea wanted to know what the duties of the administrator (road agent) will be doing that the current two can't do. Jim stated that he hopes Courtney could help manage the time of Jesse and Greg. Courtney could do the paper work so Jesse and Greg could be out working on the roads more. Courtney would be able to take care of FEMA if it comes up, get a long range plan to find out what culverts have been replaced and not, log books in the vehicles, when maintenance was happening. Log books have not been maintained for a long time. The state is holding towns to be more responsible. Since Jim has been Selectmen he stated that there have been 2 major disasters and a couple small disasters. Twice FEMA has come had to come in. FEMA is going to GPS all roads. If maintenance is not done or being done correctly, FEMA will not cover any damage in the future there needs to records stating what has been done. Bea asked if Jesse and Greg need to work more hours. Kenny asked how hard it is at the end of the day to do paperwork. Will Courtney be primarily a paper pusher? The area the board wants Courtney to concentrate is complaints and dealing with the paper work. Eventually he is going to have to go out and be an operator. Bea asked if Courtney has the experience Jim stated that most of the people that came to work for the highway department did not have experience and it is a learning curve.
6. Jim stated how the Board went through the process to make the decision. In 2007 the board asked the town to change the method of selecting a road agent as appointed instead of voted. The state statute is you have to wait one year before hiring one. The Board added the warrant in (article 15) The Amended article passed stating that the Road Agent position would be appointed by the Board of Selectmen with the assistance of a committee chosen by the Board of Selectmen. Jim stated that hiring Courtney is experiment. Jim said that this is not something that they have taken lightly. They deliberated a long time in deciding whom to hire. The part time Road Agent position will be presented to the budget committee and it will be voted on at the town meeting. The money could be cut out of the budget by amending the money and could be cut out completely. Courtney is aware that this could happen.
7. Dan Peterson stated that Jesse and Greg care about the town, they might not live in the town but they care. They are the ones that are out there in the snow storms all hours of the day and night. Even when you don't see them they are out there. It is unfortunate that we stole a dream from them and if we loose one of them it is going to cost the town a lot of money. The town

- would have to start from the bottom and train them. Dan said that we probably have taken a step back if either Jesse or Greg were to leave. Dan said that he believes that it was a bad mistake to hire Courtney and not bring it before the people. before the Board hired Courtney. It is just the beginning of what the Board is going to hear once the whole community finds out that a part-time road agent was hired to oversee the highway department.
8. Rick stated that he wondered if there were personality problems with the board and the highway department.
 9. Lilyan Wright stated that if Jesse and Greg have the ability to become Road Agents, were they considered because the board said it was a personal matter. It makes it very difficult for the people in the town to grasp what really is going on.
 10. Lars stated that Jesse has saved the town a lot of money by helping the cemetery out other wise having to be contracted out. Lars said he feels Jesse would be an excellent candidate for road agent. He see's quality in Jesse that he would want in a road agent.
 11. Jesse stated that he was the one that informed Town resident's to let them know about the hiring of the Road Agent position. Jesse stated that in the Selectmen meeting's before the decision was made that he did not get a straight answer. Jesse felt that he had not been talked to the way he should have. He was screamed at and accused me of bullying the Selectmen into making a decision. Jesse felt that if there was more than one of him that maybe some of the questions would be answered.
 12. Julia Serrentino stated that Jesse had a right to ask the residents to come to the meeting. The highway department has done a good job on the roads. It is not an easy job and they are out there at 2:00 in the morning. Julia said she feels that the highway department has done an excellent job and would be too bad to see them leave the town.
 13. Bea stated the Highway department employees have not been working for a lot of money and we can't get experienced people because of the pay. Bea stated that she has concerns about how the highway department is being treated

The Selectmen's meeting continues:

- Dan Peterson was present to discuss using the Goshen-Lempster School for a designated shelter. Dan would be able to apply for a grant for a generator if there is a designated place
- Clark presented a draft of a letter he wrote regarding the wording of an ordinance and regulations that he will have Bernie Waugh review.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm