

MINUTES FROM 05/09/2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING

PRESENT: Chairman, Tyler Gotshall, Alton Brusio, Lee Kimball, Chuck Pease, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

GUESTS: Joseph (Skipper) Deyo, Kelly Deyo, Ashley Deyo, Shane Brown, Terry Tatro, Penny Morgan, Steve Morgan, Kelley Tessier, Pat Boutah, Dale Bourgeois, Tracy Bourgeois, Jason Pollard, Holly Adams, Amy Mashtare, Darwin Cameron, Lorna Jarvis, Carol Behrman, Leeann Porto, Shari Swainbank, Phil Gerbode.

7:00pm – OPEN REGULAR MEETING:

- Meeting called to order at 7:03pm by Chairman, Tyler Gotshall

ADJUST AGENDA (if needed):

- 4 Adjustments made:
 - #1 - Cat complaint from Tom Dupre
 - #2 – Deputy Health Officer appointment needed
 - #3 – Update about solar contract
 - #4 – Adopt LEOP plan as written or with changes

NEW BUSINESS:

- Shane Brown – Answer complaints / request
 - Shane was present to make the Board aware of steps he is taking to fulfill his obligations regarding the complaints that were made against him at the 04/25/2017 meeting.
 - The conversations were ongoing and topics intertwined. Minutes reflect each topic, not necessarily in the exact order discussions took place as topics changed throughout the discussions.

- **Complaint #1** pertained to his dogs. The neighbors had reported that the dogs barked constantly and that the living conditions of the dogs were poor.
- Jen Hebert visited the site on 05/02/2017 and reported that the complaint of poor living conditions was unfounded. She reported that the animals had adequate shelter, food and water and that there was not a sign of built up excrement.
- She reported that the dogs did not bark when she entered the property or when she knocked on the door.
- **Complaint #2** pertained to the noise from the generator. The neighbors reported that a generator is being used to supply his home with power and the noise from that generator is disturbing their peace and quiet.
- Shane has boxed in the generator since he received the letter from the Selectboard. It is still heard by the neighbors and is still disturbing their peace.
- Shane is going to make another improvement to the generator so that it cannot be heard.
- The letter that was sent to Shane stated the Selectboard wishes as follows: *“you would be given 10 (ten) days from receipt of this letter to shut the generator off. If after the 10 (ten) days you do not comply by shutting the generator off and leaving it off, you will be issued a fine of \$150”* The letter was delivered to Shane on the first of May, giving him until the tenth of May to shut the generator off. Shane has made the generator quieter and stated that he will make it unheard and asked if he can continue to use the generator if it is unheard by the neighbors.
- *Tyler Gotshall motioned that Shane Brown be allowed to continue use of the generator provided it cannot be heard by the neighbors – seconded by Lee Kimball – all in favor – motion carried.*

- Health Officer Lee Kimball will revisit the site to be sure that the generator can-not be heard.
- **Complaint #3** pertained to the septic and water at the trailer.
- Currently, the trailer is not connected to water or sewer, either Municipal or private. Bathroom facilities are in a camper that is parked next to the trailer. Water is being brought in by the occupants. Waste is being disposed of through Drummac Septic Systems, on site, at regular intervals.
- Lee spoke with Ted Cantwell from the state and was told that the camper must be removed from the site for servicing.
- Shane said that he had spoken with Ted Cantwell also and was lead to believe that having it serviced on site was acceptable.
- Shane presented photos of invoices from Drummac Septic that were shown to indicate that the camper septic was being serviced.
- Lee also learned from Ted Cantwell that the camper was only to be used as a temporary solution and it should not be used as a permanent solution.
- Shane is meeting with Ryan J's Landscaping on May 16th to establish how he can hook into the municipal septic.
- Shane will attend the 05/23/2017 Selectboard meeting with a plan that indicates time frame and actions that will be taken to hook onto the municipal sewer.
- Shane indicated that he was informed a Village meeting that he could hook onto an existing sewer line located at 2 North Main Street, owned by Dennis and Julie Irick if they give him permission to use it.
- Shane will need a letter from Dennis and Julie Irick of Irick's Excavating that indicates they are willing to allow him to hook into the existing curb stop at their property located at 2 South Main Street.
- This plan and arrangements were agreeable to the Selectboard.

- *Chuck Pease motioned to grant Shane Brown an extension until the Selectboard meeting on 05/23/2017 for coming up with a plan of action – seconded by Lee Kimball – all in favor – motion carried.*
 - The Selectboard will want to see a letter from Irick’s Excavating, and a “*submission of necessary permit requests with the appropriate payment, and a project plan with a timeline that includes a date when the system will be operational. This plan must be prepared by a licensed engineering firm, must be submitted to the Alburgh Town Hall in writing, and must bear the mark of the licensed engineering firm*” as per the requirements sent to him by Health Officer, Lee Kimball.
 - These items need to be presented to the Selectboard at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017.
- Kelley Tessier – Greenwoods Road complaints – 3 properties
 - Kelley and several other residents of the area are concerned about several of the properties in the Greenwoods and would like to advocate for some clean up to be done. There are several specific properties that they addressed at this meeting.
 - “on the corner of springs and greenwoods road” (4003 Greenwoods Rd.)
 - Kelley and others are concerned with the amount of trash that is located on this property.
 - Health Officer, Lee Kimball has been to the site because of a previous complaint of this property.
 - It is believed that there is raw sewer coming out of this house and feeding into a stream that feeds into the lake.
 - A letter will be sent to the owners of this property and the complaints will be addressed.
 - “towards the sharp corner of greenwoods road on the left with the three dogs and the yard full of garbage” (2644 Greenwoods Rd.)

- Kelley and others are concerned with the amount of trash that is located on this property.
 - They are also concerned about the welfare of three dogs that are at this property.
 - Chuck Pease recused himself from this topic and addressed it instead, as the owner of the property.
 - The Town Animal Control Officer, Jen Hebert has been to this property to address the welfare of the dogs and has offered solutions to the mud and water that the animals are in.
 - Chuck has taken action based on the suggestion of laying hay down where the animals are housed.
 - Chuck stated that the animals have food and clean water and are usually only outside long enough to go to the bathroom.
 - In regard to the garbage around the outside of the trailer, Chuck has stated that they will be getting the dumpster emptied and they will work on cleaning the area up.
 - Health Officer, Lee Kimball will inspect the property before the next meeting.
 - A letter will be sent to the owners of this property and the complaints will be addressed.
- There was some discussion on the topic of homes in Alburgh that need cleaning up. It was mentioned that there was a “revitalization committee” in the past that was organized to help people take care of these type of issues. There was some State funding available to assist with the process. With enough interest this may be something worth starting again.
 - “past the Henry Farm on greenwoods before Martell where there are MULTIPLE trailers put together. “(1392 Greenwoods Rd.)
 - Kelley and others are concerned about multiple trailers that are put together at this property.
 - Alburgh does not have zoning therefor there isn’t much that can be done to prevent the owners of this property from doing that.

- The Planning Commission is attempting to create a simple zoning plan for Alburgh.
- “Free Dump Day” – yes or no?
 - Residents have asked if there is going to be a free or discounted dump day
 - There was some discussion about the pros and cons of a free vs. a half price dump day.
 - *Lee Kimball motioned that June 24th, 2017 be a 1/2 price/ free dump day (Tires and garbage will be half price and C&D will be free) for Alburgh residents ONLY – seconded by Tyler Gotshall – all in favor – motion carried.*
 - Adjustment #1 - Cat complaint from Tom Dupre
 - Tom was not present.
 - Clerk explained that a tenant of Toms left a cat when they moved.
 - Lois Pratt signed an animal surrender form as she took over care of the cat after the tenant left.
 - Animal Control, Jen Hebert visited the site and took the cat with the permission of the person caring for the animal.

OLD BUSINESS / UPDATES / TABLED TOPICS AND / OR WAITING RESULTS

- One Auditor needed – request for letters of interest
 - Jolene Smith submitted a letter of interest for the open Auditors position.
 - Tyler Gotshall read her letter to all present.
 - *Alton Bruso motioned that the Board appoint Jolene Smith as an Auditor to serve until the next regular election in March 2018 – seconded by Lee Kimball – all in favor – motion carried.*
- Selectboard vacancy – Letters of Interest
 - Three letters of interest for the open Selectboard position were submitted.
 - Tyler Gotshall read a letter of interest from Joseph (Skipper) Deyo.
 - Tyler Gotshall read a letter of interest from Michael Lamphere.
 - Tyler Gotshall read a letter of interest from Jan Tatro.

- All three letters were accepted.
 - Interviews will be scheduled for May 18th to begin at 6:30.
 - A candidate will be appointed at the next regular Selectboard meeting currently scheduled for May 23rd, 2017.
- Properties in violation of Junk and Litter Ordinances – update
- This topic was not addressed. Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017.
- Abandoned Building Ordinance proposal – update/review
 - The Town attorney has replied that the Town has sufficient authority to create an Abandoned Building Ordinance.
 - He is working on the language of the proposed Ordinance that was submitted.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017.
- Garbage complaint from 04/11/2017 meeting – Vantine Ave. –
 - This topic was not addressed. Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017.

VISITOR INPUT:

- Adjustment #2 – Deputy Health Officer appointment needed
 - Tyler spoke with Raleigh Palmer who stated a willingness to act as Deputy Health Officer temporarily.
 - *Tyler Gotshall motioned to appoint Raleigh Palmer as Deputy Health officer for Alburgh beginning June 1st, 2017 – seconded by Alton Brusio – all in favor motion carried.*
- Adjustment #3 – Update about solar contract
 - The Town Attorney reported that negotiations are still taking place.
 - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017.
- Adjustment #4 – Adopt LEOP plan as written or with changes
 - Address updates were noted and Bernard (Bing) Pero needs to be removed.
 - *Alton Brusio motioned to adopt the Local Emergency Operations Plan with the noted changes – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried.*

- The Streetscape project has progressed in that the engineers have a final plan that will be sent to VTRANS. By the end of May, it may be possible that the project can be put out to bid and bids may tentatively be accepted by July.
- Terry Tatro asked that the Board consider teaming up with the Fire Department and offering a price for the old hardware store that sits next to the Town Office.
 - The Board thinks this is a good idea and would like to explore the possibilities.
 - *Lee Kimball motioned that Tyler Gotshall be authorized to inquire about purchasing the old hardware store with the Fire Department – seconded by Chuck Pease – all in favor – motion carried.*

APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:

- **04/25//2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING**
 - *Chuck Pease motioned to approve the minutes from the 04/25/2017 meeting as written – seconded by Lee Kimball – all in favor – motion carried.*

APPROVE INVOICES AND / OR OVERWEIGHT PERMITS:

- No Overweight permits
- All invoices approved and signed.

ADJOURN:

- *At 9:55PM, Lee Kimball motioned to adjourn – seconded by Alton Brusio – all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,
Donna L. Bohannon
Alburgh Town Clerk

Please note the above minutes HAVE NOT been approved. Approval or changes to the minutes will be addressed at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 05/23/2017