

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Jason Bachus, Paul Griffin

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kling to accept the minutes of 07/13/2022

Motion Passed 2/0

Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kling to accept the minutes of 07/20/2022 (as amended)

Motion Passed 2/0

Reports

- A. **Assessor**-Todd Haywood (not at the meeting) left his report for the Selectboard to review. The assessing team are handling routine items such as cyclical inspections, answering tax payer questions and concerns. Haywood has updated the telecom company values pursuant to RSA 72:8-c. Haywood provided information on two recent court cases that may apply to Orford. The Selectboard will review the information and discuss with Haywood at the Selectboard meeting on 08/24/2022.
- B. **Police Department** – Chief Bachus presented his report for June 2022, in which there was a total of 75 calls for service, with the NHSP handling 6 of those calls. These calls included two fraud incidents, one family offense, six non-criminal complaints, two animal complaints, six public service calls and various other incidents, of which two require investigations. Motor vehicle enforcement for June included 27 motor vehicle stops, with 4 summonses being issued. Bachus has increased his patrol time on Bridge Street, as well as the newly established three way stop at the Archertown/Dublin road intersection. The MPH speed cart has arrived and once the plate is received from the State of NH Bachus will start using it.
Bachus would like to remind all visitors and residents that there is a town ordinance which prohibits alcohol, camping and pets on Town owned property.
- C. **Committee Meeting & Department Reports**
 - **Cemetery Commission** – the commissioners met with Seth Carter, Trustee of the Trust Funds to review which expenses are to be paid from which account (operating budget, Cemetery Building/mower CRF and the Common Cemetery Trust fund). The commissioners discussed the possibility of mapping the East and Dame Hill cemeteries, and overall repairs and/or replacement of fences.
 - **Upper Valley Ambulance** – UV Ambulance has placed an order for a new ambulance, but currently there's an 18 month wait, however, the price when ordered will hold. They are experiencing some staffing issues (nothing drastic), and the overall budget is on track, except for the fuel line item.
 - **Highway Department** – The crew will be out on East Cemetery road again, but the work on that road is mostly completed. Baker Road will be next on the work

schedule. Several trees were down after the storm, and the Town will contract with a logger to have them removed. The potholes on Archertown Road were patched. There are several culverts that need attention – one by the Indian Pond beach access (a metal plate was laid over the culvert as a temporary measure), and a culvert on Upper Baker Pond road where the asphalt meets the dirt road.

Old Business

- A. Upper Baker Pond and road issues** – Griffin addressed concerns about the amount of dust generated on Upper Baker Pond road, much of it caused by the 10-wheeler trucks delivering material to rebuild the road. He also mentioned the speed those trucks travelled at, creating a dangerous situation for campers and others walking along that road. Kling said he will talk to the road crew to get some MAG put down, and will let Griffin know when that will be scheduled.

Griffin addressed his concern regarding how residents that live around Upper Baker Pond are notified when the e-coli readings are high. He feels placing the notice on the Upper Baker Pond boat landing information board isn't enough. Currently the Conservation Commission sends out the e-coli readings report on Listserv as a way to notify as many residents as possible. Griffin asked if something could be sent specifically to the residents around the lake.

Another concern addressed is the condition of the property off the Class VI portion of Prettyman Road. He contacted the state because he feels it's an illegal junkyard, plus a trailer is still in the road. The Selectboard reviewed their plan of action to have the junk cars removed, and the road repaired. The Selectboard approved a permit for the property owner to use the Class VI road for more than occasional use, with the agreement that she will keep the road in the same condition it was in prior to her moving to the site. The board is working with her to have both these issues taken care of. Griffin is also concerned with the run off from the dog kennels, and what impact it may have on the nearby streams and pond. Griffin questioned if this could be a health issue as well. Adams, as the Town health officer, will look into this.

B. Outstanding Projects:

- **Streetlight Project** – grant options are limited for this project, however, Eversource offers some payment options, which are being reviewed, including low interest rate financing. Dobbins-Marsh will continue to research funding options.
- **Mousley Brook Culvert FEMA Update** – the survey was received from Pioneer Land Surveying, and sent onto Bob Durfee at DuBois & King. D&K stated they would advise the Selectboard to approach Tom Thomson, if possible, as a large amount of runoff is impacting the current culvert crossing and they believe that it is adding a great deal to the problems that have been occurring in that area. Pioneer Surveyors would suggest a drainage easement to better manage that unpredictable surge that seems to be more frequent as time goes on. The Selectboard may want to approach Thomson about some type of mitigation plan. Adams and Kling reviewed the survey and agreed that a copy of the survey should be set to the abutters to allow them to review and accept or challenge the outcome.
- **Purchase of Land for Additional Sand** – Dobbins-marsh spoke with Steve Griffin, NH DRA, regarding how to analyze the amount of available sand at a specific location. The Town would need to hire a soil engineer or a surveyor. The Town will contact Pioneer Surveyors to schedule.

New Business

A. Easements for turn arounds for Town plows – several NH towns have obtained easements from property owners in order to use private property as turn around areas for snow plows. The Selectboard will contact property owners of areas currently used for turn arounds to discuss the possibility of an easement.

B. Review of received “Supplemental Notice of Intent to Cut Wood”

Property Owner: Williams Nichols, Map & Lot #008-029-054, Responsible for Cut: William Nichols

C. Correspondence

- Archaeological study was received from Monadnock Archaeological Consulting pertaining to the Archertown Road/Jacobs Brook bridge project. However, per the NH Division of Historical Resources (DHR), an archaeological survey will be needed to assess the visible remains and determine the presence or absence of subsurface features before the DHR can provide informed comment. The extent of the mill remains can't adequately be determined through a land survey.
- Eastern Analytical analysis from the reading on July 25th were received and reviewed. The results were posted on the Orford Listserv
- Notice from the NH DOT regarding scheduled maintenance of the bridge which carries Route 25A over Jacobs Brook (near Quinttown Road). The work will include replacement of the existing crib retaining wall with a concrete wing wall and deck preservation.

Manifests, Payroll and Accounts Payable folders

The manifest, payroll and accounts payable folders were reviewed and signed where necessary

Non-Public Session

A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kling to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel matters at 7:05 pm. A roll call vote of member's present was taken with a decision in the affirmative

The Board resumed the regular meeting at 7:28 pm. A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kling to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Motion Approved 2/0

Adjourn

Motion made by Kling, seconded by Adams adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed 2/0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh