

Shapleigh Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2023

I. Open Meeting

Scott E. Cudworth called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, Selectmen, Michael J. Cote and Shawn J. Cavanaugh were present. Also present, Town Administrator, Michelle Rumney.

Attendance

Gene Streck, Steve Guillemette, Darren Rogers, Bill Mageary, Tom Small, Kevin Brown, Wayne and Gloria Pillsbury.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - was recited.

III. Approval of minutes from 05/02/23

Michael J. Cote made a motion to approve minutes for May 02, 2023 as presented; seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

IV. Public Comment - None

V. Unfinished Business

i. Town Administrator Update

ii. TAN Closing Documents

iii. Article 5 Recommendation

After brief discussion of the Additional Dwelling Unit law mandate from the State, consensus seemed to be that though the Board may not support the idea, they support the work of the Planning Board trying to make the new law fit Shapleigh's goals with the least impact.

Michael J. Cote made a motion to vote to approve article 5 as written, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh, motion carried, 3/0. The Board then signed the warrant so that it may be posted.

iv. Scholarship awards

Michael J. Cote made a motion to award the Thyng and Ferguson scholarships to Candidate # 1, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh. Motion carried, 3/0.

Michael J. Cote made a motion to award the Holdsworth scholarship to Candidate # 5, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh. Motion carried, 3/0.

The Forest Trustees and Community Day Committee have selected the recipients of their committee scholarships at previous committee meetings.

VI. New Business

i. Forest Trustee

Tom Small updated the Board that the Forest Trustees had met with Jeff Williams of Maine Forest Management and they had walked the property with him and discussed future harvesting. The area in the Town Farm/Square Pond/Indian Village area had not been cut when the last cut was done on the forest 9 years ago. It does need to be done. The goal of the plan is for a healthy forest, to protect the forest, and maintain the canopy to allow new growth. Because it is so overgrown, new growth is not happening because the sunlight cannot get in. The hope is for a

fall cut. There is prime wood out there, mostly white pine and oak. The price of pulp is at a low now, so a fall cut will be more advantageous to the Town for return. The area near Cedar drive would be done the year after. Jeff will also work with the Trustees to develop a comprehensive plan for the forest to plan 10 year management plan and help secure a grant to complete that comprehensive plan.

The Trustees plan to do a beach clean up this coming Sunday. Pottys R Us has been contacted to clean out the toilets every 2 weeks. They have found a company for the swim area buoys. They thought that having a lifesaving throw ring on site would also be a good idea. The Trustees are reaching out to the Scouts and the ASYCC about maintaining the erosion control on the stairs area. Someone has been lined up to pick up the trash on a weekly basis.

No parking signs were going to be ordered last year to put along the road of the forest, but that did not happen. Michelle will order some.

ii. Community Day

Michael J. Cote reported that he attended the Community Day Meeting last week and they are in desperate need of help. Chief Streck agreed to have someone from Rescue help oversee the teenagers running the Kiddie Area. Mike reached out to Sheriff King to ask that he and our Contract Deputy be present for the parade, he also reached out to York County EMA to see if they would send the command van up for the parade and possibly leave it for the day. A military presence would also be a great thing. It was suggested to reach out to ROTC at RSU57 to see if they have interest in being in the parade. The Board will also be available to help throughout the day of the event.

iii. Department Head Briefings

- **Fire Chief, Steve Guillemette**

Chief Guillemette expressed concern of the size of the brush piles at the Transfer Station. He has a huge concern if someone gets out of their vehicle with a cigarette in their mouth and a hot ash drops in, it is going to be a big fire. The Town Administrator explained that there is NO Smoking allowed at the Transfer Station, employees must smoke in their cars. The employees will be instructed to keep a close eye out on all loads to make sure no hot ash is being dumped and that no one is smoking outside their vehicles. Discussion was had of what to do in the interim until there was significant enough rain to burn the piles. Suggestions from putting a “hold” on taking the material, renting a couple of big dumpsters temporarily, and having someone come in and chipping all the material on site including the logs/stumps. The Administrator will make some calls for pricing.

All burning is on hold until a significant rain comes through. Under current “Red Flag” law, campfires are still permitted during no burn days. A new law is in development that would no longer exempt campfires or charcoal briquette grill use as that is considered open flame. Only propane would be permitted.

The Brush Fire Monday evening on Town Farm Road showed no visible cause. Land owners had trail cams place in the area where the ½ acre that caught fire was and there is nothing that shows up. This is the 2nd fire in slash with no visible cause. 7 agencies and 12 pieces of equipment were on scene.

The Structure fire on Back Road started on a deck and has been determined accidental. 11 agencies and 17 pieces of equipment were on scene.

- **Rescue Chief, Gene Streck**

Chief Streck reported that they have had 22 calls to date, only ½ way through the month and had surpassed last years total monthly calls of 15. Over 17 motorcycle crashes in the Maine/New Hampshire area over the last week. He encourages drivers be mindful of motorcyclists, and motorcyclists to also drive safely. The Chief will be at the National Fire Academy for Chief Executive Officer Training next week. Captain Hughes will be present at next week's meeting in the Chief's absence pending no emergency calls. The department provided coverage to Wakefield last weekend as Wakefield was tied up with a large fire in Middleton. Chief Streck acknowledged the inter-agency cooperation and how imperative those relationships are for all Towns these days with staff and equipment shortages all departments face.

The Stryker Power Load Service agreement is due to be renewed. Michael J. Cote made a motion to renew the service contract, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh. Motion carried, 3/0.

- **Road Commission North, Darren Rogers**

Darren has been working on fixing the washouts from the May 1st storms. Hauling in gravel and working on getting culverts opened up, which will help prevent future washouts. He has met with 3 tree removal companies to quote out the cutting of trees on Hams Hill. Carroll Materials/All State had their schedule open up and called and said they would be out to do the topcoat on Town Farm Road either Friday or next Monday, at no additional mobilization cost.

iv. Tax Abatements/Supplementals

Michael J. Cote made motions to approve the following abatements, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh, motions carried, 3/0:

NPTRO Northeast- Map 999-005 in the amount of 50.78 tax dollars

Wabasha Leasing- Map 999-007 in the amount of 28.22 tax dollars

Thomas and Margaret Pitts- Map 017-021 in the amount of \$746.80 tax dollars

A&W Investment Properties- Map 001-039 in the amount of \$139.57 tax dollars

Michael J. Cote made motions to approve the following supplemental tax bills, seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh, motions carried, 3/0:

NPTRO Northeast- Personal Property Account 2 in the amount of 50.78 tax dollars

Wabasha Leasing- Personal Property Account 3 in the amount of 28.22 tax dollars

TeJay and Bobbi Smith- Map 017-021 in the amount of \$746.80 tax dollars

Graig Frasier- Map 001-039 in the amount of \$139.57 tax dollars

VII. Information

- i. Building Committee meeting minutes
- ii. Planning Board By-Laws, abutters letters, meeting minutes, growth permit
- iii. DOT letter on bridge study
- iv. May 23rd public hearing- Warrant articles 5:30pm

VIII. Executive Session- none scheduled

IX. Signatures

- i. Warrants
- ii. TAN documents
- iii. Supplements/Abatements

iv. June 3, 2023 Special Town Meeting Warrant

Stryker service agreement

X. Any other business the Board may wish to present

XI. Adjourn

Michael J. Cote made a motion to adjourn at 7:145 pm; seconded by Shawn J. Cavanaugh. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

These minutes are not verbatim, Michelle Rumney, Town Administrator.