

## Board Of Selectmen

March 20

*Condensed from approved minutes*

**Present:** Chairman Dennis Fenton, Selectman Roger Godwin, Town Administrator Mark Stetson

Road Agent John Thompson reported that gravel crushing is set to start on March 21. He confirmed that the price is \$3 per yard; 50 cents less than the amount charged two years ago.

Thompson also told the Board that he has had contact with a salesman from the local Volvo heavy equipment dealer wanting to sell the Town its new grader.

He asked the Board to consider increasing the rates paid for truck rental during the summer season. After a lengthy discussion, the Board committed to reviewing the rates, only if justified after a survey of what other towns are paying. The Selectmen also agreed that, if an increase is approved at the next meeting, the raise would be retroactive to the current pay period.

The Board accepted the resignation of Tay Clark from the position of Town Treasurer. The Board decided to formally acknowledge her for her many years of service to the Town in this and several other capacities at some point in the near future.

The Board then met with Shirley Currier and after a brief discussion appointed her to the vacant position of Town Treasurer. She took the oath of office and was sworn in.

The Board then met with Bill and Alison Thomas and their attorney, Quentin Blaine, in response to a request from the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) for the Selectmen to clarify the terminus point of Park Street. ZBA Vice Chair Charlie McCrave, spectators Kurt and Lisa Meier, Clyde Currier, Dan Labonte, Paul and Marilyn Mercier, and Mr. and Ms. Camp were also present for this part of the meeting.

Blaine explained that Mr. and Ms. Thomas have sought a special exception and a variance from the road frontage requirement in the zoning ordinance to construct a dwelling on a lot that they own near the end of Park Street. He gave a brief oral history of the ownership of this lot, including that it has been in the Thomas family for three generations.

At issue for the Selectmen is determining whether or not this lot has any frontage on the Town road. Blaine claimed the area in question has become a Town road as outlined in RSA 229:1 through maintenance by the Town for 20 years or more.

Blaine provided affidavits from family members and one from a previous Andover road agent alleging that the Town performed maintenance through snow plowing portions of the area in question. He displayed photographs that he claimed showed such maintenance of a roadway and also a copy of a page from the 1977 Andover tax map.

Fenton responded that the Town's records reflect that the Town road ends

approximately 100 feet east of the property line of the parcel on the west side of the Thomas lot. Therefore, he opined, the road does not extend to the Thomas lot. The Board agreed to review the documentation presented, perform any additional investigation it deems necessary, and render a formal decision at the next Selectmen's meeting.

The Board then met with Police Chief Glenn Laramie who sought and received approval from the Board to purchase a new software program to manage the department's records. The new program is Windows-based and significantly outperforms the old one. Laramie told the Board that the number of calls for service for the previous 30-day period is still running higher than last year at this time.

The Board decided to deny an abatement application that had been filed by an owner who claimed an inability to pay his 2005 property taxes, as those taxes were recently paid.

The Board approved the reappointment of Don Gould and Paul Currier to positions on the Planning Board, Dave Powers to the Recreation Committee, and Bob Ward and Peter Zak to the Conservation Commission.

After reviewing each one, the Board denied four tax abatement applications.

The Board authorized Stetson to submit, on behalf of the Town, a grant application with the state for a two-way radio and an antenna that would be in-  
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## 4TH OF JULY

By Judy Perreault  
Andover Fourth of July Committee

It's that time again, when you can expect a knock on the door, and someone will be asking you to part with some green stuff. No it's not a Leprechaun, just a Fourth of July volunteer looking for a donation. If you are not at home they will leave a blue ticket that you can send to Irene Jewett, PO Box 36, East Andover 03231.

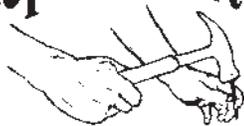
Even if someone doesn't come knocking, please think about sending a donation anyway. As a contributor you will get your name in the official Fourth of July program, as long as your donation is in by the end of May. Of course we will take money anytime.

The Fourth of July Committee had a letter from the city of Concord asking us how we manage to have such a great Fourth and such nice fireworks. The biggest reason is the generosity of our townspeople!

When that volunteer comes a-knockin' please give whatever you can. Let's make this "Fabulous Fifties" Fourth even bigger and better!

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