

Board Of Selectmen

June 18

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Chairman Dennis Fenton, Selectmen Roger Godwin and Andrew Gup-till, Town Administrator Mark Stetson

Fenton opened a public hearing to receive comment regarding the planned lowering of the water level of Highland Lake to facilitate the planned repairs to the dam. In response to Jeff Newcomb's query, Fenton stated the draw down is planned to start on September 3. Noting no other questions or comments from the members of the public, Fenton then closed the hearing.

Road Agent John Thompson reported that his crews are making progress repairing road damage caused by the April floods. Completed during the previous two-week period, with the exception of paving, are Boston Hill Road, Putney Road, Beech Hill Road, and Bradley Lake Road. Those with remaining work are Dyers Crossing, Hoyt, Raccoon Hill, Shaw Hill, and Kearsarge Mountain Roads.

Stetson and Thompson recapped with the Board highlights of a recent meeting with Engineer Lou Caron. Caron reviewed plans for both the Maple Street and Elbow Pond Road projects and provided specifications in sufficient detail for the Town to order some of the concrete structures.

After reviewing photographs of the Sam Hill Road area that were taken shortly after the April flooding, Caron indicated his intention to revise his previous recommendation to mitigate the damage to the road caused by high water. He opined that, in addition to the addition of the culverts previously discussed, a section of roadway should be slightly lower in elevation to allow storm water to pass over the road during extreme storm events. He also suggested the road surface of this area should be paved.

The Board granted permission for Wood Sutton to add gravel and make other improvements already completed to the area of Fellows Road as it passes in front of his residence.

The Board unanimously approved correspondence to be sent to Louise An-

drus identifying the approximate location of the right of way of Fellows Road from its intersection with Brick House Road to a point where the location is clearly delineated by stone walls. Photographs taken during a site visit to the area last week were included for reference.

The Board then met with Nan Kaplan, representing the Conservation Commission, who presented information from a consultant that members of the Conservation Commission had met with regarding the ongoing beaver problem on Elbow Pond Road. The consultant, Skip Lisle, is president of a company called Beaver Deceivers that installs devices that Lisle claims will maintain reasonable water flows in wetlands areas where beavers reside adjacent to roadways.

The Conservation Commission would like to try this method of water control instead of trapping the beaver and demolishing their dams. There was considerable discussion about the effectiveness and also the cost. The Board made it clear that funding this with town funds was not an option this year, but that the Commission could seek approval from the voters at a future Town Meeting. Thompson voiced concern that similar efforts have been tried in the past and have not worked.

Stetson told the Board that the wetlands permit application for the work at the dam has been filed with the state and that the engineer reports that preliminary plans and cost estimates will

be forthcoming within a week or so.

The Board approved an abatement to correct a timber tax billing error.

The Board approved an Intent to Excavate form filed by Philip Theodore for property on Flaghole Road.

July 2

Condensed from approved minutes

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

Road Agent John Thompson reported that his crews have completed repairs to Hoyt Road, Dyers Crossing Road, and Brick House Road and that washed out areas on Beech Hill Road and Bradley Lake Road are prepped for paving. He told the Board that the washed out area on Boston Hill Road is scheduled to be paved on July 9. After that, there are several culverts on Raccoon Hill Road that need replacement.

Thompson told the Board that, due to the frequency and intensity of some of the recent rainstorms, he believes some or all of the replacement pipes should be larger in diameter. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided to consult the engineer hired to design the Maple Street and Elbow Pond Road drainage projects.

Due to the status of the budget, the Board decided to postpone until next year the roadside mowing.

Thompson informed the Board that the culvert pipe under Channel Road near the East Andover Fire Station is near failure, and citing budgetary con-

cerns, the Board postponed its replacement until next year.

Thompson told the Board that the first load of concrete pipe for the Maple Street project is due to be delivered on Monday, July 9.

The Board acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Louise Andrus requesting that the Board reverse its prior decision not to install boundary markers delineating the limits of the right of way for Fellows Road between Brick House Road and the existing stone walls. After a brief discussion, the Board reaffirmed its prior decision.

Fenton cited two prior examples of when the Board took action to identify the limits of the road right of way. However, prior to each of those times, the property owners who had requested the Board's action provided a survey of the roads prepared by a licensed land surveyor. The Board agreed to oblige Ms. Andrus if she were to provide such a survey.

Wood Sutton requested a copy of the Andrus correspondence, and after reading it, he told the Board that he vigorously disputed some of its content that was directed at him.

Based upon the engineer's recommendation, and the fact that the additional cost is estimated to be only a few thousand dollars more, and also the additional amount of water that it can carry versus the round pipe, the Board unanimously decided to pursue replacement of the culvert pipe under Maple

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