

**ROXBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
May 4, 2009
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Barbara Henry, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.
Present: Barbara Henry, First Selectman; Robert Lowe and Russell Dirienzo, Selectmen;
Gary Steinman and Hugh Rawson, Conservation Commission members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 6, 2009 as presented. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

TAX REFUNDS

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to approve the following tax refunds:
Warren P. and Barbara VanKirk - \$32.48 – excess payment
Warren P. and Barbara VanKirk - \$48.05 – excess payment
The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Barbara Henry reported that there were no communications from the public.

COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS APPOINTMENTS

Historic District Commission – vacancy expiring 12/31/2011

The Board confirmed that they had previously reappointed Peter Wooster.

Motion by Barbara Henry to remove Historic District Commission –vacancy expiring 12/31/2011 from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Inland-Wetlands Commission. Alt. – vacancy expiring 08/31/2011

Russell Dirienzo stepped down. Russell Dirienzo reported that Mary Schinke will be in contact with the Selectmen if she is interested in joining the Commission.

Motion by Barbara Henry to table the appointment of Inland-Wetlands Commission. Alt. – vacancy expiring 08/31/2011. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried: 2-0.

Russell Dirienzo was reseated.

NW Regional Housing Authority Member

Motion by Barbara Henry to appoint Peter Filous as the NW Regional Housing Authority Member. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Recreation Commission

Barbara Henry reported that Mo Van Moffaert and Richard Jacobs will step down when their terms expire in June. She explained that they are looking for interested persons to fill their seats.

Special Constables – May 2009 thru September 2009

Motion by Barbara Henry to add the appointment of Special Constables to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Barbara Henry explained that they usually appoint five Special Constables to give out tickets to those who do not have stickers or do not belong at the Falls.

Motion by Barbara Henry to appoint Roland Merk, Russell Dirienzo, Craig Henry and Rose Garbien as Special Constables – May 2009 thru September 2009. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

One more Special Constable will be appointed at a later date.

BUSINESS

Conservation Commission Updates

Gary Steinman and Hugh Rawson presented the Selectmen with an update on the work the Conservation Commission has been doing. Mr. Steinman reported that they are working on determining a baseline before the increased flow due into the Shepaug on June 30th from Waterbury. He explained that they were awarded a Rivers Alliance grant for this purpose.

He noted that they have been researching past data collected and found a lot but without much consistency. Hugh Rawson explained that schools have done sampling of macro invertebrates and they need to find out if they have kept records of these samplings.

The Commission plans to do studies at Hodge Park and Wellers Bridge and will pick other sites from tributaries. Additionally, they may have a couple sites at Steep Rock; however, are unsure whether they will be collecting the data. Measuring sites closest to the dam would prove most valuable.

It will require four people to sample each site. They would like to send out a couple of teams to collect samples. The Commission welcomes volunteer participation. There will be volunteers stationed at a central location to inspect samplings. This process should take a full day. They would like to do this regularly a couple times a year. Barbara Henry suggested that they compose a press release that she can also post on the Town of Roxbury website with regard to the need for volunteers for this project.

The data collected from this project will go on a website that is specific to the project and will be available for everyone to view on the DEP website. The CT Community Foundation is not collecting the data. The data will go directly to the DEP.

Barbara Henry reported that she worked on and submitted a SAFETEA-LU Transportation Project through Congressman Chris Murphy's. She noted that she had considered applying for the Seth Warner Trail System; however, decided to apply for the Rail Station and Rail Trail. She was advised that they could not give the Town money for the Rail Station rehab because there are no trains or busses going to the Rail Station. She will try and revise it for just the Rail Trail but is waiting to hear if that's possible because now the deadline has passed. She noted that she would like to find a way to rehab the Rail Station because it would be a shame for the Town to lose it.

Squire Road Repairs Update

Barbara Henry spoke with Mark Lowe who reported that he would be out to the site this week.

Transfer Station Update

Russell Dirienzo reported that he sent a letter to RRR following up on their last meeting. The letter noted that all commercial haulers are banned from the Transfer Station on Saturdays. It also reminded RRR that they have two violations and the next one would result in fines. Additionally, Russell Dirienzo wrote a letter for RRR to

distribute to all their customers regarding recycling. He reported that it has been going well at the Transfer Station since their meeting.

Robert Lowe reported that there were two snow mobiles and an oil tank in the dumpster on Saturday. Barbara Henry confirmed this came from a private individual and that it had been addressed.

Regs and Ordinances on Website

The Selectmen agreed that Regulations and Ordinance should be posted on the Roxbury Town website. Barbara Henry will work on getting that done.

Budget – New Town Aid Road Fund Including Transfers

Barbara Henry reported that the BOF had their Public Hearing regarding the budget. She noted that it will go to the public to vote on May 19th. There will be an increase of \$25,113 due to the increase in the school budget. However, the BOF has decided to keep the mill rate the same at 10.9.

Barbara Henry explained that she will not vote in favor of the proposed School Budget. She noted that the BOE did not even meet to consider holding the line. She explained that the entire Town of Roxbury employees will not be getting raises and some employees had their hours cut beginning in March. Russell Dirienzo noted that the schools are not being maintained. The school budget is misleading because they took out maintenance, which will be a separate referendum.

Barbara Henry reported that the BOF agreed that there should be a separate line item: Town Aid Road Fund Including Transfers. This will allow for the transfer of road maintenance funds not used by June 30th in any given year due to unforeseen delays. The Town Aid Road money from the State will go into this fund.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to add to the Annual Budget and Town Meeting agenda a resolution for a new Town Aid Road Fund Including Transfers. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

Historical Society – Bernhardt Meat Market

The Selectmen agreed that the Historical Society can go forward with their plans to set up the Bernhardt Meat Market as it looked when it was in business many years ago.

Housing Rehab Grant - Audit

Barbara Henry reported that the State audited the Town's procedure with regard to the Housing Rehab Grant. She explained that they were cited for not publishing the RFP/RFQ in a minority newspaper or solicit services from minority or women owned businesses.

Motion by Barbara Henry that Roxbury will endeavor to advertise RFP/RFQ with regard to the Housing Rehab Grant in a minority newspaper and solicit services from minority or women owned businesses. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

BOE Rep – Contingency plan to move to Machine Vote at Annual Meeting

Barbara Henry explained that it was suggested that if there is more than one nomination to fill the BOE position at the Annual Meeting that the BOS vote to move the vote to a machine vote. Russell Dirienzo agreed that this is an important position which should be moved to a machine vote for the convenience of the public. He noted that the previous vote was done by machine and that they should continue to keep with times and use this voting method.

Barbara Henry explained that a machine vote would cost at least \$3,000. She noted that the last BOE vote was a controversial one with four people running for the positions, which is why they moved it to a machine vote. This was the only exception to the way it has been done forever.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo that in the event that there is more than one person nominated for the BOE it will be moved to a machine vote prior to 6/30/09. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

Invite to Energy Task Force & Energy Grant

The BOS agreed to invite the Energy Task Force to their June meeting to provide them with an update of what they have been working on.

Barbara Henry reported that they are eligible for \$30,000 in grant funds for energy projects from the Stimulus money. One suggestion for these funds is to change lighting to LED or to replace water boilers. The Selectmen asked Barbara Henry to make the determination for the use of the grant money.

Fire Marshal's Report – April

The BOS reviewed April's Fire Marshal's Report. Five calls were reported.

Other Business

Policy for Filming Guide- Tabled

Town Barn – Future Use:

The BOS agreed to a deadline of 6/30/09 for the submission of written requests for the use of the barn. Then they will determine where to go from there.

Motion by Barbara Henry to add Mileage Reimbursement Rate and Pickett Road to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried unanimously.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate

Barbara Henry explained that it was brought to her attention that there was an error in their last vote to change mileage. It should have been 55 cents rather than the 50.5 voted upon. The Selectman agreed that fuel prices have gone down and it should remain as is at the 50.5 cents.

Pickett Road

Barbara Henry reported that there is a sink hole on Pickett Road that has been temporarily fixed. Engineer, Doug DiVesta, has viewed the site and is working on submitting proposals for the most cost effective and efficient repair of the road.

Executive Session – Property Appraisals

Barbara Henry noted that there was no reason to go into Executive Session. She reported that she called the property owner who required time to make some calls; however, agreed to meet. She will follow up on May 11th and will schedule a meeting with the property owner.

Barbara Henry reported that she spoke with the owner of the condemned barn, which was brought up last month, who will speak with her husband and make arrangements with the Town to address this.

Motion by Robert Lowe to adjourn at 9:40 pm. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tai Kern

Tai Kern,
Secretary

These minutes are not considered official until approved at the next Regular Meeting of the Roxbury Board of Selectmen.