

**ROXBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 3, 2008  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Barbara Henry, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.  
Present: Barbara Henry, First Selectman; Robert Lowe and Russell Dirienzo, Selectmen;  
Members of the Public

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 4, 2008 as presented. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

**TAX REFUNDS**

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to add Brandon Peter to the agenda for a tax refund of \$113.35 and Martin Sauer Jr. for \$9.30 and \$8.58. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to approve the tax refunds of :

- Peter or Lucille Filous - \$43.06 – excess payment
- David Leslie - \$8.35 – excess payment
- Vadim Grigorian - \$43.71 – excess payment
- Patricia Baillargeon - \$14.35 – excess payment
- William & Marilyn Swartz - \$6.45 – excess payment
- Donald H. Westerberg - \$6.02 – excess payment
- Financial Serv Veh Trust - \$344.22 – excess payment
- Brandon Peter – \$113.35
- Martin Sauer Jr. – \$9.30
- Martin Sauer Jr. – \$8.58

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Barbara Henry noted that there was not any communications to report this month.

**COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS APPOINTMENTS**

**NW Regional Housing Authority Member**

Motion by Barbara Henry to table the appointment of NW Regional Housing Authority Member. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried.

**Senior Center Board of Directors**

Barbara Henry reported that Stephen Foreman, David DeWitt and Thomas Boron are happy to serve on the Senior Center Board of Directors.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to appoint Stephen Foreman, David DeWitt and Thomas Boron to the Senior Center Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Certificate of Corporate Resolution – Town Pension Plan**

Barbara Henry explained that Town Attorney, Gail McTaggart, advised that Barbara Henry should not be named as one of the pension trustees because she is one of the recipients of the pension. Robert Lowe and Russell Dirienzo are to remain named Trustees.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to approve the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS, the Town of Roxbury desires to remove a Trustee of the Roxbury Municipal Employee Money Purchase Pension Plan:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

- 1) That Barbara Henry be and hereby is removed as a Trustee under the above named plan.
- 2) That the Trustees be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute any documents and perform such other acts as may be necessary and proper to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.”

Seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

### **Senior Center Changes**

Barbara Henry asked the Board to support some changes in the Senior Center regarding restructuring of personnel. The changes will allow Alice Griffin, the current Senior Center Director, to become more focused on the Municipal Agent and Social Services part of the position. This will allow her to concentrate on implementing the assistance programs available to seniors and the general public. Alice’s title will be Municipal Agent for Elderly Persons and Social Services. She will work 23 hours/week M-W 10-4 and Thursday 10-3. Ms. Griffin will continue working with the Council on Aging, of which she is a member as Municipal Agent. Ms. Griffin’s office would be moved to the nurse’s office to provide privacy and allow confidentiality.

Linda Wahlers’ title will be Senior Center Coordinator, focusing on the balance of responsibilities such as the budget, programs, newsletter and the building itself. Ms. Wahlers will work with the newly established Senior Center Board of Directors. She will work 23 hours/week T-Th 10-4 and Friday 10-3.

Motion by Robert Lowe to support the Senior Center changes effective September 8, 2008. Seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried.

### **Plan of Conservation & Development**

Chris Wood reported to Barbara Henry that Roxbury would qualify for money from the Office of Policy and Management for their plan in the next round. Barbara Henry encouraged the Board to attend the Plan of Conservation & Development meetings.

### **Judds Bridge Update**

Barbara Henry reported that Judds Bridge has gone out to bid with bids due September 18, 2008 with an expected construction finish date of December 15, 2008. The temporary fix has been changed from fixing 3 stringers to now fixing all 7 stringers.

### **Local Bridge Program – Judds Bridge**

Barbara Henry reported that they applied for and were accepted into the State Local Bridge Program. The State will pay for 80% of the cost of final (not temporary) repairs to Judds Bridge. The balance of 20% will be covered by the STEAP Grant.

### **Minor's Bridge Update**

Barbara Henry reported that Paul Magyar, Engineer, suggested that they focus on rebuilding the bottom of the bridge. He suggested that they jack the bridge up and refurbish the bearings and replace the drainage channel and expansion joint then paint the steel structure. The work would cause the bridge to be shut down for traffic for one day.

The Board agreed that they should move forward with Mr. Magyar's suggestions and put it out to bid.

### **Smart Development Study Committee**

Barbara Henry reported from the minutes of the meeting of the SDSC. She noted that there was lengthy discussion regarding their mission. It was noted in the minutes that the Committee would act in an advisory capacity to the Planning and Zoning Commissions. She explained that their agreed charge was to act as an advisory group to the Board of Selectmen. Russell Dirienzo agreed that they are really Planning and Zoning issues; however, the Committee should report their findings to the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee will be drafting a mission statement and a list of their goals. Barbara Henry noted that she will ask them to keep the Board of Selectmen in the loop regarding their progress.

### **Squire Road Update – signs no thru trucks**

Robert Lowe confirmed that the width of the road should be 19 feet. He reported that he has measured 15 feet in certain areas. Barbara Henry noted that she had measured 19 feet. Russell Dirienzo agreed that certain basins do not look right and suggested that they hire an engineer to confirm that the plan was followed as designed.

Robert Lowe reported that the corner of Apple Lane still needs to be seeded and hayed to avoid wash out. Additionally, driveway aprons have not been completed. Barbara Henry explained that they have not finished certain portions of the project and these issues will be followed up on.

Barbara Henry explained that some of the residents on the road would like to see "No Thru Trucks" signs on the road. It was agreed that this was used as a cut through road and that the sign would be required to enforce the no thru trucks and keep as many trucks on Rt. 67 as possible.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to place "No Thru Trucks" signs on Squire Road. Seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

Barbara Henry reported that she received a letter stating that a resident was not informed of the project. They noted that water was rerouted on their property without

their permission. Barbara Henry agreed to discuss this with them and noted that it seems that the rerouting of the water has worked to benefit their property.

### **Probate Court**

Barbara Henry reported that she and the Probate Court Judge visited the Probate Court in Southbury along with Southbury's First Selectman, Mark Cooper. She noted that there is a push to consolidate the probate courts in Connecticut and that she and the Judge felt that this would be a good move. Our Judge Puglio spoke very highly of the Southbury court and their Judge. The Judges were asked to follow up with State Representative Arthur O'Neill regarding the process of moving the court.

### **Edward T. Went Community Room**

Barbara Henry reported that Edward T. Went received a Municipal Service Award for 50 years of service to the Town in multiple capacities. At the August 17<sup>th</sup> picnic she announced that the Community Room would be named for him. The Board agreed that they would hang his portrait as well as a sign with his name in the room.

### **Speed Limit on Dirt Roads**

Barbara Henry reported that Trooper Frans Dielemans was not in agreement with the change to 25 mph voted on by the Board at the last meeting. He feels that this speed is unsafe on Roxbury's dirt roads. The Board agreed to compromise by revising the speed limit to 20 mph.

Motion by Russell Dirienzo to revise the decision to change the speed limit on dirt roads from 25 mph to 20 mph effective immediately. Seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

### **Shepaug River Dam Update**

Barbara Henry noted that the project is moving along. It did not meet its deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup>; however, those who have been tracking the progress are pleased.

### **Flight Pattern Update**

Barbara Henry noted that resident and attorney Barrie Goldstein who offered to help the town with the subject had an intern this summer who researched this subject. Atty. Goldstein said she will forward the report and analysis to us for our review.

The Board felt that this would be an uphill battle and that they should not join in the fight but look forward to reading the report.

### **Fuel and Electricity Prices**

Barbara Henry reported that fuel costs are available at \$3.529 per gallon or \$3.499 for prepay. Gas costs are set at \$3.34 per gallon. She noted that a representative from Public Power and Utility verified that Roxbury is currently getting the best price on electricity.

Robert Lowe noted that they should look into the cost of converting their trucks to natural gas. Barbara Henry and Russell Dirienzo felt that this would be a big expensive change and thought that this would be something to keep in mind when purchasing new trucks. Barbara Henry agreed to find out what the cost would be to switch over to natural gas. Russell Dirienzo said he would look into it also.

### **Town Historical Society Barn – Future Use**

Motion by Barbara Henry to table the discussion regarding the use of the Town Historical Society Barn. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried.

### **Policy for Filming Guide**

Motion by Barbara Henry to table the discussion regarding the Policy for Filming Guide. The motion was seconded by Russell Dirienzo and carried.

### **Fire Marshal's Report – August**

Barbara Henry noted that there were 10 calls in August. She explained that the Woodbury Fire Marshal filled in for the Roxbury Fire Marshal while he was away for the month of August and the BOS appreciated her availability.

### **Transfer Station Hauler & Recycling**

Barbara Henry received a complaint regarding a hauler not adhering to recycling the returnable bottles and cans. Russell Dirienzo noted that sorting returnables is voluntary. Barbara Henry explained that although it is not required it is the right thing to do in the Town of Roxbury. Russell Dirienzo agreed to work on changes to next year's permit to add in this requirement for the hauler's permit.

### **Other Business**

#### **School Bus Stop – Judds Bridge**

Barbara Henry reported that there was an issue with a bus stop in Judds Bridge but it appears to have been resolved and that the bus will stop on the other side of the bridge. She confirmed that once the bridge project is done all types of vehicles will be able to cross with no problem or weight limit.

#### **Resident Trooper Hours for DUI Enforcement Grant**

Barbara Henry reported that the Town does not qualify for this grant.

Barbara Henry made the Board aware of the communications tower that is going up near Garnet Road in Southbury on private property. She noted that Roxbury residents may be able to see it; however, there is nothing they can do.

Motion by Barbara Henry to adjourn at 8:21 PM. The motion was seconded by Robert Lowe and carried.

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.*