

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes: November 18, 2013
Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, Douglas Garland, David Patch
Reporters: None

Meeting opened at 03:30 PM.

The Selectmen and Lynn Jones, Administrative Assistant, telephoned the Department of Revenue to work on setting the Bartlett tax rate for 2013. A figure was worked out and now we have to wait for confirmation from the Department of Revenue.

Charles and Arlene Zaccaria of White Birch Lane (2RT016-181-G08) met with the Selectmen for an abatement settlement hearing as required by the Board of Tax and Land Appeals concerning the value of their land. C. Zaccaria stated that after the revaluation was done that his property went from \$575,200 down to \$525,200 but the next year when he received his tax bill it had gone back up to \$575,200 and he doesn't understand why. He is not questioning the value of his house only of the land. He has looked at other peoples values that include views in them and his seems high. Chairman Chandler stated that it is the total value that counts and that he had looked at other properties in the neighborhood and he feels that Zaccaria has the same views as others and that is how the value was determined. If they lowered his they would have to lower everyone in the neighborhood as the majority of them do have views. C. Zaccaria stated that he does have a view but he also looks at the sub station with its green pipes. Chairman Chandler stated that he can see no reason why his property values were ever lowered, because if they changed his they should have looked at the neighborhood and redone them all. Selectman Garland inquired as to what his overall view is of. C. Zaccaria stated that he looks at Tyrol, Black Mountain and Doublehead.

Chairman Chandler stated that although he hadn't looked at properties outside of the neighborhood he did note that Zaccaria's house is bigger than others, in fact, probably the biggest in the neighborhood. C. Zaccaria stated that there are houses that are built higher up than his with a pristine view but yet their land value is less. He requested that the Selectmen take a look at these and he provided a list. Chairman Chandler stated that they would look into this further and get back to him.

Josh McAllister, P.E. and Chris Fournier, P.E. (the lead bridge engineer), of HEB Engineers met with the Selectmen to update them on the River Street bridge project. McAllister stated that the engineering study had been done and they need to submit it to the Department of Transportation for comments. Copies of the engineering study were given to the Selectmen for them to review and to authorize the go ahead with the project. The next step will be to obtain the necessary permits. McAllister stated that studies show that the 100 year flood had the same effects as Tropical Storm Irene which had the water surface elevation at the bottom of the bridge. McAllister stated that ideally he would like to see regular dredging done but that probably isn't a likely solution and therefore they need to either put in a by pass culvert or raise the bridge. Fournier stated that there are five possible solutions: 1.) Scour to stabilize the bridge abutment and to expand the scope of scour as well as put in more rip rap. 2.) Raise the bridge and maintain traffic. 3.)

Pate 2- Selectmen's Meeting Minutes 11/18/13

Increase the bridge span by adding a 3rd span which would be very costly. 4.) Adding a relief culvert. 5.) Raising the bridge and adding culverts. (Fournier noted that the bridge deck is in good shape.) Chairman Chandler stated that it would make sense to do the box culvert. Selectman Garland inquired if they would be doing a round-about. McAllister replied yes. Selectman Garland would like to see them get behind the wings of the bridge. McAllister stated that we are looking at a cost of around \$658,000 and that cost is up about 5% because of inflation as construction costs have gone up in the last two years. FEMA will pay all but 5% which is what the town would be responsible for. McAllister stated that the Selectmen will need a warrant article for town meeting for the additional \$3,500.00 for the increase as the original special article isn't going to cover the inflation cost. Selectman Garland inquired if a tree could be cut if it is in the wet land. McAllister stated that it could but you would need to leave the stump. Selectman Garland inquired about putting the box culvert further up by the berm. McAllister stated that study wouldn't be paid for. Selectman Garland inquired if the state would pay for the box culvert. Fournier stated that they would as that is considered part of the mitigation and the State would rather solve an issue using less money. McAllister also provided copies of the hydrologic/hydraulic assessment report to the Selectmen for review. Chairman Chandler inquired as to when all these reports would be going in to the State. McAllister replied that he hopes they will be sent in tomorrow. Chairman Chandler asked if it would help speed things up if the Selectmen wrote a letter to NH DOT advising them that the Selectmen agreed with the recommendations of HEB Engineer, Inc. as indicated in their engineering study on the Saco River Bridge project. McAllister felt that might help. A letter was written, signed and given to McAllister to be included with his report.

Bartlett Recreation Director, Annette Libby, met with the Selectmen in reference to the Christmas tree lighting that is being held December 1st at the park in Bartlett village. Libby is concerned as no one has offered a Christmas tree for the middle of the park and she was wondering if she should just use the tree that is off to the side. The Selectmen were not in favor of this. Selectman Garland placed a telephone call to the James Howard family and asked if their previous offer for a tree was still good. He was informed that it was and someone could come pick out a tree. It was decided that Libby will pick out a tree and that Selectman Garland will cut it down and take it to the park. Libby also needs to have some volunteers to put the lights on the tree. Chairman Chandler stated that he would like to see volunteers do this but if no one volunteers that he will have the town road crew do it.

The Selectmen reviewed correspondence, building permits, signed letters and checks prior to and throughout the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 05:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.