

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Work Session
August 6, 2012

PRESENT: SEAN P. MURPHY, CHAIRMAN; RICHARD H. HARTUNG, SELECTMAN; PRISCILLA R. LINDQUIST, SELECTMAN; SALLY THERIAULT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The work session began at 6:31 pm

Guests: P. Williams (Tri Town News), B. Goode, K. Colbert, T. Lovell, P. Carideo, P. Wentworth, N. Emerson, K. Emerson, S. Hastings.

The purpose of the work session was to get to understand the issue regarding work done at the Depot Road ballfields. The meeting was joining the Selectmen, Recreation, Conservation and Planning Board.

Mr. Lovell stated that they requested a meeting with the Selectmen and Recreation because they had concerns with grading work that was done to the lot of land near the softball field that had been timbered last year. Mr. Lovell said that around July 27th he and Mr. Carideo noticed that there had been activity at that spot and grading of the land. The digging out of the vegetation as well as the grading disturbed the wetlands. Mr. Lovell stated that there have been no plans for work at that site given to Planning Board, Conservation or the Selectmen and Conservation asked that they be notified before any work could be done. Both Mr. Lovell and Mr. Carideo were upset that the work has been done and it is too late to correct the damage.

Selectman Murphy asked Recreation Chairman, Mrs. Colbert what they were doing. Mr. Goode answered for the Commission by stating that they had Auger Landscaping grade and remove the topsoil to prepare the area for grass. They used a machine to move the stuff on top and the debris. There is a pile of loam there now which when it breaks down will be sifted out and put back. There is no change to the slope and once the loam is put back, the area will be seeded.

Mr. Carideo said that in prior meetings they were told to put up a silt fence and to seed the area (Mr. Goode stated that they never seeded it). Mr. Carideo stated that regardless of what their soil scientist said, once the area is disturbed it changed things. The soils in that area are poorly drained (511) which per our zoning is not allowed to be disturbed. Mr. Carideo stated that he was concerned where there was an aquifer and the white cedar swamp right there as well as it is in the flood plain. He knows that the town can ultimately do what it wants and is not subject to zoning, but he stated it needs to stop. The white cedar swamp is slowly dying. He stated that he has not been able to pinpoint a cause, which could be the fertilizer used, the developments in the area etc. He noticed the decay of the swamp started about 13 years ago. It wasn't much at first, but has had more decay in recent years.

Selectman Hartung noted that in the minutes of April 18, 2011, the stumps were still there. Mr. Goode stated that they had permission to remove the stumps. Mr. Carideo stated that it was to stump and seed. The holes could have been filled in a little bit. Mr. Goode stated that discussion didn't take place. Mrs. Colbert noted that the Recreation Commission did not have the money last year to seed. Selectman Hartung told her that they should have asked for help from the Selectmen then. There followed discussion about whether or not there was a permit required or state jurisdiction. In the long run Mr. Carideo stated where there are wetlands and especially 511 soils, the Town of Hampstead would not allow a developer to do work and yet the Town did. Selectman Murphy stated what is done is done and asked where to go from here. Mrs. Colbert and Mr. Goode stated that they are looking to have the loam broken down, sifted

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

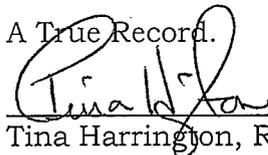
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and put down seed by September. Selectman Murphy stated that they will need to follow that process and then do nothing else with the area until they go through the process. Mr. Goode asked what process they missed. They spoke to the Selectmen, Conservation and Planning as well as hired a soil scientist. Mr. Goode and Mrs. Colbert asked who they go back to if they decide to do anything. Selectman Hartung noted that it would be the Planning Board and with Mr. Carideo on the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission will be represented. If there is a need for the ZBA, then the Planning Board will send them there. Recreation was told to keep in touch with Kris Emerson and to work with him. Both Mr. Goode and Mrs. Colbert agree that nothing further will be done to the area.

Selectman Hartung made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Selectman Lindquist seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A True Record.

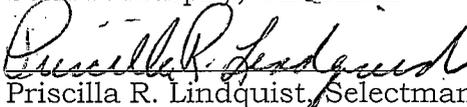


Tina Harrington, Recording Secretary

Approved By:



Sean P. Murphy, Chairman



Priscilla R. Lindquist, Selectman



Richard H. Hartung, Selectman