

MEREDITH TOWN BOARD MEETING
July 8, 2008

The regular meeting of the Meredith Town Board was held on July 8, 2008 at the Meredith Town Hall. The following were in attendance:

Supervisor: Keitha Capouya

Council Members: Ronald Bailey
Roger Hamilton
Paul Menke

Absent: Daniel Birnbaum

Highway Superintendent: William Jester

Clerk: Betsy K. Clark

Townspeople: 10

The supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

PREVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Bob Stone

Mr. Stone asked the status of his complaint made regarding his property stood. Keitha said it has just gone to the Town Justice to issue an order of appearance.

PREVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Kurt Mable

Mr. Mable took the floor and wanted to introduce himself to the new Board members and ask if anyone had any questions on what was presented last month regarding the Town Insurance policy. There were no questions and the Board thanked Kurt for coming.

REGULAR TOWN BUSINESS:

Then Highway Superintendent presented his report for the month of June. During the report Mr. Jester stated because of the increase in oil price, which went up \$0.60 a gallon the new cost of paving starting July 1, 2008 will put him way over budget. In his review of the budget and the extra cost it will incur he feels they need to cut out one of his projects. The Board reviewed the extra cost statements Mr. Jester gave to them from the companies and made the following resolution:

RESOLUTION # 60 – 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Ron Bailey to drop the Rathburn Road project. The motion was seconded by Roger Hamilton and passed by the following vote:

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Absent
R. Hamilton - Aye
P. Menke – Aye

A motion to accept the report was made by Paul Menke. The motion was seconded by Ron Bailey and passed by unanimous vote.

A motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2008 Town Board Meeting, and the June 3, 2008 Public Hearing minutes, and the June 3, Special Meeting minutes, and the June 10, 2008 Town Board Meeting minutes as amended was made by Roger Hamilton. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Hamilton to table the Town Clerks report for June 2008. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and approved.

A motion to table the Supervisor's report for the month of June 2008 was made by Paul Menke. The motion was seconded by Roger Hamilton and approved unanimously.

The General and Highway warrants were reviewed by the Board. A motion for payment of the General vouchers # 134 - # 153, totaling \$ 18,938.56 as amended, and the Highway vouchers # 127 - # 143 totaling \$ 59,454.33 was made by Roger Hamilton. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and approved unanimously.

Ron Bailey asked about a six month budget report. Keitha said she said she asked Sandy Whittaker our bookkeeper to do that. She stated she has a profit and loss statement which will give us an idea of where we are in relation to the budget. She said Sandy is going to do a more detailed one so we really know where everything has gone, but it will give us some idea of where we are which is not so bad all things considered.

Ron Bailey asked why we should be way over on taxes did they come in earlier. Keitha said Sandy would give a detail of why. She said Sandy and her have a plan to meet and go over this. Roger asked about the accounting for attorney fees. She discussed the accounting of the Town Accounts with the Board. Keitha said this report is just for information and next meeting she will have a more detailed report and budget amendments.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. A letter was received by Steven McCarthy regarding the Meridale Farms project requesting the letter to be read at the meeting and entered into Town Record.

The Supervisor read the letter and asked the Town Clerk to enter it in the Town records.

2. The code officer sent the Board a copy of a letter of violations she sent to a property owner in Meredith as requested by the Board due to an official complaint. The Board reviewed the document.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Keitha asked for a vote regarding the Franchise agreements. The Board discussed the public comments regarding the Franchise agreements and the agreements. Delhi Telephone’s contractors and the problems with their work were discussed and the following resolutions were made:

RESOLUTION # 61 - 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Ron Bailey to approve the Time Warner Franchise and Delhi Telephone Cable Franchise contracts. The motion was seconded by Roger Hamilton and passed by the following vote:

- K. Capouya - Aye
- R. Bailey - Aye
- D. Birnbaum - Absent
- R. Hamilton - Aye
- P. Menke – Aye

RESOLUTION # 61A – 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Ron Bailey to send a letter as a provision to the previous resolution to Delhi Telephone to ask them to make sure the agreement that they have with their contractors regarding their construction standards be upheld. The motion was seconded by Roger Hamilton and passed by the following vote:

- K. Capouya - Aye
- R. Bailey - Aye
- D. Birnbaum - Absent
- R. Hamilton - Aye
- P. Menke – Aye

2. Keitha announced that she has correspondence from JNS that is the new form of the Verizon lease that she needs to look at.

She said also she has approved the new bigger pad for the JNS tower. She also said that Kim McDonnell from Verizon contacted her regarding Cable and DSL also being provided from Verizon. Roger asked if this would be land lines. Keitha said she wasn't sure but would find out when Kim calls her for a meeting.

3. Keitha said she had been contacted by FEMA that the Town was missing some paperwork for FEMA work that has been paid for. Keitha said she would get in touch with the previous Highway Superintendent and send in the paperwork.

4. The Town got a letter from the Teamsters Union Local 693 that they are intending to negotiate a new agreement to replace the one that will expire December 31, 2008. The new proposal will be forthcoming along with proposed dates for negotiations.

5. The Supervisor reviewed the changes that she had made in the new proposed local law for Cell Towers. She discussed these with the Board and Attorney Marc Goldberg who was present representing SBA.

NEW BUISNESS:

1. Keitha informed the Board that Gas Drilling is coming she gave the Board some ideas on what she felt should be done, possibly a regulation. The Board discussed drilling and the possible impacts. Roger Hamilton gave some input on what he has heard at a meeting in Hancock that he attended as a representative for Farm Bureau representing farmers. The Board discussed things they may be able to do.

Amy Friedman: mentioned she had information on the gas leases and gave Keitha a copy of what she brought. She also mentioned there are many groups that are meeting around the area.

Lisa Burrows: said she was from Oregon and they have heated houses from the natural gas and it has been successful there. She suggested the Board research and gather information from out of State, places that have done it. There was further discussion regarding this issue.

2. Keitha asked the Board if they would change the Board Meeting time to 7:30 p.m. thru September. The Board discussed this and made the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: 62 – 2008

A resolution by motion was made by Roger Hamilton to change the Board meeting time to 7:30 p.m. thru September. The motion was seconded by Paul Menke and passed by the following vote:

K. Capouya - Aye
R. Bailey - Aye
D. Birnbaum - Absent
R. Hamilton - Aye
P. Menke – Aye

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Menke. The motion seconded by Ron Bailey. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy K. Clark
Town Clerk