

**TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
16 SCHOOL STREET
ALLENSTOWN, NH 03275**

Sandra A. McKenney, Chairperson for the Board of Selectmen, opened the meeting at 6:33 pm. Present at the meeting: Sandra A. McKenney, Chairperson; Thomas R. Gilligan, Selectman; Carol Merrill, Selectperson; Kelley Collins, Administrative Assistant, Police Chief Mulholland, Victor Ranfos & Ralph Prince (from Chester Turnpike)

Traffic issues on Chester Turnpike

Mr. Ranfos explained to the Board that he went around and took a poll on what to do with the road and explained to residents about the last meeting with the Board (see 9/2006) and ended up with 8 petitions to put speed bumps on the road. There are 12 homes on this road. All 12 homes were approached and these were the responses. Mr. Ranfos noted that there is still a problem on the road with the traffic. Police Chief Mulholland confirmed that there was one incident with a car registering (through the TraxPro equipment) between 67 and 70 miles per hour. Mr. Prince explained there is a lot of pedestrian traffic with Day Care bringing their children to Rocky Hill Farm. Mr. Prince is concerned for the safety of those children walking. The stop sign on the corner has already been vandalized. The cars are not stopping for the stop sign unless the police cruiser is there. Mr. Prince believes that is the same constant offenders. He also stated that this is why the Park (Holiday Acres) put in speed bumps. Now there are tractor trailers parking on the side of the road, etc.

Chairperson asked Chief Mulholland if he had anything to add. Chief Mulholland gave statistics: In July 2006 there were 550 - 590 vehicles per day on Chester Turnpike. The analysis from May of 2007 the number of vehicles has increased to "between" 670 - 740 per day. The Chief isn't sure what the cause of the increase is. The Chief went on to say that in 2006 82% of the vehicles were adhering to the speed limit in 2007 the compliance is at 94%. They write tickets after 41 mph. In one day this year they wrote 4 tickets last year in one day they wrote 16. There has been some reduction in speeds but there are still some traveling in the 50s and 60s. The police department issued \$8000 in fines in that area.

Mr. Ranfos and Mr. Prince note that they have difficulty getting out of their driveways, their mailboxes have been struck, people have lost control of their cars and they have even been passed. They thank the police department for their patrols.

Chairperson McKenney acknowledged that the Board is aware that they would like speed bumps put in there. She also states that she wished there was a way that we could keep people from using that road but we looked into that and we cannot close that access to the Park. That access was a Planning Board approved part of the original site plan for Holiday Acres. People in the area using Chester Turnpike so they don't hit the speed bumps in the Park. Chairperson McKenney wishes we had an answer that would satisfy the residents in that neighborhood but she doesn't think there is much we can do in a default budget year. We did look into seasonal speed bumps. They run between \$3000 and \$4000 and they require signage and street lights. There would also be labor involved in picking them up each winter and laying them down again each spring. Selectman Gilligan asked about lowering the speed limit to 20 mph and painting cross walks. Chief notes that 25 are as low as you can go unless it's a school zone.

The Chief also discussed a Traffic Calming plan that he submitted to the Board last year. The Chief says he hopes if the Board decides to do something that they consider adopting the whole plan so there is specific criteria to follow. You can add crosswalks but again the Chief recommends a whole plan for traffic calming.

There was general discussion about stop signs, cross walks, etc. Rumble strips were also discussed but the Chief expressed concerns about the depth of pavement on that road. The Board thanked Mr. Ranfos and Mr. Prince for coming in and noted that they will work on this.

After Action Review (AAR) of Flood 2007

Chairperson McKinney introduced the Board members to Mr. Kirlis (from Albin Avenue) and asked him if he wanted to discuss something. Mr. Kirlis understood there was a meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. regarding the requirement to raise his home.

Police Chief explained that we are doing an AAR of the Flood with Department Heads at 7:00 p.m. and he is welcome to stay. They also noted that there will be a public hearing on June 18 regarding flood issues.

Department Head's present were Police Chief Mulholland, Fire Chief Chaput (Chappy), Building Inspector Code Enforcement Officer Jones and Administrative Assistant Collins.

Chairperson McKenney asked if everyone has had an opportunity to review the After Action Review. She states that she thinks everyone did a really good job and that the report was excellent. Chief Mulholland ran through the report noting that there was a considerable improvement since 2006. He also noted that there are recommendations for further improvement some of these have budgetary impact some do not. The Chief outlined the need for Incident Action Plans (IAP) for floods and blizzards. Discussion took place regarding a regional approach to shelters with perhaps Pembroke and Epsom, obtaining a generator for ARD, shelter supplies or continued reliance on the Red Cross. Chief Mulholland noted that this was the first time we used the PIO (Public Information Officer) position and in his opinion that worked very well. He wants to expand that for other lower level emergencies. We will be doing at least two workshops before the full blown exercise in October and he definitely wants the PIO involved in those workshops. Selectman Gilligan thought the tone of the AAR was that the EMD, D-EMD and PIO all have full time positions with the Town and were not able to deal with their day to day operations because of the emergency. The Chief noted that was an issue.

There was a general discussion about asking the State of NH to raise Route 28 in the area where it has flooded for the last two years. Keeping Rte 28 is a significant issue for us in keeping accessibility to the north part of Town and also to mitigate damage to River Road when we have to re-route traffic up River Road. There is a Suncook River study underway. We need detour signs and additional barricades. We need to look into long term solutions like zoning so we discontinue building in floodplains. The Chief noted that we improved leaps and bounds over 2006. Selectman Gilligan noted that he heard good things from the residents.

Chairperson McKenney asked the residents present if they had any questions or comments. They did not.

There was some discussion regarding evacuated residents stating that they did not know that they had been evacuated and whether some kind of placarding system would work for evacuees.

Spending Freeze

While the Department Heads are in attendance Chairperson McKenney just wanted to reiterate the spending freeze. Police Chief Mulholland has some concerns about that. He notes that he has put off purchases such as uniforms, but we are getting to the point in the year where he needs to purchase some of these items. Chairperson McKenney isn't saying you can't purchase things you or your department need just try to defer anything you can for as long as you can. The Fire Chief feels his budget is just about where it should be. The Police Chief is comfortable where his budget is but notes that it would not take much to jeopardize his budget if we the Town experience any additional unforeseen emergencies. The Fire Chief notes that even though he is comfortable with his budget he will forego his budgeted \$1000 raise until year end, he will also hold off on conducting physicals for existing personnel. He will continue to have physical exams done on new hires.

There was discussion regarding when we might be able to expect FEMA money. The Police Chief noted that we may not even get it this year. He also noted that we could/should make cuts that we can now because they would have more impact. If we wait until the end of the year we could be forced to lay off half of our force, etc. Chairperson McKenney asked the other two Selectmen if they want to change the spending freeze in any way. Selectman Gilligan stated that there is other

creative things they could do like closing Town Hall on Fridays, cutting hours. Sandy believes we need all the Town employees we currently have. Selectman Gilligan trusts the Department Heads to be frugal.

Dates for Department Head Reviews

Some discussion took place regarding dates and times for Department Head reviews. The Board will meet strictly for this purpose on Monday, June 11 and June 25. The Board will start with the Fire Chief's evaluation at 6:30 p.m. on June 11th and the Chief will come in at 7:00 to receive and discuss his evaluation with the Selectmen. The Board will spend the rest of the evening on June 11th completing and compiling evaluations for Chief Mulholland, Building Inspector Jones and the Administrative Assistant. The Board will meet with the AA at 6:30, the Building Inspector at 7:00 p.m. and the Police Chief at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 25th.

Building Inspector vacation

The Board approved vacation for Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer for July 2 – 6, 2007.

Fire Department Evaluations

The Fire Chief noted that no reviews have ever been done of the Call Firefighters. Discussion took place. Fire Chief will have the evaluations done by August 15th. Fire Chief also stated that he generally gets an increase in July; however he wants to wait until December to see how the budget is before he takes the increase. Chief has completed and delivered to Town Hall, the evaluations for the two full time, permanent firefighters. Chairperson McKenney asked Selectperson Merrill and Selectman Gilligan if they have had a chance to look at these. They stated they have not but will make some time to do this.

Chief and BOS also discussed the budget and budget cuts. Tom stated that he is prepared to make the hard cuts if it comes to laying off Cindy, Deputy Tax Collector, Deputy Town Clerk, night time Secretary, day time secretary what ever those cuts need to be to get the budget to balance. Tom has no problem with that, upon the department heads recommendations. The voters decided how much the Town will spend and we will spend that and not a penny more.

Chief also stated that the Church had been hit by lightning, also the fire signals at Main and Ferry Street. The amount to fix is \$6625.00 the Town has a \$1000.00 deductible. Fire Chief will get the paper work done and give to A.A. to file with the Insurance Company.

Town of Epsom

Sandy stated that the BOS received a thank you letter from Epsom thanking Cliff Jones Building Inspector for helping the town out after the flood.

Waving Fees (flood)

Cliff Jones informed the BOS in writing that Goffstown is waiving all fees to flood victims, building, electric, and plumbing. The Selectmen will revisit this issue on June 4th to see if they will continue to waive the fees. Epsom BOS is hearing each individual case to determine if they will waive the fees. Motion made by Sandy to waive the Plumbing fees for Allenstown flood victims and 50% of the building permit fees for four (4) months. From June 1st until October 1st. Electrical is already waived. Tom seconded. Roll call vote, Carol - yes, Tom - yes, Sandy - yes. Motion passed.

Boys/Girls Club

Police Chief Mulholland discussed the second portable classroom at the boys and girls club to be obtained with donations that the club has received. Temporary road is being built at Whitten Street Park.

Minutes

Motion made by Sandy to accept the minutes of May 21, 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Review and Accept Non-Public Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of April 30 2007 @ 9:20 pm. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of April 30 2007 @ 9:28 pm. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of April 30 2007 @ 9:44 pm. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of May 07, 2007 @ 6:03 pm. 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept the non-public minutes of May 07, 2007 @ 10:03 pm. 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of May 07, 2007 @ 10:12 pm. 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept and seal the non-public minutes of May 07, 2007 @ 10:21 pm. 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept the non-public minutes of May 07, 2007 @ 10:28 pm. 2007. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept the non-public minutes of May 14, 2007 @ 8:49. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to accept the non-public minutes of May 14, 2007 @ 9:01. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Lavoie Drive

Sandy stated that the BOS received a written recommendation letter from Town Attorney on how to proceed with Lavoie Drive. Motion made by Sandy to pursue Lavoie Drive as recommended by Town Attorney. Tom seconded. Motion passed. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Yard Waste

BOS discussed changing the ordinance about picking up yard waste.

Planning Board

Motion made by Sandy to appoint Phyllis Parker as an alternate member to the Planning Board. Expiration April 1, 2009. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Tax Deeding

BOS and A.A. discussed properties for tax deeding. AA stated that she has sent letters to the three that were condemned. AA also stated that how this works with Mobil Home Parks is that the Town will deed, take ownership, and evict, if necessary - Town pays for this portion. Parks agree to get rid of the mobile homes and bring in new ones (usually higher assessed value) and waive any Park lot rent. AA will have Town Attorney formalize this in writing. AA stated that she is proceeding with these but not moving too fast on them, because the Town does not want to own trailers that the Town has to pay Park rent or evict people. Tom would like to discuss raising the annual Town fees for owning a Park – may agenda this for later this summer. AA will have building inspector research this.

Fees

AA would like to add \$10 or \$15 as to our fee list for excerpted lists, when ever you have to manipulate the data. Motion made by Sandy to charge \$15.00 for an excerpted list. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes. AA will submit revised fee schedule for Board's signature.

Ridge Road

AA and BOS reviewed a letter from a resident on Ridge Road that would like summer maintenance done of her road. It is a private road. AA will send a letter for the BOS.

OAMH

AA stated that a letter was received from Mrs. Martel regarding a fire inspection on Old Allentown Meeting House. Tom stated that she has to take this up with the Fire Department.

Agenda Folder

Board reviewed and signed various items in the agenda folder.

Rental Request

Sandy informed the Board she has a Town Building rental request from the AHS. It is for June 29 outside OAMH and it is a bake sale from 11:00 – 6:30. Motion made from Tom to let them use the outside of the OAMH for free. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0 Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Transfer of Funds

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the public safety facility capital reserve to the Town in the amount of \$295.00 it is for the sprinkler head for the Fire Department. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the police cruiser capital reserve to the Town in the amount of \$318.98 it is for the cruiser led traffic lights. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the fire safety equipment capital reserve to the Town in the amount of \$98.00 it is for Boots for Lee Cheney. Tom seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the public safety facility capital reserve to the Town in the amount of \$280.54 for the door for the entries. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the general expendable trust to the Town in the amount of \$162.72 for the bulb covers at Town Hall. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Motion made by Sandy to transfer funds from the police cruiser capital reserve to the Town in the amount of \$50.75 for repair of equipment. Carol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Abatements

Roy Smith, Town Assessor is receiving a lot of questions about abatements for taxes due to the flood. AA stated that they really need to put something in writing then come before the Board. Then let Roy look at what the residents have to say. Do this on a case by case basis.

CNRPC

Sandy stated that she received a letter from CNRPC in reference to the US Route 3 corridor studies. Kelley asked the Board if they have anyone in mind for this. Kelley asked if Sandy could bring this before the Planning Board to see if anyone would be interested in this or anyone else that they may know.

Members

AA stated that the Fair Hearings and Conservation Commission are in need of members.

Non-Public Session

Motion made by Sandy to go into non-public session at 10.34 p.m. under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Carol seconded. Motion passed. 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes.

Selectman Gilligan made a motion to leave non-public session and seal the minutes at 11:55 pm. Selectperson Merrill seconded. Roll Call Vote: Chairperson McKenney – yes; Selectperson Merrill – yes; Selectman Gilligan – yes.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Tom. Seconded Sandy by at 11:56 p.m. Motion passed 3-0.

SANDRA A. MCKENNEY, CHAIRPERSON

CAROL M. MERRILL, SELECTPERSON

THOMAS R. GILLIGAN, SELECTMEN