

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

Saturday, April 7th, 2012

Committee Members Present: David Bonney, Gerry Grondin, Gilles Beaudoin, Dave Devane, Marty Feit, Clerk-Treasurer.

Committee Members Absent: Nancy Devane, Al Bavernik

Public Present: None.

The meeting is opened at 10:30 am.

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street

Meeting Introduction; I.A.W. - M.G.L. CH30A- Section 20.

Approval of March 3rd 2012 Meeting Minutes- Mr. Gerry Grondin makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 3rd, Mr. Gilles Beaudoin seconds motion; Unanimous approval.

Sherwood Forest Road Superintendent's Monthly report- April 1st - April 30th, 2012

Calls/Complaints:

David Devane advises that there was only one complaint; Sandy Sayward. He explains that the road in front of her house was washing away. He advises that once the grading begins, they will be able to take care of that problem.

David states that tree trimming and road work continues. He also advises that much of the month has been spent working on muddy roads, putting stone down and grading.

David informs members that there are cars into the culverts and ditches. Mr. Bonney asks whether or not this is being done on purpose or by accident. Mr. Bonney suggests that Dave Devane needs to be taking pictures of these vehicles and then bring them to the Becket Police so that they can do something about it. Mr. Bonney reminds committee that there is a parking ban. Mr. Bonney advises that he has tried to talk to Mr. Bill Elovirta about this issue before and was told that they need to go to the Selectmen with the problem. Board members discuss taking all proper channels and then possibly having to

take it to the lawyer. Mr. Bonney explains that this is a very difficult situation and that they don't have the authority to actually do anything to the vehicles. Mr. Bonney asks Marty to send a letter to the Police Department, thus having something written, a record, to prove that the request has been made. Marty agrees to do so, and asks David Devane to give him the address so that he can include it in the letter.

Committee members discuss speaking with the Representative from the Department of Transportation regarding Chapter 90 monies for the Forest.

Mr. Devane advises the committee members that work orders are being used.

Mr. Devane brings up the issue of the cell phone. Mr. Bonney advises that phones cannot be shared with a private party and reminds members of the Conflict of Interest Laws. Mr. Feit advises that they can get a Verizon cell phone for about forty dollars a month. Mr. Bonney agrees and states that Verizon service is very good in the area. Marty suggests that they go ahead and get a plan for one thousand minutes, and if that needs to be changed one way or another at any time, they will then discuss it. Marty offers to physically go and get the phone and take care of setting it up, Dave thanks Marty and gives Marty the phone number. Mr. Bonney states that the phone number for the new phone should carry a new phone number so that it is not anyone's private line. Mr. Bonney reminds that the new number will then need to be given to Mike, for posting on the web site.

Mr. Devane advises that they need to find a way to get people to slow down. Committee members discuss signage, posters and speed bumps. Mr. Bonney advises that it is a very difficult situation and that putting up signs can get very complicated, not to mention the fact that people will surely steal them. Committee members agree that Mr. Devane needs to speak with the Chief of Police regarding this matter as well. Members discuss that no one should be driving any faster than 15-20 mph on any of the dirt roads and that the speed limit on Wells Road is 30 mph.

David Devane, Road Superintendent

Mr. Bonney asks what is going on with the weight slips. Mr. Bonney acknowledges the weight slips from Tonolino, and just wants to confirm that Craig Willis is also conforming to this. Mr. Bonney states that without an actual price list, there is no way to know what kind of a deal they are getting.

Committee members discuss the different kinds of road material and the pros and cons of each. Mr. Bonney reminds members of how bad mud season used to be like 25 years ago, stating that even four-wheel drive vehicles would easily get stuck. Committee members agree that the roads are being maintained and are so much better now.

Mr. Bonney confirms with Mr. Devane that he has the work orders saved on his computer and suggests that keeping a paper copy on file may be a good idea.

Mr. Devane confirms that they have the four inch road signs as opposed to the six inch signs. Mr. Devane states that he has consulted Mr. Craig Willis on this matter, Mr. Bonney advises that this was supposed to be done in January and that Craig should have nothing to do with this.

Public Participation- None

Treasurer's Report- Marty reads and reviews the report with the committee members present. He reviews bank account balances, etc.

Marty advises that Mr. Gerry Grondin was issued checks for the three instances in question. He advises that he researched the matter and the checks were actually sent to the incorrect address. Marty advises that he has taken care of the address correction and will contact the bank to find out how the checks were cashed.

Warrant Approval- A motion is made and seconded to approve the warrant as presented, motion is unanimously approved and signed.

Budget 2012-2013- Marty presents the proposed budget to committee members present. He advises that he needs input from the committee as to what they would like to do. Committee members discuss putting one-hundred thousand dollars into each of the road accounts. Committee members review and discuss each of the expense accounts and the amount of money that needs to be put into them.

Marty explains to the committee members present that they desperately need people to participate in the Road District, he suggests that they raise the \$25 per meeting pay to \$50 instead, thus getting a little more interest and participation. Marty also suggests spreading the word that they are looking for interested parties via email. Committee members unanimously agree that both are good ideas and should be implemented.

Committee members discuss the fact that although winter was very mild, much of the money that was not spent on snow removal, was instead spent on tree removal and other expenses. Committee further discusses Hurricane Irene and all the storm damage that was incurred from that.

An error was found in the reimbursement figure that should have been put back into the general road account. Marty states that some of it is from the October storm, as well as road materials; Marty advises that he will look into the matter and make sure the accounts are straightened out. Marty advises that they have also done improvements that they wanted to do, and money has also been spent there. During the budget discussion, Mr. Gerry Grondin offers that if the committee gets stuck for people, then he would agree to be a sub for next year. Mr. Gil Beaudoin suggests that they should keep the Winter Road account at ninety five thousand. Marty asks how committee members feel about that. Committee members discuss. Mr. Beaudoin states that he is fine keeping it at one hundred thousand if that is what everyone else wants, and that the five thousand dollars

isn't that much of a difference. Committee members discuss free cash that they may have as well.

Committee members discuss the cost of grading; they propose the cost may be forty to forty five thousand dollars. Mr. Devane advises that he meets with Craig Willis on Mondays and that he will discuss it with him and then report to Marty.

Committee members discuss the date for the annual meeting to be held; Mr. Bonney advises that he will get a hold of Al to see about his availability.

Committee Report

District phone- Previously discussed.

Road Superintendent's Position- Mr. Bonney asks what they should do about the long term, full-time position. He explains that he doesn't know if it would be much of a savings to the District, and they don't have the proper equipment. Marty reminds that they will then also have to provide insurance, pay for gas, taxes, etc. Marty says that it is his opinion that it is going to end up costing more money and get less service.

Mailboxes- The responsibility of the mailboxes is discussed by the committee members. Committee members agree that they are in need of repair. Marty agrees that if people outside of Sherwood Forest are using the mailboxes, then it really becomes the responsibility of the Town. Mr. Bonney advises that Craig has been plowing the boxes out in the winter; however it is not his responsibility. Marty states that he will go and talk to Todd and the Post Office and see how that goes. Committee members agree that this might be a topic that is best left alone for now.

Annual Meeting- Committee Members again discuss a possible date that may work out for everyone. They also discuss which positions are going to be up for this term. Marty states that he will research the minutes from the last annual meeting, from there they will figure out whose terms are up. Committee members discuss that the warrant has to then be posted by the Constable.

Any other Business- Dave Devane states that he was planning on having some work done on the waterways.

Adjournment- A motion is made to adjourn the meeting; motion is seconded; Unanimous Approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Feit
Clerk-Treasurer

