

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 4, 2004

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin and Peter Martell; guest, Sally Pearson; representatives of the ATV club, Richard Pike and Nelson Sylvain; and members of the Elmwood Cemetery Corporation, Peter Neal, Paul Ruksznis and Duane Huff.

2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter, to approve minutes of previous meeting. Unanimous.

3. Balance sheets distributed.

4. Selectmen checks disbursed.

5. Pike and Sylvain spoke in favor of and requested that the town allow ATV traffic on Butter Street and Applebee Hill Road, stating that the present trail is unsafe and extremely rough. Burdin asked if the selectmen had that authority and Lander replied that he had an opinion from MMA stating the affirmative (entered into these minutes.) Moved by Lander, seconded by Dexter to so designate these roads. Amendment to make this permission seasonal, from April 1 to November 30, made by Burdin and seconded by Dexter. Both motions unanimously accepted. Manager directed to notify Piscataquis Sheriff's Office of this decision.

6. Palesky proposal and impacts discussed; agreed that our town would cease to function as the 10 mill limit currently supports our schools and would leave nothing for municipal appropriations. Moved by Thompson and seconded by Burdin to adopt a position opposed to said proposal. No resolve made as to rate of tax cuts derived from Question One until January when results may be better understood.

7. Service Program appropriations decided. Dexter noted that many programs are federally funded already and did not rely on municipal funding. Manager mentioned that many area towns give nothing to the non-profits as they do not tax them or charge for any services provided to them. Votes taken on list from Town report and all amounts voted as listed except Penquis CAP/ Homemaker services which were cut to zero.

8. Thank you notes read from Elizabeth Kelley for a scholarship; Liz Martell family for flowers. Request for Recreation program funds for basketball camps accepted.

9. Neal and Ruksznis spoke on behalf of Elmwood Cemetery Corporation explaining shortfalls of current system in terms of funds and supervision, and expressing intent that the town would take over the program. Neal also reported that software needed to track who was buried where, stating that there is only one written record and that is incomplete. Chairman Thompson agreed that a plan of action was needed before the March 2005 town meeting and that we would meet with the cemetery board in September or October to formulate said plan.

10. Lander proposed posting Oak Street as "Closed to through traffic," to alleviate congestion on the street as it is often blocked with delivery trucks. After much discussion, it was noted that a road change or an ordinance amendment would require a town vote. It was agreed that the issue needed further study and no date was set to bring this item back to the table.

11. Motion by Lander, seconded by Martell to accept and sign a maintenance agreement with D.O.T. for a parking area at the Sangerville Station Bridge. Unanimous.

12. Read letter from the State Audit Department discussing recommendations for internal controls. No action taken.

13. Selectmen voted and signed MMA ballots for officers and Legislative Policy Committee positions.

14. Manager read report from loss control department of insurer regarding recommendations required and manager's response. All items addressed as per company request from No

Smoking signs to bench grinder guards.

15. Under other business, Dexter stated that new War Memorial was very attractive and seemed to be being enjoyed; Lander added that he has noted many people stopping to admire the new monument. It was also agreed to allow manager to use discretion in rewarding those who helped us with summer recreation program and board acknowledged the loss of new employee Ben Edgerly who died July 23rd in a car accident.

16. Moved by Lander, seconded by Martell to adjourn; adjourned at 9:02 pm.