

Town of Tamworth
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
March 2, 2006
Town Office

PRESENT Mariette Ross, David Haskell, John Roberts

OTHERS PRESENT Daniel Poirier, Bruce Robinson, Steve Solomon, Anne Abear and many members of the community.

Chairman Mariette Ross opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

Public Comment William Farnum questioned the Board on closing the Town Transfer station on March 18, 2006 to allow the employee of this department to attend Town Meeting. The Board advised they had not considered this request, nor had the employee asked for that department to be closed.

Police Department Chief Daniel Poirier presented February 2006 police statistics for the Board to review. Chief Poirier indicated this information would be in the local papers.

Chief Poirier discussed the plowing needs at the police station. Chief Poirier indicated he would like to amend his budget on the floor at Town Meeting to allow for the additional expense in plowing. Chief Poirier advised the cost from Jeff Tavares is \$35 per storm. The Board recommended Chief Poirier amend his budget to include 10 storms.

Administrative Mrs. Anne Abear discussed the following with the Board:

1. *Mariette Ross moved and David Haskell supported acceptance of an agreement and release to build off a private road known as Silver Pines Lane. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
2. *Mariette Ross moved and David Haskell supported acceptance of an agreement and release to build off a private road known as Willow Lane. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
3. *Mariette Ross moved and David Haskell supported acceptance of an agreement and release to build off a private road and a building permit for map/lot 213-032. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
4. *Mariette Ross moved and David Haskell supported acceptance of minutes dated February 16 and February 23, 2006. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
5. Mrs. Abear announced the sled dog races were scheduled to take place this weekend.

Remick Museum PILOT Payment Representatives of the Remick Museum attended the meeting to distribute the first quarterly PILOT payment to the Board of Selectmen in the amount of \$5,000.

Recess *Mariette Ross recessed the meeting at 4:13 p.m.*

Reconvene *Mariette Ross called the meeting back to order at 4:30 p.m.*

**Public Hearing
Traffic & Road
Regulations Policy**

Mariette Ross opened the public hearing at 4:30 p.m.

Members of the community reviewed and commented on the proposed policy with some of the comments being:

1. David Bowles discussed camping on public property and questioned whether a waiver could be received for this policy that does not allow for any camping on public property. Mr. Bowles gave examples of special event exceptions that should be allowed.
2. David Haskell advised this policy was created after his attendance of training at UNH in which he introduced a winter snow & ice policy. Mr. Haskell advised he retrieved several policies from surrounding communities.
3. Amy Berrier questioned why this policy was not going to Town Meeting for a vote. David Haskell advised this policy was not going to Town Meeting to allow the Board of Selectmen an opportunity to regulate the policy as needed allowing the Board to make changes and amendments to the policy throughout the year without taking the policy back to Town Meeting.
4. The audience was advised the policy had been created and worked on by the Fire Chief, Road Agent, Police Chief and Town Attorney in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen.
5. Chief Daniel Poirier advised 90% of this policy is allowed to be regulated at this time per State RSA's. Chief Poirier advised this was nothing new, except regulating the policy under State RSA allows for the fines collected to go to the State of NH for their revenues. If the Selectmen were to adopt this policy, all of the fees collected for the Town would stay with the Town.
6. Many attendees of the meeting acknowledged parking in the Town was a problem, especially when events are taking place at the Barnstormer Theatre, Remick Museum and Town House.
7. Chief Poirier recommended changing the wording throughout the policy from right of way to traveled portion of the road.
8. Sheldon Perry requested the Board consider adding a formal application process for special events planned to be held.
9. Tom Abugelis advised the Town needed a good administrative policy that stands alone and one that creates public safety.
10. Ned Beecher recommended the Board consider appointing a committee to work on this policy.
11. William Farnum stated this policy also addresses the problems at the Chocorua Lake area. Mr. Farnum further advised this policy prevents the locals who want to go to the lake after dark for swimming and fishing. This would penalize the residents of Tamworth.
12. Chief Poirier discussed special events and indicated the Police Department; if they are aware of an event-taking place, assist with the safe parking of vehicles.

13. David Little questioned the Board on producing a map. John Roberts advised the Board was looking for input from this meeting before moving forward on this policy and creating a map.
14. Alex Cook advised she felt this policy was wasting time and a bureaucracy of the Town. Further, Mrs. Cook felt residents would be losing their freedom. Mrs. Cook questioned making u-turns. Chief Poirier advised u-turns were not allowed at the present time. Chief Poirier discussed other communities and their policies and procedures on parking. Mrs. Cook advised she did not appreciate being compared to other communities and felt she had faith in the present police department personnel, but stated future police personnel may abuse the power under this policy.
15. John Mersfelder echoed Mrs. Cook's statements and advised it was very important for the officers to use their discretion. Further, Mr. Mersfelder discussed hiring additional police officers to administer this policy.
16. Fire Chief Steve Solomon discussed the need to be able to get fire engines and equipment through Main Street and any place that events may be taking place.
17. Charles Moody discussed Main Street not being the only problem area in Town. Mr. Moody advised if the policy was to be put into place, it should include Union Hall area in S. Tamworth and Chocorua Village on Rt. 16.
18. Susan Ticehurst stated she liked to have the policies laid out clearly so there are no questions and felt common sense and flexibility was necessary; although, equal representation may not be used in the future if the policy is not clear enough.
19. Chief Poirier advised the initial reason he agrees with this policy is for the educational aspect of letting the public know of parking problems within the community and to let the businesses know that they just cannot allow their clientele to park anywhere they want. Chief Poirier advised the problems at Lake Chocorua have been discussed for about 1.5 years.
20. William Farnum discussed plowing across roadways and advised he understood this to be an illegal act now. Bruce Robinson and Daniel Poirier both advised it was legal to plow across roadways.
21. Don Harte discussed business owners working with the community.
22. Paul Chant, Director of the Barnstormers, advised he was unaware of the concerns until this meeting and looked forward to meeting with Chief Poirier to discuss them further.
23. David Bowles recommended the Selectmen review the parking lot behind the Town Office to see if it can be extended to allow for more parking.
24. Jeff Burke advised the Town was laid out in 1766 and was not designed to handle vehicles. Mr. Burke advised the Town should remain pedestrian friendly.
25. Scott Aspinall recommended members of the Barnstormers to consider a blinking light to warn people of intermission and the need to drive slowly during those times.
26. Joan Gilmoure advised she was on the Main Street Project committee and it takes time to develop a good policy for the parking as it did for that project. She recommended and agreed education is the key that may include signage, newspaper advertisement reminders, and keeping the essential people involved in the policymaking.
27. David Bowles explained signage for snowmobile and ATV usage and parking areas.

Deleted: is

Deleted: being

28. William Farnum discussed Article V (Snow Removal and Ice Control) and advised the Road Agent needed to be able to use his discretion on this policy.
29. Don Harte asked if another public hearing would be held to allow for input to be offered to this policy from the changes that are recommended at this meeting. John Roberts stated the policy would be worked on again and a decision would be made whether to hold another public hearing on the policy.
30. William Farnum advised he personally agreed with this regulation be a policy and not an ordinance to allow for the Board of Selectmen to make changes to the policy as needed.

Mariette Ross closed the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.

Adjournment *Mariette Ross moved and David Haskell supported adjourning the meeting at 6:17 p.m.
Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M. Abear

Approved by the Board

Mariette Ross

David Haskell

John Roberts