

**Board of Selectmen
TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, NH
SUMMER INFORMATIONAL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

July 20, 2022

6:30 PM at Town Hall and Via Zoom

Note: This meeting may be recorded

CALL TO ORDER

Gary Winn called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. In attendance were, Fran Shippee, Judy Idelkope, Alissa Thompson, and Tricia Lachenal.

Winn noted that this year the board went through the list of topics and split them up for information before questions. Winn noted there will be an opportunity for questions at the end of the meeting. Winn introduced himself and the board members.

Watershed Committee – Judy

Idelkope noted that last year a Watershed Committee was formed. They are charged with providing recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on planning, implementation and use of watershed management techniques to effectively protect and enhance the water quality of Spofford Lake. The goal of the committee is to provide a list of recommendations for the Town to consider. Topics for discussion include but are not limited to: Storm water runoff, septic impact, dam operation, climate change, road salt impact, culvert activity, use of fertilizers, erosion control and good land stewardship practices.

So far, they have refined the lake monitoring plan to provide better information from increased testing of key nutrients and at more locations. The testing results are used to map model the impact for future development around the lake. The testing is funded 50% by the Town of Chesterfield and 50% by the Spofford Lake Association.

The committee has also looked at Pinnacle Springs culverts which were replaced this year and made recommendations to decrease erosion at culvert outputs and is working with the Spofford Lake Association to submit an application for a grant to advise on dealing with runoff from the Pinnacle Spring ridgeline and runoff into the lake. The Spofford Lake Association provided funding for the application fee.

We are also in the process of reviewing town ordinances and their interplay with State and Federal regulations to determine recommended changes that will enhance implementation of best practices and preserve lake water quality.

Some preliminary recommendations are to require building permit applications to provide copies of all required State and Federal permit requirements, to extend the shoreland protection act to more tributaries feeding into the lake by designating them as protected streams and to find ways to encourage best practices for land development in the watershed.

The Watershed Committee had hoped to conclude its work this year, but the task of reviewing land use regulations has proven more complex and time consuming than originally anticipated, making the work of the committee likely to extend beyond the end of this year.

Idelkope thanked the committee for their diligence and hard work.

Road Committee – Fran

Shippee noted the Board of Selectmen set up a Gravel Road Committee that so far includes John Zanotti, John Kondos and Brad Roscoe. The Board is still looking for more members if anyone is interested in being on the committee. The committee will be studying the gravel roads in town and composing a potential schedule for repairs. The committee will work closely with Bruce Adler, the Road Agent.

North Shore Top Coat

Shippee noted that North Shore Road will be finished next year with the topcoat, completing the project.

Atherton Hill Road – work later this summer

Shippee noted that Atherton Hill Road (where it turns to gravel) at the intersection of Hewitt Road, will be worked on later this summer and fabric will be put down for about a half mile stretch. This should help during mud season.

Wastewater

Winn noted that the wastewater regulation was adopted in 2020. Winn noted that the regulation applies to all wastewater systems in the Spofford Lake District as defined by the Chesterfield Zoning Regulations. Winn noted that the regulation requires that within 2 years from the date of adoption, property owners comply with the regulation. Winn noted that proof of NH DES operational approval is the first step and proof the system has been pumped in the last three years or has met any inspection/pumping requirements set by the NH DES is the second step. Winn noted that a copy of a receipt of pumping will be accepted as proof.

Winn noted that if the system does not have operational approval from the NHDES, it must be inspected by a NH licensed septic system evaluator and their report needs to be submitted to the Town along with proof of pumping. Winn noted that if the inspection finds the system adequate for the use and not in failure, it must be reinspected every 4 years and meet the 3-year pumping requirement.

Winn noted that installation of a NH DES approved system is required upon sale or transfer of any property in the Spofford Lake District if one does not exist or if any improvements are made that increase the number of bedrooms beyond the approved limits.

Winn noted there are 304 properties on the list and approximately 1/3 have yet to respond to the request for information.

Winn noted that a question about holding tanks came up and noted that upon sale, if a holding tank is existing and not DES approved, an owner seeking a waiver will need a waterfront site assessment as well as the inspection by the licensed evaluator. The health officer will offer his recommendation and the BOS will consider a waiver of replacement if the replacement would be the same thing as what is existing. The requests will be handled on an individual basis. Winn noted that this waiver would be for properties that cannot support a full septic system due to size of the lot.

Rescue Inc – Judy

Idelkope noted that anyone reading the paper is familiar with the discussion regarding Rescue Inc and the Town of Brattleboro.

Idelkope noted that Chesterfield is confident in Rescues' ability to meet the needs of Chesterfield and have entered into a three (3) year contract with a 1% annual increase.

Streetlighting – Fran

Shippee noted that a list of streetlights in Chesterfield was received from Eversource and Chief Chickering and Lester Fairbanks went out and look at all of them noting if they worked and if they are deemed necessary. Shippee noted that a lot of the lights were found not to be functional. Shippee noted that the plan is to turn off the ones that were deemed not needed and the ones that were not working. Shippee noted that the public was asked for their input and received a few responses. Shippee noted that if there is anyone that has strong feelings one way or another about certain lights, they can still email office@nhchesterfield.com.

ARPA funds – Gary

Winn noted that the town has received \$379,709.00 from the State of New Hampshire and an additional \$75,981.00 from the County Share. Winn noted that there are restrictions on what the money can be used for and does require a public hearing and approval from the Town. Winn noted that there are a couple of requests for use of the money which include replacement of the Parks & Recreation building and installing a ventilation system in the library.

Monthly Happenings – Fran

Shippee noted that an email is sent out at the end of each month updating people on what is going on in the Town for the next month. If you would like to be on the list, please contact tricia.lachenal@nhchesterfield.com. Shippee noted that there is a new portion of the Happenings which includes a list of events in town that are not Town related. Shippee noted that this information is gathered by volunteers who provide the list to the Town for inclusion in the monthly email.

OEM – Gary

Winn noted that Ralph Petti is the Office of Emergency Management Director who came to us with years of experience in the field. Winn noted that a grant has been secured for a portable generator, traffic signal, AED's and updating the Town Office and Police Department phone system.

Active Shooting

Winn noted that they are working on an active shooter drill with the school in the fall.

Animal Shelter

Winn noted that it has been shown that some people have ended up dying due to the fact that they would not evacuate and leave their pets behind. Winn noted that consideration is being taken to avoid that happening in Chesterfield.

Senior List

Winn noted that the OEM will be compiling a list of people that wish to be contacted in case of an emergency to make sure things are ok in their area and they do not need assistance.

Winn noted that Petti welcomes more participation from the community, and anyone interested should contact him directly.

Winn noted that the Conservation Commission hired Moosewood Ecological LLC to assist with the Natural Resource Inventory. Winn noted that the plans have been hung up in the Town Office building.

The meeting was opened up to public comment/questions.

Jeff Scott asked if the old home day banner that was approved to be put at the Transfer Station can be moved around to different places such as Wares Grove and North Shore Beach. Winn noted that would be up to the director. Shippee noted that she is ok with those three places.

Sharyn D'eon noted that she has concerns about one of the trees in front of the school. D'eon noted that that the tree is on Town property. D'eon noted that she did have an arborist check it out and they indicated that the tree is rotting. D'eon noted that she is happy to collaborate to get it removed. Winn noted he will look at the tree.

Winn thanked everyone for attending. Winn noted that there is a suggestion box in the Town Office building and the Board welcomes any recommendations from its residents.

ADJOURN

Judy Idelkope moved to adjourn at 6:56 PM. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Lachenal
Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Gary Winn
Gary Winn, Chairman

7/31/2022
Date

Fran Shippee

Date

Judith Idelkope
Judy Idelkope

7-29-2022
Date