

Board of Selectmen
April 30, 2019
357 Pond Road
11:00 A.M.

Present: Mark Duffy, Chairman, Charlie Edwards, Ken Paul, Brock Mitchell, Director of Public Works, Seth Garland, General Foreman, Rick Sager, Attorney for Town of Wakefield, Relf Fogg, Board of Assessing Member, Jim Miller, Clearview Television, Cynthia Wyatt, Pond Road resident and her attorney, Paul Alfano, Barbara Schnurbush .

Chairman Mark Duffy opened the meeting and made introductions. Mr. Duffy stated first that he wanted to know where the sign used to be posted. Mr. Garland proceeded to show where the sign was placed when he started working 5 years ago. Mr. Garland pointed to a spot starting to go up the hill near the culvert. Mr. Edwards asked what the sign meant. Mr. Garland further explained that they would stop plowing but would need to keep going to turn around. Mr. Duffy asked Cynthia if she agreed. Cynthia shared a picture that she had of the sign where it was previously posted. After viewing the picture, it was determined that the sign appears to be on a tree closer to house. Mr. Garland said the sign in picture is similar to the one at the top of the hill. Mr. Mitchell corrected and said that the RSA has now been removed from the sign. Mr. Garland went on to explain that they would have to turn the plow to the left and then backup into her driveway and turn left to go back up the hill. Mr. Edwards asked Cynthia what she would like to see happen? Cynthia stated she would like to have it be a maintained road as it has been for the last 40-50 years.

Mr. Edwards asked, "You're not asking for any more than what we've always done?" Cynthia agreed. Mr. Paul said he would have to disagree and that it was not plowed 50 years ago. Mr. Paul stated he remembers as a kid it wasn't and neither was Oak Hill Road. Cynthia said as long as she's been here, since 91 it's been maintained. Cynthia said it's a hazard with oil trucks coming down in the winter to the homes that are year-round. Discussion followed regarding the classification of the being class V or VI. Cynthia said prior to not knowing the town wasn't maintaining the road anymore, her daughter slid down backwards and hit a tree. She said there were no signs stating that it wasn't maintained. "You took the signs down but you didn't put them back anywhere." Mr. Mitchell agreed before he started, the signs were removed.

Mr. Edwards asked Mr. Mitchell is he needs a turn around to fix the problem? Mr. Mitchell stated "Yes" they need to have a turn around. Mr. Mitchell went to get his tape measure to get accurate numbers for space needed to turn the truck around safely. Mr. Mitchell explained that when they come down, her plow guy has not been to her home yet. Mr. Paul asked why they didn't bring a truck to demonstrate as previously discussed. Mr. Mitchell stated he has one ready to go. Mr. Duffy stated he feels they are using the wrong truck to maintain the road. Mr. Mitchell had suggested sub-contracting the dirt roads out. That way the dirt roads are getting done at the same time the paved roads are and they could bring a one ton down with a sander to clean up. Mr. Paul asked if he would need trees removed to turn a one ton around. Mr. Mitchell said they should be fine with the one ton. With a buildup of snow, he would need to periodically come down with a loader as part of the maintenance of the road. Mr. Paul said he would still recommend a turnaround for the trucks. Mr. Duffy said at least one tree would need to be taken down. Mr. Mitchell said they don't have the equipment to take down trees that size. Mr. Edwards does not see an issue with trucks being able to turn around. Mr. Mitchell said turning around is only part

of the issue, the other is going back up the hill. Mr. Fogg said he likes the idea of privatization because that saves the town from buying a truck and puts the responsibility on someone else which in turn saves the highway departments time. Mr. Paul thinks to do it right there needs to be a deeded easement and a no parking sign in place. Mr. Mitchel said they have an agreement with Fish and Game regarding Marsh Road and deeded use for a certain number of months. Mr. Duffy asked that we come to some sort of conclusion as to how we are going to proceed with maintaining the road and sign placement. Mr. Paul asked who is going to remove the tree and construct the easement? Mr. Duffy asked Cynthia if she would be willing to do that? Mr. Paul offered to bring in gravel and make a flat spot. Mr. Richards asked question regarding fixing the culvert. Mr. Duffy said that was already addressed. Mr. Mitchell stated he was going to grade the road today but it was too wet. Mr. Edwards addressed Cynthia asking her if she was in agreement that the Town will make the spot and put down gravel and she will take down the tree? She said she would like to find out the cost first. Mr. Edwards thinks the job should cost under \$500; Mr. Paul thinks closer to \$1000. Mr. Alfano reiterated that she is willing to work with the Town. Cynthia said it is not just her decision as it is a family owned home and she needs to consult with others. Cynthia reminded the group that there is a wetland there that they would need to be mindful of. Discussion followed regarding pulling the stump and cutting down the tree. Mr. Duffy suggested Mr. Mitchell speak to Victor Vinagro regarding the wetlands. Mr. Duffy summarized that we are all in agreement regarding removal of the tree, bring down some gravel, making it right for us to turn around and the attorneys can draft out the easement. Mr. Sager then summarized his list and also referenced placement of the sign. Mr. Alfano recognized this as of formal offer by the Selectmen and she will think about it and get back to them on whether she accepts it or not. Mr. Duffy said if she is in agreement, they can vote on it at the next meeting. Cynthia said she will discuss with her family. Mr. Edwards will assist her with getting bids. Discussion followed who will/should remove the tree after it is down. End conclusion was that Cynthia will get a quote for both with and without tree removal.

Motion: To Adjourn

Made by Mr. Paul

Seconded: Mr. Edwards


All in agreement: Passed

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 11:30

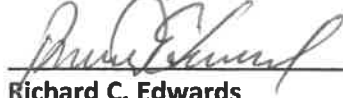
Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Schnurbush

Approval of Minutes:



Mark P. Duffy, Chair



Richard C. Edwards



Kenneth S. Paul