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BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING May 15, 2019

Present: Stacia R. Libby, Selectman

Bruce M. Glowac, Selectman

Bruce Glowac called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve the Agenda. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to approve the May 2 Special Meeting Minutes. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Informational Items, Communications and Correspondence None

Public Announcements / Comment:

Dover Street

Lovisa Johnsson reported to the Selectmen that she would like to purchase Dover Street, which is a "paper road" in Ivoryton which would allow access to her parcel of land that is landlocked. Bruce Glowac inquired if she has consulted an attorney. Ms. Johnsson reported that her attorney suggested they first speak to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Glowac reported that he would look further into her request.

TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to enter Traffic Authority. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

River Road Sidewalk

Many Heritage Cove Condominium residents were in the audience tonight. They came in support of a request for a sidewalk on River Road from Heritage Cove Road down to and connecting to the sidewalk that ends on River Road / North Main Street. There are 104 units in the complex and many active walkers. The sidewalk would not only benefit Heritage Cove residents, but everyone who enjoys walking.

Many Heritage Cove residents spoke up in support of the request for a sidewalk. There was discussion that there are always joggers, walkers, and bicyclists along this route and there are safety concerns. There was discussion that it would be nice to connect Heritage Cove to the Town. There was concern that if there isn't a safe sidewalk installed, that someone may get hit by a car, especially at dusk because the road is very busy and there is a lot of activity along this route.

Bruce Glowac and Stacia Libby reported that although they are in favor or installing sidewalks along this route, there is a safety issue due to the narrow bridge along this route. Placement of new

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sidewalks before and after the bridge would cause people to walk out into the street to cross the bridge. The Town cannot have sidewalks installed that force people to walk out into unsafe roadway.

A resident inquired how the Town goes about setting priorities for projects, such as sidewalks and road improvements. Bruce Glowac reported that priorities are primarily set due to safety factors. Sidewalks and road projects also have required maintenance and upkeep which are required to keep roads and sidewalks safe. Mr. Glowac reported that sometimes with grants, the priorities are associated with community and economic development, but ultimately priorities are always in making roads and sidewalks safe.

There was discussion of having the Town Engineer, the Selectmen, and the Public Works Director schedule a site visit along River Road to review the possibilities and hurtles that will need to be overcome to consider installation of sidewalks in the future.

Mr. Glowac reported that the biggest concern is the narrow bridge and that someday the Falls River Bridge will need to be redone and the potential for a sidewalk area to be installed at that time is promising. Mr. Glowac acknowledged everyone's concerns and he understands there presently are no sidewalks past the bridge heading towards Heritage Cove.

There was discussion that installation of a sidewalk along River Road was requested more than 20 years ago and a study was done, but the same issue of pedestrian safety at the bridge was of a concern then, as it is now. For safety reasons, you cannot have a sidewalk dump pedestrians or joggers out into a busy roadway. The Town will look try to find the study from 20 years ago.

Mr. Glowac reported that the Selectmen would give priority to exploring sidewalks from N. Main to Heritage Cove.

Speeding Along River Road

Residents also reported concerns about speeding on River Road, from Book Hill to Heritage Cove Road and wanted to know what could be done to slow the traffic down. Mr. Glowac reported he would put in a request with the Town Police to have the flashing speed sign placed along this route and he would also request police patrol the area for speeders.

Convex Traffic Mirrors

This item was tabled.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to exit Traffic Authority. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointments and Resignations Board and Commissions

Motion was made by Bruce Glowac to accept the resignation of Judith Saunders from the Tree Committee with gratitude for her service. Stacia Libby seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

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An Ordinance Creating an Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust

There was discussion on the Ordinance Creating an OPEB Trust.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to table the Ordinance Creating an OPEB Trust to the next Board of Selectmen Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Neighborhood Assistance Act None

Public Hearing None

Set Town Meeting

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to set a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 4:55 pm in Conference Room A. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment: None

SELECTMEN GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Realtor Signs – Sightline Issue

It was reported to Mr. Glowac that a realtor sign was installed at the end of Donald Road which is causing a sightline problem with cars trying to exit Donald Road. Mr. Glowac reported he would have Public Works would remove the sign and to contact the realtor.

Motion was made by Stacia Libby to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Maria P. Lucarelli