

Selectmen's Meeting, Monday, October 30, 1989

Present: Edwin Rowehl, Chairman, Rachel Reinstein, Bill Suydam, Madeleine Henley, AA, Betty Shaw, Secretary/Bookkeeper and Mr. B. Hennesey.

Meeting called to order at 7:30.

Peter Lamb, Bob Varnum, and Art Stenberg met to discuss MeetingHouse Hill Road.

Mr. Stenberg reported having viewed the road about three or four weeks ago along with the road agent. The state is concerned over the road erosion coming onto the state road. The Rymes property is also having water and soil coming ~~onto his~~ property from MeetingHouse Hill Road and water is going into the church basement. Although Mr. Lamb had made an agreement to see to the maintenance and drainage on the road when he was issued a permit to build on the road, he was under the impression that he alone would be using the road. Since Mr. Lamb made the agreement, other property owners are now using the road. The present owners who are using the road are planing to make a joint effort to correct the above mentioned problems. (other property owners involved who met with the selectmen along with Mr. Lamb are: Roger Brecks, Norman Cody, Philip Dwight, Janet Shea, and James Shea.) Mr. Lamb pointed out there are only two places for the water to go, either onto the Rymes property or if Mr. Dwight would allow a ditch to be placed behind the Grange Hall and over his property and tap into the ditch on Rte. 31. Mr. Rymes is reported to not objecting to the water on his property but rather the dirt. A catch basin would be the only solution. Since water is going into the church, a ditch could go around the Rymes property. Mr. Lamb pointed out the problem now is time and money as the property owners involved are preparing their places for winter.

Bob Varnum, road agent pointed out concern from the State over the possibly of an accident due to the soil and water going onto Rte. 31. Since Mr. Lamb agreed to maintain the road, he would be ultimately responsible in the event an accident did occur.

Proper drainage is needed to correct the problem.

Mr. Lamb believes catch basins would cost between \$2,300 to \$3,000. then they would still need permission for a ditch behind the Grange and other piping along the road.

Bob Varnum explained the road is so narrow and when Mr. Lamb was allowed to build he was not allowed to remove trees and therefore could not put in the proper ditch line which would help with the present problem.

Mr. Rowehl asked if more trees were removed when the power lines were put in than had been agreed upon. Mr. Lamb said yes, a few more than had been agree upon.

Mr. Lamb asked if he can ditch at the bottom of the hill. It would be necessary to go behind the sign which had been used for the bed and breakfast. Selectmen are unsure who owns the portion of property which would be involved.

Bob will check tomorrow to see what the Town's ROW is on Miltmore and MeetingHouse Hill Road. It is important to get the water off the road in such a way as not to cause washouts etc.

Art Stenberg pointed out how imperative it is to the State to correct this problem. Mr. Lamb believes two catch basins and drainage pipes would help to correct the problem.

Phil Dwight, being one of the abutters, had presented a proposal to his lawyer regarding a ditch over his property to direct the water to Rte. 31 and his lawyer advised him that this would lower the value of his property. Mr. Dwight is willing to make some agreement with Mr. Lamb, but he would require some consideration from the Planning Board on a proposal he has presented for the use of his property.

Mr. Rowehl believes keeping the shoulder of the road from washing out would satisfy the state. Mr. Lamb sees one of the problems as being a lack of a culvert on Rte. 31 which is a state road. Mr. Lamb will talk to the new owners of the former bed and breakfast to see if they have a problem with a ditch behind the sign on the corner. It is not known if the sign is on town property or the Inn property.

Mr. Stenberg reported having viewed the Holt/Grant property with Mr. Woodbury from the State since it had been reported that items were buried on the property. The property owner wants Mr. Stenberg to tell them just what has to be cleaned up. Town attorney advised Mr. Stenberg not tell the owner what needs cleaned up, it is the responsibility of the owner to clean the property up and one or two test pits can be dug to check to see what, if anything, is on the property. Two concerns Art voiced are, who would pay for the test pits to be dug, and what if nothing shows, does this leave the Town in a bad position. Art would also like to know if Mr. Harriman is involved since he would like to talk to him regarding the property and he is having trouble reaching Mr. Harriman.

Mr. Hennessey has reviewed all the information and is disappointed that the problem is not yet resolved. Mr. Hennessey believes the owner of the property should have been brought to court. Letters from the attorneys involved discuss a settlement ie: clean up junk on property, remove a buried truck. One trailer and two camper tops will be left on the property. Mr. Hennessey wants the property cleaned up and a letter from the State stating there is nothing on the property which will cause a contamination to his property now or in the future. Madeleine will check with the AA in Bennington and Hillsboro to see if Art could borrow a metal detector which would aid in locating buried metal. (The Antrim detector is in for repairs.)

A letter from S. Little regarding a bond for the Maja Gamitri property was discussed. Mr. Little suggested that no occupancy permits be issued for this property until the bond requirements have been met. Since the building permit for this property was issued before BOCA, it is possible they will not require occupancy permits.

Art reported the Hickey trailer is still on Gregg Lake Rd. and the stone wall has not been replaced on the property abutting the town property.

Art has checked out construction on the Antrim School <sup>⓪</sup> ~~construction~~. He has found everything in compliance.

A discussion ensued regarding the request from the Audubon Society requesting a tax agreement on their newly acquired <sup>of some</sup> property. Selectmen would like to have some assurance that the land will remain in its natural state and not be sold or changed at any time.

A letter will be sent to Duncan Blaine in answer to a request for a tax abatement.

All three selectmen will attend the NHMA Conference.

Madeleine will call Paul Reuss and ask that he mention to the school board three or four areas of road which are a concern to the road agent. They have been damaged by contractors while doing construction on the Antrim school.

Ed moved to allow \$200 to do the town hall floors. Second Bill Suydam, Rachel Reinstein, so moved.

Bill Suydam gave a report on the Planning Board meeting.

The Rte 31 and Grove St. Dams were discussed.

Meeting adjourned 10:50

ems