

SELECTPERSONS MEETING

June 25, 2008

Present: Lucy Evans, Stan Judge, Heidi Behling, Tim Bradstreet – Pike Industries, Tim Buxton, Reny Demers, Dave Carlisle, Joyce Carlisle, John Russell, John Cosgriff, Larry Ely, Roland Simard, Ann Leger, Bill Weichert, Ken Simonoko, Jo Carpenter

Chairperson Stan Judge opened the meeting at 9:00 AM.

Minutes

This item was tabled.

Old Business

1. Pike Industries – Trucking on town portion of North road

Tim Bradstreet began by stating that traffic volume and safety are primary concerns of Pike Industries. He then reviewed the proposed project. He said that there is ten years worth of material in this pit on North Road in Gilead and so there would be 10 years of traffic on the north Road. Tim explained that historically using the Gilead pit on Route 2, Pike hauls from April until about July 4th and then Labor Day to sometime in November> He said they do not haul during July and August because the traffic is so bad through Gorham in July and August. He said this year they are hauling to the prison site in Berlin and they need a large volume of material so they will be hauling from the Route 2 Gilead pit through the middle of July. He said that this year gravel is being hauled to the prison site and to the asphalt plant in Gorham.

Stan said so Pike is still planning to use the route through Shelburne's North Road. Tim said that they are still planning to use this route. Heidi asked what Pike plans to do about the school bus. Tim said that he plans to keep truck off North Road in Shelburne until 7:30 then come back to the regular route and then again in the afternoon they will be off by 3:00 PM.

Tim said that Pike is also trying to negotiate with the landowner at Devil's elbow so the road can be widened at that spot.

Stan asked what Pike's rationale is for choosing this route. Stan said it seems to him that Pike's need for gravel is over-riding Shelburne's safety concerns.

Tim Bradstreet said that he has driven the proposed route and the route using only North Road in Gilead. He said using North Road in Gilead there are several places that trucks would have to pull off and wait. He said this would lead to quite a lot of down time. Tim said that he would limit the maximum speed of the trucks to 25 mph on North Road.

Stan said that there is a huge amount of interest in this proposal amount the town's citizens and the attendance today shows only a small portion of it.

Stan said that Tim had not shown the Board how Pike Industries had considered the town's interest. He said that there will be an economic impact to the residences and businesses along the route but because their values could well be lowered because this much traffic would change the neighborhood as the Board has documented has happened in another North Country town. If those homes and businesses are devalued then the tax burden shifts to all the other residences and businesses in the town.

Heidi pointed out that this increase in traffic would be a nuisance issue and would severely impact a historic inn. Stan said that there are conservation projects under way that involve the inn and this could severely impact these efforts and he has letters from several agencies stating this. Tim asked if he could have copies of the letters and the Board readily agreed.

Tim said that Pike plans to control the speed of the truck and use CB's to control where trucks will meet.

Heidi suggested that the CB's be used to coordinate the trucks using only North Road in Gilead.

Tim said that this is purely an economic issue for Pike.

Stan suggested that Pike use the money to improve Devil's Elbow to improve/widen the road in other places in Gilead. Stan said there are many other aspects that affect Shelburne that have not been considered. He said the Board needs to protect Shelburne and the value of Shelburne needs to be improved not diminished especially in this economy.

Lucy Evans asked wouldn't the truck drivers makeup time on Route 2 to balance the time lost by waiting on North Road in Gilead?

Tim said that they would not and reiterated that it is purely an economic issue for Pike Industries.

Stan said that he is also concerned about the interest of North Road and Route 2 by the Wildberry Inn. He said that the line of sight at that intersection is very poor and there have been bad accidents with fatalities there. He said he will be with NH DOT about this next week.

Ken Simonoko commented that it would be so much better if Pike would reconsider and use North Road in Gilead and Route 2 for the condition of the road in Shelburne and all the other reasons mentioned.

Tim Bradstreet said that Pike Industries is willing to give the town a bond to cover damages to the road.

Heidi Behling said that Pike is putting money ahead of the safety of Shelburne residents. She said people are always on this road – tourists, walkers, bikers.

Stan said that he hears no consideration for the effects that this large traffic increase will have on Shelburne. He said that the North Country is fighting for a position and North Country communities are fighting for a position. Shelburne needs to attract people to our community.

Stan said that since the project is in Gilead, Pike should keep the route in Gilead. He said the proposed route offers no mitigation to Shelburne. He said the town can not afford the cost of this proposal, economically or socially. It will have a negative effect on the quality of life.

Stan said that the Board may want to have a public hearing to allow everyone to have a chance to give their input on the proposal but it he will allow people to speak briefly today.

John Cosgriff said that hears great concern for the economy but he feels that Pike is letting the greed for profits outweigh safety concerns. He said the proposed route could affect a burial ceremony in the Wheeler Cemetery or the safety of a Pike driver if he encounter something in the road and swerves and is involved in a crash. He said that Shelburne has a very small road crew so our roads have less maintenance done on them. He said route 2 is a better maintained road. He said this is about economy vs. the quality of life.

David Carlisle asked if an engineering study had been done on North Road in Shelburne. Stan said that this has not been done but he is meeting with NH DOT next Tuesday and will be getting copies of state road standards.

Tim Buxton said that the North Road will be torn up. He asked who would pay the bill to repair the road and how much of that bill will the Shelburne taxpayers bear. Ken said that is a hard question to answer. He said right now there are three logging operations and the Verizon cell tower project hauling over that road. He said that they all are bonded.

Ken said to Tim Bradstreet – You have an alternative route – use it!. He also said if you did not have an alternative we would work with you. Tim asked Ken if he had time to drive the route with him today. Ken said that he did have time.

Roland Simard said on his way to the meeting he witnessed a large truck meet a logging truck on North Road. He said luckily it was on a strait section because the truck had to back up to make room for the other truck to pass. Roland also said that he regularly bike on this road and it is very scary when you meet a truck.

Ann Leger asked about the hauling hours. Tim explained that other than when school is in session they would be 6 Or 6:30 AM to about 3:30 PM. Ann said the morning starting time would be a problem for her guests.

Stan said the Board will schedule a public hearing so everyone who wishes to speak may and the Board can record the comments.

Stan said that the Board has broad powers when comes to town roads but those powers are not exactly specified. We need to clarify what we can and can't do.

Stan told the Board that he had spoken to the Colebrook Town Manager. He said that the have a situation with heavy truck traffic on a town road going back and forth to a landfill. He said they have lowered the assessment of the properties along this road but the biggest problem is how unhappy people are and the office handles complaints almost daily about this situation.

Heidi said that she definitely feels that the Board should hold a public hearing as the next step.

John Cosgriff asked if Pike could begin using this route before the Board decides on a plan of action. The Board said that they could do that.

Stan asked the Board if they want to use a different attorney with more expertise. Stan said that the Board needs to look at various options. He said that discontinuing the road would be a last option. The option of posting the road as "No through trucks" was discussed. The Board asked Jo to call Attorney Jon Frizzell and ask him what this designation means and also if he is comfortable handling this or if we need to bring in someone else.

New Business

1. Police Officer Bill Weichert - Police Concerns - close side roads

Bill filled the Board in on several calls he had that involved side roads off Hogan Road. In one case it involved investigating a complaint about a loud party and another about shots being fired. He followed the sound to a road off Hogan Road. When he went up the road he found the target set up in the middle of the road. Luckily they people were re-loading or he could have been shot.

Bill said another problem he has is once he gets to Hogan Road , Mill Brook or Lary Brook Roads and they branch off - which way should he go.

Bill said that he would like to see the side roads off these main gravel roads blocked or water-barred. He said that most of the people he deals with won't bother if they can not drive to a spot.

The Board agreed that Bill definitely has a safety issue with these roads and the Board would like to get the kids off these roads. They suggested that Jo contact Wagner Forest Management and ask them to close off all unused side roads in Shelburne.

Bill told the Board that his company in New Jersey had hauled gravel and depending on the type of loader in the gravel pit , Pike could possibly haul more loads than they have told the town.

Stan said that he is planning to get road standards from NH DOT and then check out North Road to see if it meets these standards. If it does not then this can be used as proof that the road is not safe for this amount of traffic.

Old Business (con't)

2. Roger Gagnon - Noise Issue

Roger brought pictures of the sound barrier erected by the Drouins. He said that they can see part of the barrier now and will see all of it in the winter. Roger said that he plans to ask for an abatement because his view has been ruined. H can no longer see the river.

Roger also expressed concern about the sound testing and how many bikes will be riding. Roger said that there are 2 bikes at least 60% of the time he said there are more when the kids ride.

Stan said that when the testing is done the Board wants the most adverse conditions that the Drouins will be riding under. Jo will relay this to Attorney Jon Frizzell to pass on to the Drouin's attorney.

Roger questioned if the containers have been placed in the floodplain.

Stan said that Rav has checked this out and it meets floodplain requirements.

Stan told roger if the sound meets the town's ordinance levels then the Drouins can ride but if it exceeds it later can issue the cease & desist.

Roger said that bikers high tune their exhausts for competition so could alter it for the test and meet the necessary level and then change it later.

The Board asked Jo to have Attorney Frizzell stress that the Drouins need to ride under realistic condition for the sound test.

1. Pike Industries (con't)

Ken came back to the meeting after driving both possible routes to the Gilead pit. Ken said that they drove the road. They did times, noted speeds, noted various narrow spots, etc. There was a four minute time difference (4 minutes longer) using the Gilead route. Ken said that he feels that Tim Bradstreet is personally convinced that the Shelburne route does not work. He will take his findings back to the main office for their consideration.

3. 911 Maps

This item was tabled.

4. To Do List

The list was edited. Three items were removed from the list – Emergency Management Plan, Policy on Grant & Policy on Fire Ponds.

New Business (con't)

2. Bill Hastings Memorial Forest Dedication

Still hope to hold this in July. Need to check with Ken on his progress.

3. Financial Report

Jo informed the Board that Insurance will be overspent by about \$400. So far everything looks good but Jo said she is concerned about General Government Buildings because of the price of oil and Legal fees because of the various issues that the town is facing this year.

4. Set Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates were set:

- Wednesday July 2nd at 9:00 AM
- Wednesday July 9th at 9:00 AM

Sign

1. Voucher #17 & #18 were signed.

2. The following PO's were signed:

- Gorham Water & Sewer - \$500.00 annual septage fee
- Fair Point Communications - \$286.37 – June phone bills
- Bergeron Protective Clothing - \$466.55 – rescue suit – to be reimburse from Fire Equipment CR
- Avitar - \$3,659.22 – pick ups, list & measure & cu penalties

3. Land use change tax bills were signed for Jay & Vilma Holmes & town & Country, Inc.

Correspondence

1. Petition against Pike Industries using North Road as their route 2 the Gilead pit – over 100 signatures

2. Letters concerning the use of North Road as access to the Gilead pit

- Elizabeth Ramsey
- Conservation Commission
- Benjamin & Wendy Mayerson
- NH Division of Historical Resources

- NH Preservation Alliance
3. Waystack Frizzell
 - Drouin Noise Issue - copy of letter to Attorney Safar
 - Memorandum on Pike Industries
 4. Dept of Revenue - all forms in & reviewed - no issues
 5. NH DOT - price of gas & diesel - administrative assessment being added
 6. NH Retirement System - HB 1643 passed into law if eligible to retire in 2008 & received medical subsidy can put off for 1 year
 7. NRRA - Special membership Meeting - Wednesday July 16th - 9 AM to Noon in concord
 8. Primex - Employee Assistance Program Employer transition kit
 9. Thank you from LGC for participating in Wage & Benefits survey
 10. Various workshops & newsletters

Other

1. Meeting with Greg Placy - NH DOT District #1 Engineer

Stan said that he and Ken are meeting with Greg Placy on Tuesday July 1st at 10 AM to discuss the following topics:

- Route 2 & North Road Intersection by the Wildberry Inn
- Clement Brook - dredging
- Clement Brook Bridge - 2 boxes not good - clear span would be much better
- Reflection Pond - remove dead trees and reinstall name signs
- Rock walls on North Road deteriorating - need attention

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.