

TOWN of OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen

REGULAR SESSION

April 25, 2011

Present:

Clayton Rice, Chairman

Eliot G. Starbard, Vice Chairman

Dennis M. Bergin Jr., Clerk

Recording: Donna Couture

Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Treasure Valley / Planned Observatory

Mr. Jim Zebrowski, and Mr. Bruce Card, representative of the Aldrich Astronomical Society as well as Mr. Warren Bock, Treasure Valley Trustee were present to discuss plans to build an Observatory on Treasure Valley property located off East Hill Road.

Mr. Zebrowski explained completion of this project is expected to take four years. The main purpose of this project is to teach the wonders of the sky to all children and to inspire the next generation of amateur astronomers. Currently the Society has an annual summer program Star First, which they plan to continue in the new facility.

Mr. Card explained the Society has every plan to preserve the land, and will be meeting with our planning board for review of their plans in the near future. He also explained the society would like to set up a date with the Board to present a formal presentation of their project plans and their organization.

Lucy Tessnau requested the conservation commission also be notified. Mr. Card explained wetlands have been considered, and issues are not anticipated.

It was agreed a presentation should be held after our annual town meeting, with the involvement of the school and local library. Mr. Card will follow up with a future date.

Mr. Bock informed the board that the trustees are completely behind this project, and feel it will improve Treasure Valley. He presented the board with a \$400 check to be forwarded to the Highway Superintendent for the curb cut permit fee.

Chapter 61 A Removal – Lot 3, Barre Road – Assessors Map 406 Lot 67

Mary E Spinney of 756 Barre Road, through a letter from her attorney, Paul Cranston, informed the board of her intention to sell a parcel of land that is currently in Chapter 61A. After review of the parcel map and other documents provide, a motion was made by Mr. Starbard, seconded by

Mr. Rice, with all in favor, to decline the town's right to purchase this parcel. The Certified Release form was signed by all three members, and will be forwarded to Attorney Cranston.

Signatures:

- The board signed the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau official form to remain one precinct as requested by the State. The Board voted all in favor to remain one precinct at their April 11, 2011 meeting. The original form will be returned to Representative Barr, and a copy forwarded to the town clerk.
- MIIA Workers Compensation insurance renewal Form for Fiscal 2012 was signed.
- A certificate of achievement was signed to congratulate Jordan Luks on achieving Eagle Scout.

Correspondences

- Received from QRSD the school committee's voted assessment for Fiscal 2012, of \$1,527,160, a 5.39% increase over Fiscal 2011.
- The State has approved our request and appointed Laura Pease as our Animal Inspector. A copy will be sent to Laura.
- A Citizen's Petition signed by 29 residents was returned from the Town Clerk certifying 28 of the signatures are registered voters.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

The Board reviewed and discussed all necessary warrant articles. It was decided to remove the article to elect field drivers, to accept the library State Grant, and to hear the election results from the town clerk. A draft warrant was prepared with the plan to finalize once budget recommendations are determined.

Old Business

It was agreed to request Chief Gehring proceed with letter of the cruiser, as this was voted previously by the board.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Bergin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20p.m. with a second from Mr. Rice voted, all in favor, motion carries.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board of selectmen will be held on May 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.