

Town of Oakham

Board of Selectmen

Regular Session

Minutes of March 7, 2022

Present: Lucy Tessnau-Chairman, Don Haapakoski-Vice Chairman, Brad Taylor-Clerk

In attendance: Maribel LaRange-BOS admin asst, Mr. & Mrs. Lessore, Luke & Lindsey Lessore, Tina Lindsey-ACO, Tracie Eaves Brearley-asst AOC, Mr. Walter Nutter, Alan Flagg, Gary & Wendy LeBlanc, Fire Chief Tim Howe, Police Chief Fred Gehring, Paul Rochette, Barbara & Vin Piucci, Diane Peterson, Joseph Manna, Tom Hughes

Meeting opened at 6:01 PM by Vice Chairman, Don Haapakoski

Approve Warrants: Don made motion to approve warrants for WR18, Lucy 2nd, Brad all in favor.

Approve Minutes: Lucy made motion to approve minutes for 1/21/22 & 2/16/22, Brad 2nd, Don all in favor.

Dangerous Dog Complaint Hearing opened at 6:02 PM by Vice Chairman, Don Haapakoski

Mr. Manna stated that in August 2021 he was jogging in Oakham near the center of town, he saw same Rottweiler dog (previous incident in summer 2020) being walked by a young female along with another female. They were all walking in the same direction, Mr. Manna approached them from behind by greeting them with a hello. They didn't hear him so he clapped and said hello again trying to get their attention so the dog would not do the same as he did in summer of 2020. As Mr. Manna approached the females turned and noticed he was coming up from behind them but on the opposite side of the street. The dog did the same thing as last encounter, it lunged at him, in rage trying to get at him while barking aggressively. Mr. Manna then jogged backwards to create some distance, the dog was pulling the female forward while on its hind legs still barking aggressively and trying to get at him. As Mr. Manna backed off the dog seemed to calm down. Then the two females put the dog on the ground while crouched over the dog, with their backs to Mr. Manna but the dog looking at him. The older female turned and said to go ahead and pass now. As Mr. Manna attempted to pass while jogging the dog lunged at him while getting away from the females barking in a rage. Mr. Manna backed away again, the dog seemed to calm down then Mr. Manna yelled out to them that he was going to jog around the block come out by the school, Decan Allen Drive. Mr. Manna jogged around but when he was coming out of Decan Allen Drive onto Barre Road, he encountered them again walking the dog, so he stopped. Mr. Manna then contacted the Animal Control Officer, Tina Lindsey, after that. She facilitated an agreement that the dog would not be walked

on Adams Road, that the younger female would not walk the dog as she could not manage the dog and that they would use a choke collar. Mr. Manna says that since the agreement he's seen the dog being walked on Barre Road by the young female. He stated that the Animal Control Officer says it's a different Rottweiler. Mr. Manna said he feels bad but does not feel comfortable with that dog in town because he is going to continue jogging, walking, biking, being out with his kids and wife. Mr. Manna stated that for his dangerous dog complaint he would like the dog to be confined to the owner's home.

Don asked Mr. Manna if first time he encountered the dog, if he had notified the dog officer of that incident? Mr. Manna said no but he did at the second and third incidents and at that time did tell dog officer of the first encounter also which was summer of 2020. Mr. Manna was asked which was the third time, he said the same day as the second in August of 2021 when the females had the dog on the ground and was told to pass and the dog got away from them, that's what Mr. Manna considers the third time. Brad said, when you say the dog got away from the two females, did it get completely away from them? Mr. Manna said that the younger female still had the leash in her hand but the dog was pulling her forward. Mr. Manna was very concerned that the dog was going to get away from the female, the dog was pulling the young female forward on its hind legs in a rage, barking aggressively trying to get at him.

Mrs. Lessore first addressed the August incident. She said they were walking; the jogger came from behind shouting and clapping his hands. Mrs. Lessore says the greeting they got from Mr. Manna was shouting and clapping his hands and it set the dog off. She said the dog did get a bit obnoxious, her daughter (younger female) had the dog leash in one hand and Mrs. Lessore could tell that the daughter could not get a hold of the dog with only one hand. Mrs. Lessore said Mr. Manna was on the other side of the road and the dog was on a 6ft leash which there was plenty of space. Mrs. Lessore said that when Mr. Manner says the dog was lunging, the dog was pulling on his leash. Mrs. Lessore took control of the leash with two hands pulled the dog off the road to the side, put him on a down position and put her foot on the slack of the leash. Mrs. Lessore said they had the dog in control and in the meantime, Mr. Manna was jogging in place and that's when she told him to go. Mrs. Lessore said that the dog at the time was on defense. The dog was not trying to get him but protect them. She said that once the proceed threat had gone down the road, he would have calmed down. Mrs. Lessore said it was mainly a barking incident and pulling on his leash. She said that the dog has been through dog training, they have him on a choke collar which they upgraded to a pinch collar since the incident. Mrs. Lessore said that if Mr. Manna had proceeded on his route and jogged passed them, they would have not meet again at the end of Decan Allen Drive onto Barre Road as that's where they were going also. Mrs. Lessore stated that her daughter has not walked the dog since that incident because she does not want to see Mr. Manna, they were freaked out about the whole thing. She said they absolutely have not have walked the dog on Adams Road. She said there are other large black dogs in Oakham and maybe it was a mistaken identity with the dog Mr. Manna claims he saw but it was not their Rottweiler. Mrs. Lessore said she spoke to everyone

in her family letting them know the severity of not walking the dog on Adams Road. Mrs. Lessore said she thinks Mr. Manna might be over reacting a little. She said that her dog has a loud bark and can be scary and gets that. Again, stated they did not loose control over the dog. Don asked how old the dog is? Mrs. Lessore said 5 years old. Brad asked if there is any other history with the dog besides this one? Mrs. Lessore said he doesn't get along with other dogs, and they try to keep him away from other dogs, but no problems with people and that he loves people. Brad asked if the dog has ever bitten anyone? Mrs. Lessore said no.

Animal Control Officer, Tina Lindsey said that in Mr. Manna's complaint it stated that she was already familiar with the dog which she did because the dog had a run in with the Lessore's neighbor's dog. Tina said that when she walked in into the dog territory after the neighbor's incident the dog, walked in no problems at all. Tina said that should expect a dog to have some kind of reaction if someone is coming at me clapping and yelling. Tina has asked the Lessore's how they handle their dog, was told that when people are walking or when he gets excited, they put him in the down position and wait for it to pass. Tina said that based on what Mrs. Lessore was explaining that's exactly what she did. Tina said she spoke to Mr. Manna on January 8, 21 in regards to the incident on January 6, 2021 Mr. Manna saw a Rottweiler being walked by young female with brown hair. Tina asked if it was the same young female from August 2021, he said he did not know, did not recognize her. Mr. Lessore stated that his daughter works as a private nanny Monday-Thursday 7:30am-3:00pm and that the day in question being Thursday January 6, 21, after 3:00pm she is punched in at a gym at 3:15pm. Mr. Lessore said the sunset is at 4:30pm. He said only person at home during the day (he works nights) from 7:45am to 4:00pm is himself. Mr. Manna did say that he told the ACO that it was a young female with brown hair that he did not recognize. Chief Gehring said he lives on Barre Road and that he has seen another Rottweiler being walked on Barre Road, he does not know where this other Rottweiler lives but it comes from the Adams Road other end of Barre Road area but they do walk by from time to time. Chief Gehring said maybe there is a little confusion. Mr. Manna said there's no confusion with all the incidents he has had with the Rottweiler he's encountered. Mr. Manna said the first incident was in the summer of 2020 with the son of the owner's and the second/third (which the ACO would consider as only one incident) with the females. Mr. Lessore said that their dog does not walk on the road anymore for fear of possibly another altercation with Mr. Manna. The dog Monday-Friday does not go out of their yard. Mr. Lessore said the only place the dog goes is to their backyard with him to play fetch with him between 3:30-4:00pm when everyone else comes home. Mr. Lessore said that in regards to Mr. Manna's request of the dog being confined, they have complied to everything the dog officer has set up with Mr. Manna which they even went a step above and got a pinch collar not just a choke collar. He said the dog does not go out of the yard without the pinch collar on. Lucy said that after reading the description there's confusion between who, what, where and when and it's very difficult to make a decision that it's the same dog and people. Lucy said that the dog officer said it's illegal by law to identify a dog by breed according to his actions and activities

but it does not prevent insurance companies from doing that when trying to insure your house so does not know how well that sticks because you're not allowed to have a Rottweiler unless you have the insurance for it. Tina said you cannot condemn or classify a dog because of their breed. Don said that the Board of Selectmen under the state law are very restricted on what they can and cannot do, and can not band a specific breed. Mrs. Lessore said that under that same law no dog should be deemed dangerous if the dog was protecting or defending themselves from attack or assault. Mrs. Lessore said that with the shouting and clapping from Mr. Manna the dog probably thought they were under attack, Mr. Manna said he was not shouting. He said because he they did not hear him, he had to get louder and clap a couple of times to get their attention. Don asked who was walking the dog in the first incident of summer 2020, they said the son who was present at the meeting. He asked if it was the young female who was at the meeting who was walking the dog at the second incident, which it was. Then Don said the third incident on January 6 was not the young female at the meeting. Mr. Manna said he saw the dog being walked on Barre Road by the young female and then on January 6 he a rottweiler believing it was the same dog being walked by young female with brown hair on Adams Road. He then contacts ACO saying the agreement was not being followed and that he was going to file a dangerous dog complaint. Brad asked how was the dog behaving on the January 6 incident, Mr. Manna he was in his car. Mr. Lessore asked if Mr. Manna claims his daughter was walking the dog in November why didn't he make a complaint, then? What day and time in November? Mr. Lessore said that after the incident with Mr. Manna his daughter refuses to walk the dog because she does not want to be responsible for something happening to the dog or the board saying the dog is dangerous to the town and have him put down. Mr. Lessore said the dog has never bitten anyone, or chased anyone down the street. Mr. Manna said he's asking for the dangerous dog complain to be upheld and the dog confined to its owner's home. Tina said that when she spoke to the Lessore's about what Mr. Manna wanted they asked what a dangerous dog would entail. Tina said she told them everything that could and may happen, the board could deem the dog destroyed and the Lessore's panicked. Tina said the Lessore's where not trying to second guess anything and they agreed to everything. Lucy and Don said that there was no attack or bodily injuries. Mr. Manna said assault and battery does not need to have physical contact, Don said that's person to person not a dog and there is separate set of laws for that. Don said that the definition of a dangerous dog is outlined in the statue and that Mr. Manna has not proved that. Don said it does not rise to the level needed for a dangerous dog. Don said there's another part they can deem it a nuisance dog, but not enough there either. Don said he cannot vote to say it's a dangerous dog, they don't have the criteria for it. Brad said the dog has been staying in its yard. Tina said Mr. Manna's request was for the dog not to be walked on his road, Adams Road. Now requesting for the dog to be confined to his home. Tina said that's condemning the dog and it was not the dog.

Don asked if there was a motion to deem the dog dangerous? Lucy said no, Brad said no. Don said all in favor not deeming it dangerous, Lucy-Aye, Brad-Aye, Don-Aye, all in favor. Don said Lessore's continue to comply with agreement made with ACO, young female does not walk him,

choke collar, and not on Adams Road. Don asked Mr. Manna if that's ok with him, Mr. Manna said it has to be. Mr. Manna said he has no hard feelings and wishes them well but it was a frightening for him. Tina has offered her assistance to train with the pinch collar if the Lessor's would like that.

Don made motion to close dangerous dog hearing at 6:45pm, Lucy 2nd, Brad all in favor.

Dr. Sheila Muir- Oakham/New Braintree Student configuration: Mr. Nutter is one of the Oakham School Committee members who can in representation of Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir. Mr. Nutter said they think it's best to permanently keep kindergarten and 1st grade to be in Oakham. It would be the best solution for all the kids educationally, socially and everything else. Mr. Nutter said he was there to give that message. He said basically that's what they are going to do is to try to keep the kids in Oakham. Lucy asked why does it in the Barre Gazette keep saying they are going back? Mr. Nutter said they were going to go back but the more Dr. Muire and some of the members of the school committee thought about it, listened to the teachers, listed to the parents, listened to a lot of people. Mr. Nutter said they are folks in New Braintree that are not happy about this proposal but by far the majority of the people involved, the teachers, huge majority of the parents that we've heard from are in favor of the kids staying in Oakham. Mr. Nutter went on saying that he is not an educator but that he takes the word of the educators and believe that it's much better for the kids to be together. The kids get to see older and younger kids, socially they get to be around the other kids and they believe that it's good all around. Mr. Nutter also said that it is not going to cost the town any money either. Lucy asked if it's going to cause New Braintree any problems? Mr. Nutter replied by saying money wise it will not cause New Braintree problems. Mr. Nutter just reiterated that the folks in New Braintree are not happy but that they have not made a final decision and that the school committee will vote on this on Thursday (3/10/22) at their meeting. Mr. Nutter also let the BOS know that on Thursday is also their school budget meeting, that they are going to do a very preliminary budget and told the BOS the meeting is via zoom and they are more than welcomed to join. He said that the numbers they are going to present are not the final numbers. Mr. Nutter said that the good news on the budget that out of the 5 towns in the district (Hardwick, New Braintree, Oakham, Barre, Hubbardston) Oakham will have the smallest increase, whatever the increase is because we have fewer students. But unfortunately, there was a lot of revenue lost, we lost \$100,000 in transportation. We have a lot of retirements coming up so there going to be a lot of benefits there, and we are only getting about \$59,000 additional/new money from the state on Chapter 70 which is really money that goes for educating the kids. Don asked if that was the Governor's budget and Mr. Nutter said yes. He said that according to Cheryl Deval, the director of student services/business manager, business managers generally don't consider the Governor's numbers real numbers because they are always lower. The final numbers will be close to July when the Senate and the House all meet and agree with the Governor. Mr. Nutter stated that when they come to the Town Meeting, they will have a better understanding of the numbers for the budget but not a final number yet.

Lucy asked where are the special need students going to go? Mr. Nutter said that where ever they are they would stay. Lucy said she misses having some of the special needs kids in Oakham and thinks it's good to have some in Oakham. Lucy said the senior center used to work with them and would like to have that back. Mr. Nutter said that the director of the special needs program, Kristin Campione, she wanted them all to be in one central location because it would take less staff and save money. Lucy said it's her understanding that the 6 graders are staying at the middle school? Mr. Nutter said we voted to keep the 6 graders at the middle school, Lucy asked who's we voted, the whole board voted? Mr. Nutter said the school committee voted for that. Mr. Nutter said he knows not everyone is happy about that. Lucy said no, not necessarily happy about that. He said they felt that the kids were ready to go up to the middle school, but not every kid and Lucy said not every kid. Mr. Nutter said he heard from some parents saying their kids were ready to go up and heard from other parents saying their kids are definitely not ready to go up to the middle school. He said it was a wide range in discussion. Lucy said they needed to fill in the rooms up at the Jr high school, that's how the 6 graders got there. Mr. Nutter said there are some schools like Ruggles Lane and Hubbardston that are jammed back but that was not their motivating factor, he said they could put them back. He said there is a ton of room in Oakham. Mr. Nutter said that the educators say it's better so that's what they did. Maribel asked Mr. Nutter in recapping if the upcoming Thursday was going to be the final vote on keeping kindergarten and 1st grade in Oakham, he said it's supposed to be the final vote. Maribel also asked if the school committee will open back to public session as covid has slowed down and mask mandates have been lifted? Mr. Nutter said he hopes so. Maribel said it would be nice for the parents to have the option to attend meetings face to face with the school committee members. Mr. Nutter said he would much rather have it in person. Fire Chief, Tim Howe stated to the BOS that there were some concerns from parents from New Braintree that our (Oakham Center School) school is not safe, but Tim wanted to make it clear there was an inspection this year, new fire alarm, it was tested, it didn't need one they on their own updated the panel, it's fine, it's been inspected and meets all codes. Tim said he was upset that they would accuse our town of that. Mr. Nutter said it has been brought up and unhappy about those comments. Mr. Nutter said that Dr. Muir said our school is completely up to code, all the schools are. Mr. Nutter told Tim that he's glad to hear him say that, that he appreciates it.

Lucy asked Mr. Nutter if Oakham's second school committee member attends the meetings regularly? Mr. Nutter said that Fred Jean-Francois does not attend as much as some of the other school committee members do. Mr. Nutter said he cannot speak for him as to what's going on. Lucy said Oakham being such a small town only have two votes and if the other half is not there, we only have one vote for Oakham. Mr. Nutter said he thinks Mr. Jean-Francois was going to be at Thursday's meeting but that he cannot speak for him. Maribel added that she has emailed him in the past and never got a reply. Maribel made clear that she was speaking as an Oakham town resident/parent, not as a town employee. She said that it's concerning as a parent that one of the two school committee members that represent our town, is rarely

present. She said that she understands that being a school committee member is a big commitment but maybe it can be addressed somehow. Mr. Nutter stated that in Oakham there has been trouble getting people. When he got on the board the seat had been vacant for some time. Maribel said that when situations occur, parents want all their voices to be heard and they turn to the school committee members that are elected in our town. Mr. Nutter said that he does not believe that there have been any votes that mattered that when he was not there the vote went the way it would have gone.

Paul Rochette asked, what preliminary increase is the entire school budget looking at right now? Mr. Nutter said in preliminary budget for the school right now 4.7 million. He said they have cut down almost half a million from the very first one. He said it might be cut a little more, and hoping for some more revenue from the state. Chapter 71, the yellow school bus money might go up quite a bit and should help. Chapter 70, not so sure. The other thing they count on is rural school aide which is part of Chapter 70 but just for rural schools. In the past it has been a couple hundred thousand, hoping for that.

Waiver of First Right Refusal: Lucy made motion to sign waiver of first rights refusal, 0.2 acres on 3256 Hunt Road/ Mr. Ciccarelli, Brad 2nd, Don all in favor.

Treasure Valley Festival-Fire & Police Chiefs: Fire Chief, Tim Howe stated that he is not a big fan of the Sober in Sun Festival last year. They spend the entire weekend going there with the ambulance dragging people out and then someone died at the event last year. Tim said he's reached out to the fire chives around and they want no part of it. Rutland & Paxton want no part of it. If it was to get approved by Oakham it would be a big liability and would need a 24/7 private ambulance at the location. Tim said his personal opinion is absolutely not. Tim's concern there's going to be a fire, there's going to be another major issue, assault, rape, etc. Tim said he's against it.

Police Chief Fred Gehring said that Sober in the Sun event last year was a disaster. It started off Friday night with an OUI arrest. The person went to jail first, went into severe detox. At 2am Chief Gehring got a call and had to the detained transported to the hospital. Had to put him on a 24hour guard with an officer because he was in Oakham PD's custody. The detained was guarded all weekend. On Sunday, King from the clerk's office agreed to release the detained on his own recognizance and they bailed him at the request of Chief Gehring. Fred said he did not want to have to have an officer sit there and spend anymore money on guard, it theoretically drained their budget.

Multiple ambulance calls for ETOH, alcohol poisoning and an overdose-death that happened on that Saturday into Sunday, which occupied a lot of time and it should have not happened.

There was a man that was at the festival that had a warrant for murder, OPD was running all around the camp trying to find this man. Chief Gehring said it taxed his department, they do not have the facility or the man power or the budget to run an operation at the festival even at the detail rate. Chief Gehring said that his answer no to the event. Lucy asked what is the original

intent of the event of Sober in the Sun? Chief Howe answered saying it's an event where sober people go celebrate their sobriety. But unfortunately, that's not the case. Tim said that even if they have a 24hour ambulance there by the time they find someone inside a tent or anything might be too late, and not getting them back. Chief Gehring said that the female that expired last summer at the festival was having issues, she overdosed and died in a golf cart sitting right next to her daughter. Braid said, if Tim says no, Fred says no, we say no, No Event. Chief Gehring added that the Friday night OUI was right at the gate for the festival. The driver wasn't going to be let in and he drove right through the gate and hit a fixed object and this all happened in front of the officers working.

Lucy asked if there are structure stuff there for the participants to do, Chief Gehring said there is arts & crafts, Chief Howe said there are concerts and vendors and it's all great in theory but that's not how it happens.

Both Fire Chief and Police Chief agree in saying no to a permit for Sober in the Sun festival held at Treasurer Valley.

Fire Chief Tim Howe: Presented to the BOS the opportunity to purchase a 2003 fire truck with 6,000 miles on it from the Town of Leicester for \$40,000. It would be something great to get and wouldn't need to be replaced and will last us a long time. Mechanically it's great, a benefit is it comes with a set of excretion tool, which new can be around \$70,000. Although used it is good because fire department currently has only one, it will be nice to have a back up set. It also has a built-in generator with cord reels. Tim is looking to use some of the unclaimed ARPRA money to purchase the truck. Leicester would accept \$40,000 for it. Ideally Tim is proposing for \$44,000 because it would need to have radios be put into it and to have it re-lettered to say Oakham. Tim said that Leicester has posted it to all area fire departments. They advertised it but have not posted it on municibid. Tim said that the Leicester Fire Chief wants to see it go to a local town that can benefit from it. Don thinks it's a good idea. Don said that a brand new one would be \$350,000 and this one is like brand new for \$40,000. Tim also stated that it's not a huge truck, not much bigger than an ambulance, easy to drive. Lucy said she agrees and thinks it's a good deal. Lucy made motion to give the Fire Chief, Tim Howe permission to purchase the Leicester fire truck for \$40,000 from ARPA funds, Brad 2nd, Don all in favor.

Fire Chief has a new hire, Corey Lemon who was working his 24hr shift but will bring him to next meeting to introduce to the board. Don asked how many is Tim up to know, Tim said 3 plus Pat & Gabby that come to everything which is great but have not gotten them into the academy yet. They can not go into a burning building because they have not gone through the academy but can do everything else and they both want to go to EMT school, which is good. Tim said no one wants to do the ambulance, he said it's the time but that the Rutland agreement has been working out great, Tim has no problems there at all. Lucy asked if Russ Willette is still working, Tim said yes. Lucy asked if he had smoke alarms at the station, Tim said yes and to have any

seniors contact him and he would put them in. Lucy asked if Tim does oven inspections, Tim said yes, he would check it out.

Health Concerns- 132 Crawford Rd: Robert Lanciani, the town's building commissioner emailed the Board of Health in regard to health concerns about the house on 132 Crawford Road on Thursday, February 24, 21 in regards to inside living conditions. As of March 3, 2021 Robert had not heard back from the BOH. Don said maybe the building inspector should talk to the Oakham PD and have a DSS complaint filed, let them investigate it, it involves young kids and living conditions.

New Business: Fire Chief, Tim Howe said he's had phone calls in regards to the house at the center of town. Tim said he want to put the Red X on it so fire fighters don't go in it. Tim wants to know how to officially go about it. He said he's not worried about the house but the barn is leaning. Tim's concern about sending guys in there if there ever to be a need. Tim said his guys know not to go in there but other towns don't and he would have to let them know. Tim doesn't want to cost the town any money by doing anything but he needs to protect his guys and other departments.

Lucy said another concern is that it is private property and the lady has paid the taxes on the property.

Brad said that what he thinks Tim should do is get the address and the BOH needs to let that woman know, and perhaps Tim can do in conjunction with the BOH is to send a letter to her with what is going on and all the concerns and let her respond. Then if she does not respond then you can take appropriate steps after that. Brad said he would not just go to the house and put a Red X on it. Brad said to check with the collector to for an address and phone number, he believes she lives at the Cape. Brad said the proper thing to do is give her the opportunity to secure the property. Tim will talk to Aaron from the BOH.

Lucy let the BOS know that the zoning board received an application. The zoning board currently consists of one person, they need to have a 3-person board to hold a hearing. Lucy said she has one person who has volunteered to be on the zoning board but needs to be appointed and stated as there is going to be a hearing within the next 60 days, he needs to be appointed very quickly. Lucy put in the name of Anthony LaRange to be appointed as a new member of the zoning board of appeals. The head of the zoning board of appeals is Carl Lindley. Lucy said that the application was not complete so the 60 days don't count yet. Once everything completed with the application and payment the zoning board has 60 days to hold a hearing, by then they are hoping to have a full board. Lucy was thinking of asking Leo McGaffrey to be another member or Brad can ask him. Lucy said she would still be an alternate member to the zoning board. Brad made motion to appoint Anthony LaRange to the Oakham Board of Appeal, Don 2nd. The vote was Brad, yes. Don, yes. Lucy abstained from voting as she brought forward the candidate.

Lucy said she got email from East Quabbin Land Trust about a property on Old Turnpike Rd, that they would like to see perhaps put into a conservation, 55 acres with 2 ponds on it and all ledge. They need a support letter from the conservation commission. Lucy, they do not have any land in town that's listed as conservation protection. Her thought is that if it goes into conservation protection, she does not know what it does to the tax base of that property because right now it does earn taxes for the town. Their grant needs to be done by March 30, which didn't give her much warning. Lucy said she has set up a meeting with East Quabbin Land Trust for March 15 at 6pm at the Town Hall and will contact all the other conservation commissioners and invites anyone who want to attend to the open meeting. Lucy wanted the board to be aware because it can become town property through the conservation commission.

Old Business: Maribel gave a quick update on the Springbrook software conversion for the collector. The Friday prior (3/4/22) Maribel and Lisa both had conference calls and ring central meetings with Springbrook for Lisa's conversion. Lisa did as much as she could. The files from the current software QDS were sent over to Springbrook. Maribel let the board know that Springbrook has been asking for the verbiage on the grant to ensure it's compliant to their service as they have not received the other half of their payment for the software. Don said it will be compliant as soon as they do the work and it's due March 31, 2021

Lisa said that Springbrook are giving her building blocks for her to put together what she needs. Don said if they are getting \$29,000 (grant money) just for her portion, they should be doing everything. It's not as simple as seemed. Lisa does not see how a lot of what they propose is faceable in the time she works at the town hall. Lisa said they do tax collection New York base and have to alter it for Massachusetts. Lisa does not know what to make of it at this point. Lisa has to and wants to maintain the current software even after the Springbrook software is installed.

Public Session: Diane Peterson asked why is there a jersey barrier on East Hill Rd. She was told because 3 trucks currently have been stuck on the road and it becomes the towns responsibility to get them out and it is time consuming and cost money. When the trucks got stuck, they have to call the Highway department to assist.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:09PM: Brad made motion to adjourn, Don 2nd, Lucy all in favor

Next Regular Meeting: March 21, 2022 6:00 PM