

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 1, 2010

On April 1, 2010, the Board of Selectmen held an Emergency Meeting at 4:05 PM at the Town Office Building in Lakeville. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Maksy at 4:05 PM. Selectmen present were: Selectman Maksy and Selectman Evirs. Also present were Tracie Craig, Executive Assistant, Daniel Hopkins, Fire Chief, David Goodfellow, Deputy Fire Chief, Frank Alvilhiera, Acting Police Chief, and Robert Iafrate, Building Commissioner.

Chief Hopkins stated that he was going to the Days Inn to meet with the residents that are lodged there. He will be telling the residents there that the Town will no longer be paying for their hotel room. They can go to the Emergency Shelter at the Freetown Elementary School, go to friends or families, or start paying the hotel bill on their own and take a chance on being reimbursed. He will also let them know that even though the water has gone down, they will not be getting into their homes anytime soon. The residents also need to call the FEMA 800 number to begin the disaster assistance claims process. Chief Hopkins was at a meeting today with FEMA and FEMA disaster relief was supposed to begin on Wednesday, but they needed to wait until the rain ended. FEMA people are in Middleboro, and we are just waiting to hear where they are setting up disaster centers. Chairman Maksy said we are having a meeting tomorrow at 10:00 AM at DEP, and Bill Gray from the Environmental Police will have boats available for people to go out and assess the ponds. Chief Hopkins said that he had received a phone call from a resident that was angry because he found out that since his home is not a primary residence, there is no FEMA aid for the house. However, if a seasonal home is rented, they could apply under a Business concern. Seasonal home owners might be able to apply for SBA money. Chief Hopkins said FEMA's priorities for assistance will be for residences first, then businesses then municipalities. Right now, the reimbursement for municipalities is 75/25%, with Lakeville being responsible for 25%. However, the Town may not get reimbursed anything for the hotel bills. We will submit the paperwork, and FEMA will tell us whether it will be reimbursable.

Mr. Iafrate said that Long Pond is at least a foot higher than it was yesterday. He presented a list of houses that have no power and that are uninhabitable. He feels that there might be as many as 200 houses that are affected around the ponds. There was a brief discussion about the condition of the Mrs. Kling's residence. Chief Hopkins noted that there is a propane tank issue at Mrs. Kling's house, and we need to evacuate her. Mr. Iafrate said he has requested having State Building Inspectors come in with the FEMA checklist to reoccupy. Chief Hopkins said if we need any inspectors, we should put that request in through MEMA, and we can get them. We should put in the request as soon as possible, because if MEMA does not receive requests, they begin to demobilize. Acting Police Chief Alvilhiera said that as long as Route 18 is closed, he would like the National Guard to remain. He would like to extend them through Sunday and then we can reassess. Chief Hopkins said that MEMA was ready today to come down and sandbag Route 18 but the Department of Transportation told us we cannot do it. They are concerned about the water going under Route 18 and how stable it is. Chief Hopkins said that the water is going higher. Mr. Iafrate said he did not think the ponds have crested yet.

Gail Evirs said that she had just walked down Route 18 to the barricade and spoke to the National Guard. They are asking if a road sign can be placed at the intersection of Route 105/18

because people are flying down the highway and getting angry, driving over the grass at the church and peeling out. Chief Hopkins said we need to have a police cruiser at Route 18. Selectman Evirs said the detour sign is down at the intersection. Chief Hopkins said he would request a road closed sign for Route 18.

Selectman Evirs said that we sent residents to the Days Inn because we did not have an Emergency Shelter set up. Now there is a shelter, and we need to move the people from the Day's Inn so that they have shelter and food. The American Red Cross is fully mobilized. Chief Hopkins said there are no residents from Lakeville at the shelter. The Red Cross will shut the shelter down if there is no one there. Chairman Maksy said the next closest shelter is in Somerset. Chief Hopkins said we will tell them that this is their last night at the Day's Inn. We will offer them an opportunity to go to the Emergency Shelter in Freetown and that there is room at the Animal Shelter for their pets. If they choose to stay at the hotel, they will have to pay for it.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Selectman Evirs, with Chairman Maksy stepping down to second and stepping back up to vote, the Board:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 5:05 PM.
Unanimous vote.