

TOWN OF GRANVILLE
TREE WARDEN HEARING
MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL

July 23, 2016

In Attendance:

Norm Arseneault/Tree Warden

Sean Linskey/Selectperson

Kevin Bagley/Road Commissioner

Public: Chris Landis; Mark & Wendy Desilvestro & Lincoln Mead

1. Call to Order by the Tree Warden

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am.

2. Approval of Agenda

Norm handed out a draft that included opening comments from the Tree Warden. Norm then amended the Agenda to add a line item following #5 Public Comment to read #6 Tree Warden Partial Inventory. The original line item # 6 was changed to line item # 7 Close of Record and the original line item #7 was changed to #8 Adjournment.

3. Comments from the Tree Warden

Norm reviewed his written opening comments which included his background as a professional forester and his appointment as Tree Warden by the Select board. The State Statute and description about the role of Tree Warden was copied from the Selectmen's Handbook and handed out. Norm gave a background history of the closure of Buffalo Farm Road and how the Alternate Project Butz Road came about and the background of engineer planning for the Butz Road Improvements. A copy of the engineer plans were made available.

4. Presentation of proposed cutting of trees within the clearing limits of the Butz Road Improvement Project by the Town of Granville

The engineer plans will require the clearing of trees for installing ditching where there is none. The road width of 16 feet will remain the same and clearing will take place ten feet from the edge of both sides of the road *or* trees will be cleared to the "limits of construction" for example with the placement of a new culvert.

5. Public Comment

Copies of letters from residents with their comments were made available. Norm asked if residents attending the meeting would like to voice their comments: Chris Landis voiced his only concern was that too much clearing would give a view of their pond from the road. Mark Desilvestro addressed straightening of the road but said he was not concerned with saving the rotting maple trees. Kevin Bagley commented on the safety issue of blind curves, dead and dying trees. Butz Road is now the primary road to reach residents on Town Line Road and the southern section on North Hollow Road by

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fire and rescue vehicles. Kevin said he supports the road improvements. Norm commented that mud season on Butz Road is a problem due to no ditching in some areas. Lincoln Mead commented that he understands the town's right to improve the road and he is responding to Bill Wrights letter to neighbors to try to do what we could to modify the plan bordering his property.

6. Tree Warden Partial Inventory

Norm handed out copies of a Partial Inventory of Trees to be cleared on Butz Road Improvements that he had compiled. The inventory begins at the junction with North Hollow Road and progresses toward Maston Hill Road. The inventory was done as a scientific approach to tally trees on both sides of the road by listing species and health of the tree. Dead standing trees were also counted. On display were pictures taken of trees at different stations along Butz Road.

7. Close of Record

Norm stated he will be making a decision as a result of the hearing testimonies later next week on the proposed cutting of trees as described in the 35 page construction plans and drawings titled "Butz Road-TH #17-Subbase , Drainage & Safety Improvements". Residents on Butz Road will be notified by mail of his decision.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kathy Werner
Town Clerk/Treasurer