

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN  
Select Board  
16 School Street  
Allenstown, New Hampshire 03275  
July 15, 2014

**Call to Order.**

The Allenstown Select Board Public Hearing for July 15, 2014 was called to order by Mr. Gryval at 6:00p.m.

**Roll Call.**

Present on the Board: Jeff Gryval and Kate Walker.

**Others Present.**

Residents of Allenstown: Jeffery Lyons, Bob Lockhart, Joe Wagner, Beth Wagner, Wayne Robie, Martha Robie, and Debra Temple.

Others Present: Joe Alexander, Mike Trainque and Mr. Dunlap of Hoyle and Tanner Association.

Other Public Officials: Larry Anderson, Sewer Commission; and Matt Gagne, Pembroke Water Works.

Allenstown Staff: Shaun Mulholland, Town Administrator; and Ron Pelissier, Road Agent.

**Citizens Comments:**

N/A

**Public Hearing for Road Bond**

Mr. Mulholland introduced himself, the selectmen, and the engineers to the audience. He explained the problem that the town has approximately 33 miles of road and that presently the town is paving less than half a mile each year. He stated the average road is supposed to last 20 years from replacement. He stated that at the current rate, they will not be able to repair the roads when they are in need of repair.

Mr. Mulholland listed several roads that the town is considering for repair which included roads such as Ferry Street, Webster St, Whitten St, Library St., Reynolds Ave., a section of River Rd, Heritage Dr., Townhouse Rd. and Meadow Ln.

Mr. Mulholland stated the town has contracted with Hoyle & Tanner Associates to give the town a preliminary budget cost to repair the roads. He explained that HTA would be preparing a budget scope so that the town can put a bond article together for next year's town meeting to address the issues. He stated that they are looking at a project that will cost approximately \$2 million dollars but that they won't have hard numbers until the engineers compile them. He stated that they are looking for the public's input on what they should do with the roads.

Mr. Mulholland stated that the reason that they are looking at a 20 year bond is because the cost of asphalt is increasing at a higher rate than the rate of interest on a bond. He stated that the town has no debt at this point. He stated that the bond requires a 60% majority at a town meeting in order for it to go through.

Mr. Mulholland explained that with the estimated cost of \$2 million over the 20 year term would result in an increase of approximately \$0.80 on the tax rate which is based on the current assessed value of the town today. He stated that the first bond payment would not be due until 2016.

A resident asked about the town beginning to reconstruct the sidewalks on Ferry Street and then defer it until 2015 for this bond. The Road Agent stated that they had planned on doing the sidewalks originally but that they wanted to see if they could incorporate it into the bond. Mr. Mulholland explained to the resident that the town has never done anything like this and has never had a plan of what roads they were going to repair. He stated that the town did not do a good job notifying the residents of the big picture and that is what they are trying to correct it now.

A resident asked if the preliminary scope of \$2 million bond would include sidewalks. Mr. Mulholland stated that the engineers will go over all of that.

Mr. Dunlap of Hoyle and Tanner Associates introduced himself to the audience. He explained that he was tasked with conducting a field review of the town roadways and the conditions. He stated that they have also made suggestions of what the town should do to repair the roadways. He stated that some of the suggestions included reclaiming of some roadways and reconstruction of other roadways.

Mr. Dunlap stated that they were also tasked with coming up with a planning level estimate based on the length and the width of the existing roadway and some of the suggestions for repairing the roadways. He stated that the plan is more for public input only and is not a detailed engineering plan.

Mr. Dunlap stated that he personally went out into the field and evaluated all of the pavement. He stated that they were mostly looking for surface issues such as transverse cracking, patching and the alligator cracking. He stated that all of the roadways are in need of repair. Mr. Dunlap stated

Library St. showed extreme conditions of deterioration. Library St. has 80% alligator cracking of the roadway surface.

Mr. Dunlap stated that for Ferry Street they are planning to remove a sidewalk to be able to add parking areas. He stated that Ferry Street is a fairly steep roadway with only two catch basins on the roadway. He stated that typically catch basins are placed 250-300 feet apart and that on steep roadways catch basins are put closer together. He stated that the existing sidewalks are in awful condition and are not ADA compliant. He suggested that they do a reclamation of the existing roadway and reconstruct the sidewalks on both sides in their existing locations.

Mr. Mulholland stated one of the problems that they were having on Ferry Street was that they were getting complaints about water in the basements. He stated that the goal is to install granite curbing along the edge of the roadway to keep the water in the roadway and through the storm drain system. He also explained that the sidewalks need to be five feet wide to be ADA compliant and they are less than that in some areas. He stated that if they don't put in sidewalks they will still have to put granite curbing to keep the water out of the basements.

A resident stated that he would rather have sidewalks than more parking. Another resident stated that they need to have some sidewalks because of the recreation center over that way. Mr. Mulholland stated that they are in negotiations for a new entrance to the recreation center. He stated that the sidewalk would go right from the school to the new entrance for the recreation center.

A resident asked about sidewalks being put on one side or both sides of the street and eliminating parking on one side of the street. Mr. Mulholland stated that it depends on which side of the street it is because they have berms on the other side where the sidewalks are raised between Houle Ave and Main Street. He stated that they would probably put the sidewalk on the other side of the street. There was further discussion of whether or not the town should have a sidewalk on both sides or just one side for Ferry Street.

Mr. Trainque asked what the drawbacks would be of having Reynolds Ave., Whitten St., and Webster St. having no thru traffic. Mr. Mulholland stated that the problem would be that people don't follow the no thru traffic.

Mr. Dunlap stated that both Webster St. and Whitten St. have similar cracking issues and are fairly steep roadways. He stated that there are only two structures for drainage on Whitten St. He stated that the sidewalks on Whitten St. are also not ADA compliant. Mr. Mulholland stated that the decision on those two roadways was whether they should replace the sidewalks on one side or do they expand the roadway to allow for more parking. Should the Town not replace the sidewalks at all. Some residents stated that they would like the town to replace the sidewalks on both sides.

Some residents felt the sidewalk should be replaced on one side. Others questioned why we needed to replace sidewalks at all.

A resident stated that he replaced his driveway and even did the sidewalk around it to make it all look nice and now this plan would tear it all up. Mr. Dunlap stated that this is just a proposal of what to do and that this is why they wanted their input on it. Mr. Mulholland stated that one of the issues with having sidewalks on both sides of some of these roadways is that they may have to encroach onto the existing roadway to construct ADA compliant sidewalks.

A resident asked when they would determine how much the project will actually cost so that if it is worth more, the taxes are less. Mr. Mulholland stated that they will know in November. The resident asked if they increase the value of their properties with the new sidewalks, wouldn't that lower the tax on the bond. Mr. Mulholland stated that the assessed value is on the overall town and that they will know that in the fall.

A resident asked if the new utility poles would have to be moved again if they do the sidewalks. Mr. Mulholland stated that they would have to do so and that it is at the expense of the utility company.

Mr. Mulholland also stated that when they put new sidewalks in, they will maintain them in the wintertime which means that they have to determine where they are going to put the snow. A resident stated that it will be a huge issue because there is no space for it.

A resident stated that if they close off the connecting section of Reynolds Ave., then they will have nowhere to put the snow. Another resident suggested making the stretch between Webster and Canal a one way. Mr. Mulholland stated is an option but that the people going to the mill in the morning will still use it to travel to the mill. He suggested that they could make this small section a one way road and test its effectiveness.

A resident asked if they are planning to have a new entrance for the Whitten Street Park and stated that he thinks that there should still be a sidewalk. Mr. Mulholland stated that the plan was to put a bike bath where the sidewalk is.

A resident asked what the additional cost of adding a sidewalk. Mr. Dunlap stated that the cost is about \$100-\$150 a linear foot with the granite curb. There was discussion of where to put sidewalks on Ferry St.

A resident asked what additional parking they would get on Webster St. if they eliminated the sidewalks on both sides. Mr. Mulholland stated that they would use the present area of the existing sidewalk surface for parking.

A resident asked if they are going to put under drainage on the road. He stated that in Bedford, where he works, they are doing the same thing and they are behind schedule on repairing the roads. Mr. Dunlap stated that wherever they were planning to put in sidewalks and curbing, they were planning to put in under drainage wherever they would install a curb. He stated that the work for that is part of the estimate.

Mr. Dunlap stated that Reynolds Ave. has some slope to it but that the pavement itself is in the same condition of the other roads. He stated that they were considering reclaiming the roadway and improving the drainage. He stated that they were considering removing the sidewalks and replacing the curbing.

Mr. Mulholland asked the residents if they were interested in doing a trail run of allowing for one way traffic on the section of Reynolds Ave. from Canal St. to Webster St.. The residents stated that they would like to see what happens and if it doesn't work then they look at something else. Mr. Mulholland stated that the process is to get approval from the Select Board.

A resident asked how wide the sidewalk is on the north part of Webster St. Mr. Dunlap stated that the sidewalk is about six feet wide. The resident stated that if they removed the sidewalk, then they would not need to take any part of someone's lawn. Mr. Dunlap stated that the intent is not to take any part of people's lawn. The resident stated that the kids are not using that side of the street to walk on anyways.

A resident asked about the water and sewage lines that were mentioned in the letter to the residents. Mr. Mulholland stated that they are going to address that next.

Mr. Dunlap stated that East Webster St. is in bad shape and that the plan is to reclaim it. He stated that houses are extremely close to the roadway so that it would be difficult to widen it. He stated that they would not put any sidewalks on this street. He also stated that there will be extra debris left from the reclaiming so that they will use that on one of the other roadways.

Mr. Dunlap stated that Library St. is in very bad shape. He stated that this street would require a complete reconstruction because of the condition of the road. He stated that they are not proposing any sidewalks or new drainage for the road. Mr. Mulholland stated that they are also going to expand the library parking lot and slope the driveway down so that the water goes down into the catch basin.

A resident asked if they are planning on going from one end to the other on Library Street. Mr. Dunlap stated that they would begin from the newly constructed part of the street on.

Mr. Dunlap stated that as far as the schedule goes, they plan on starting the engineering in March 2015 and start the roadways no later than September 2015. He stated that construction season

goes from April 15<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> so that they are thinking that the entire project will take two construction seasons.

Mr. Mulholland stated that there will be a bond hearing, a budget hearing, a deliberative session and then the vote in March. He stated that all the information for the project will be on the website under 2015 Town Meeting. He stated that if the residents vote in favor of the project in March, they will give the engineers the green light to begin the process right away and try to get as much done in 2015 as possible.

A resident asked if Hoyle and Tanner Associates will be managing the project. Mr. Dunlap stated that they would be managing the project and would be considered the contract administrator.

Mr. Mulholland stated that if the bond is approved, they are proposing a seven year moratorium so that if the utilities need to tear up the road, they will have to repave the entire roadway width. They will not be allowed to patch to the roadway. He stated that is why they are asking the utilities companies to work with the town and do their work in conjunction with this project.

Mr. Trainque of Hoyle and Tanner Associates introduced himself to the audience. He explained that typically the utilities would be evaluated when the roads are being repaired and make sure that any sewer line issues would be repaired either before or during the paving repairs. He stated that the Sewer Department has a program in place where they inspect a percentage of the sewer lines each year. He stated that in anticipation of the bond project, has been going through and inspecting the conditions of the sewer lines on the proposed roadways.

Mr. Trainque stated that one of the things that they looked at was whether or not to replace the sewer lines that are constructed of asbestos material. He stated that any asbestos removal has to be treated as hazardous waste which gets very expensive. He stated that the recommendation was to not reline that part because the asbestos is not an issue.

Mr. Trainque stated that he would like to discuss the Library Street pump house that was mentioned. He explained that the pump station would be put in to eliminate the river crossing. He stated that part of the force main for the pump station has already been installed. He further explained the direction and layout of the force main to the pump station.

Mr. Mulholland asked Mr. Trainque about the laterals, where the lateral work would stop, and how much they are expecting the residents to pay for. Mr. Trainque stated that typically it's done at the right of way. Mr. Mulholland stated that would mean that the edge of the road would be the stopping point and the residents would be responsible for.

A resident asked about the costs to fix the sewer line and if other residents can't afford to replace the sewer line. Mr. Trainque stated that inspecting the laterals is pretty difficult but that in most

cases they could use some equipment to see the condition of the sewer line. He stated that there are options for the repairs to the sewer lines. Mr. Mulholland suggested that the Sewer Department be able to tell the residents ahead of time if sewer lines on their properties need to be repaired.

Mr. Trainque stated that Webster St. has no problems so that there isn't a lot of work to be done there. He stated that in the case of lining the sewer line there wouldn't be any excavation work.

A resident stated and that he was told that there was going to be a new line put down on Library Street. He asked if that would mean that all of Library St. would be dug up and a whole new sewer line installed. Mr. Trainque stated that they would do just the area where the force main would be going. He stated that the intent is to replace a couple manhole frames and covers. He stated that the new pipe is a forced main and is for future use. He stated that they want to get as much of the pipe in the ground as possible. Mr. Trainque stated that it has nothing to do with the residents on Library St. The line forces sewer at the lower elevation of the sewer collection system to a pump station on the Pembroke side of the river.

Mr. Trainque stated that they are extending the force main for future use to a certain point. He stated that gravity causes everything to run the river and that the pump station is to be able to get rid of the sewer line under the river.

A resident stated that she had a septic system on Library St. and when town said that they could hook up to the town sewer line, they did at their own cost. She stated that she was hoping that they wouldn't have any expenditures down the road. Mr. Trainque stated that they do not anticipate any additional costs to the residents on Library St. for the sewer line.

Mr. Gagne of Pembroke Water Works introduced himself to the audience. He stated that Pembroke Water Works is prioritizing which streets they are going to make repairs to their lines on. He stated that both Reynolds Ave. and Whitten St. need a lot of work done on them. He stated that the residents should know at this point if there are any issues with their water line.

A resident from Library St. stated that his water comes through his neighbor's backyard and that he had it shut off a few years ago. He asked if there were any intentions of changing that water line. Mr. Gagne stated that there is a water line that goes through several backyards but that at this point they do not plan on changing it. He stated that it will be a few months before they have determined what lines they will need to repair or replace.

Mr. Mulholland stated that he contacted the gas utility company, Liberty Utilities and that they are planning to write a letter to all the residents in these areas telling them that now is the time to hook up to gas if they want it. He stated that Liberty Utilities plans to do any work that goes under the road at the time that the roads are being repaired.

A resident asked if Liberty Utilities had any intentions of expanding their gas lines. Mr. Mulholland stated that the benefit to them is that the most expensive part of expanding the lines is paving which the town would be doing for them. The resident stated that he spoke to them about it and he was told that he would have to pay from Main Street to his house. Another resident stated that Liberty Utilities told her that they would cover the first 100 feet and the rest is up to the residents themselves.

A resident asked what they think the outcome will be in March when they take the proposed bond to a vote because there are about 6-8 streets which doesn't effect a lot of people and they may not want to pay for the road work. Mr. Mulholland stated that he is not going to try to guess the outcome and that it is up to the residents to decide whether or not it is worth it to do the work.

Mr. Mulholland stated that they are going to do the survey to see what the residents on each of the streets would like done. He stated that he will give the Board of Selectmen the results of the survey and they will decide what work get done. He explained that the residents can subscribe to the agenda for the Select Board which will keep them updated on the proposed project.

A resident stated that she walks all over the town and that there are barely any sidewalks anywhere. She asked why sidewalks are important on Reynolds, Whitten, Webster, and Canal. Mr. Mulholland stated that the residents on those streets find the sidewalks important. Another resident, from Webster St., stated that the sidewalk is right outside of her door.

A resident asked what kind of material they would use to replace the sidewalks that they have now. Mr. Mulholland stated that it would be granite reveal on the edge and then asphalt.

A resident asked what the interest rate is on the bond. Mr. Mulholland stated that right now it is 4 percent. He stated that they are tax-exempt bonds and that they go through the NH Bond Bank. He told the residents that if they have any questions in the meantime, they can email him anytime.

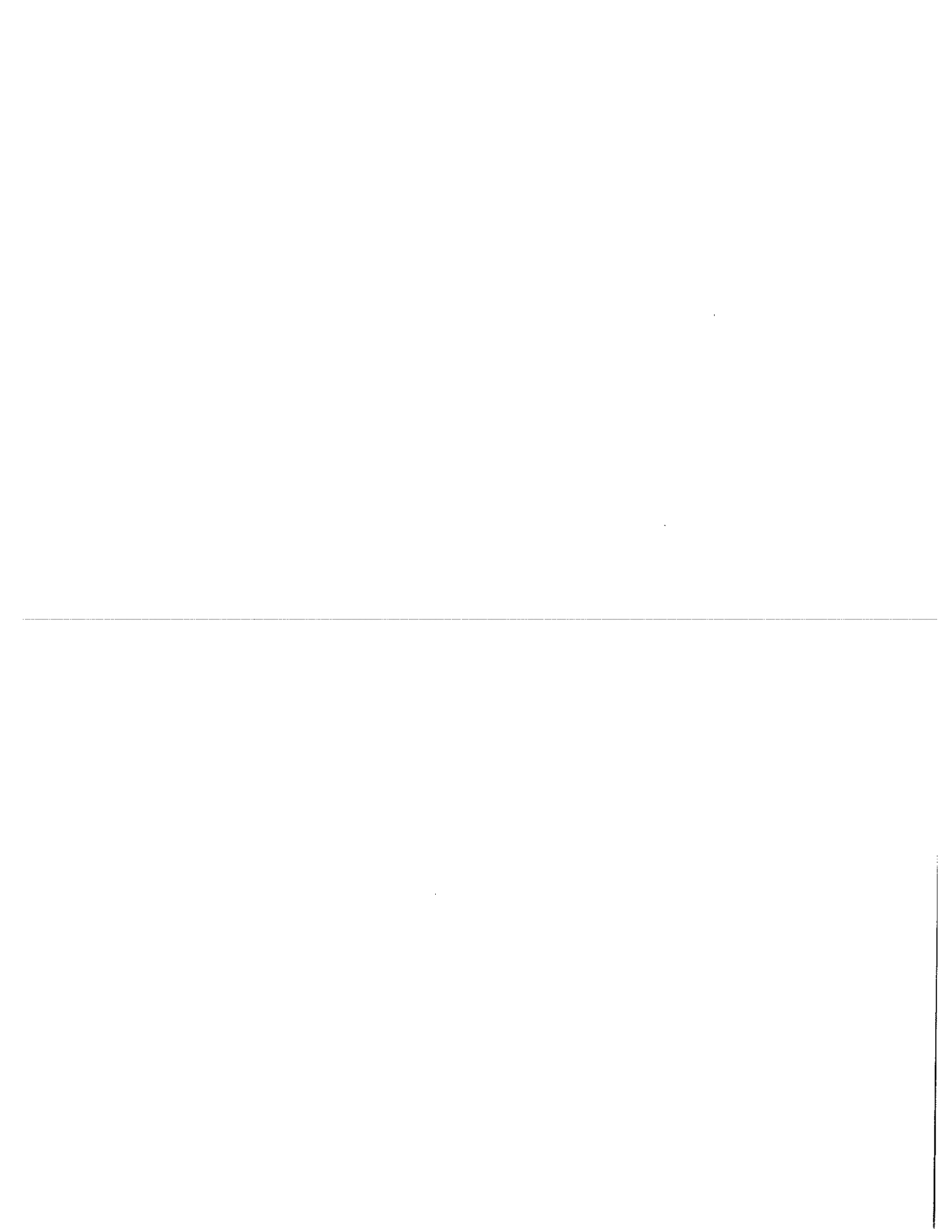
Mr. Gryval thanked the Water Department, Sewer Department, and Hoyle & Tanner Associates for coming to explain things tonight.

Motion. Mr. Gryval made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Walker seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Gryval –Yes; and Ms. Walker-Yes. Mr. Gryval declared the Motion passed.




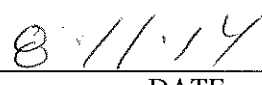

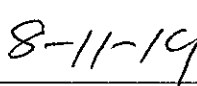

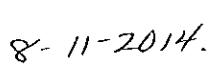
Mr. Gryval declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.



TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN  
SELECTBOARD  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

July 15th , 2014

**Signature Page**

<b>Original Approval:</b>	
 JASON TARDIFF, Chair	 DATE
 JEFFREY GRYVAL, Member	 DATE
 KATE WALKER, Member	 DATE

<b>Amendment Approvals:</b>		
Amendment Description:	Approval:	Date:
	JASON TARDIFF, Chair	DATE
	JEFFREY GRYVAL, Member	DATE
	KATE WALKER, Member	DATE

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