

**Town of Cornish
PUBLIC HEARING
Friday, October 14, 2016 3:00 pm**

Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Dale Lawrence

Also Present: Richard Thompson, William Caterino, Polly Rand, John Rand, Judy Taylor, Bob Taylor, Carl Schmidt, NH Barn Committee, Judith Kaufman, Judy Rook, Dale Rook, Beth Lum, Fred Schad, Jenny Schad, Brian Meyette and Cheston Newbold

Selectboard member Dale Lawrence opened the meeting with the following statement after thanking everyone for attending.

“Over the past 13 years, there have been several changes in the Selectmen’s office along with the position of Administrative Assistant.

Over the past year or so, the BOS have been trying to find a way to bring ALL Preservation Barn Easements into compliance with RSA 79D. We are holding this public hearing today to try to do the right thing for those who have submitted original applications but somehow the process was not followed through correctly.

Moving forward, a procedural plan will be developed for anyone who sits in the Selectmen’s office to follow”.

The BOS then asked for questions/comments.

Judith Kaufman commented on the problems with her renewal process. She has submitted the correct paperwork back in 2013, the public hearing was held, the paperwork was signed by the Selectmen and she gave a check to the town which was never processed. She provided the BOS with a copy of her application which was signed by the BOS in 2013.

Judith then stated that she could not have a Public Hearing for a renewal as the minimum time for Easements was 10 years and she was only in year three.

Brian Meyette asked how many easements were actually up for renewal. Dale responded two, the Wegners and the Newbolds. Brian then asked if we would be holding another public hearing.

Dale stated that we would schedule a Public Hearing for the 28th of October for the two needing to renew.

Carl Schmidt of the NH Barn Committee then explained that Public Hearings for renewals were at the discretion of the BOS and were not a requirement of RSA 79D

Dale then stated that two weeks from today, they would be renewing the two barn easements listed above. Based on Carl Schmidt’s knowledge of the process, we would not need to hold a Public Hearing but would be renewing these two easements at a regular board meeting on 10/28/16. This information would be posted in ConnectCornish but would not be posted as a Public Hearing.

Judy Taylor asked what happens if property is sold to a new owner. Carl Schmidt responded that the Easement goes with the property, not the owner.

Judy Rook asked how old barns needed to be in order to receive this easement. BOS responded 75 years. Carl Schmidt then stated that there are special exceptions to that rule.

Jenny Schad asked how people know if they actually getting the Preservation Easement. BOS stated they should ask for a copy of their Tax Card and review it. If they see something wrong, they should contact the BOS.

Polly and John asked when they had renewed their Preservation Barn Easement. BOS stated April, 2014.

Polly Rand thanked the Selectmen and thanked Carl Schmidt as his knowledge of the process and law was very helpful.

The BOS stated that anyone having a Preservation Easement who is currently within their 10 years, their paperwork will be filed with the NH Registry of Deeds if it hasn't been already. The property owner will be required to pay the fee of filing. At the end of what is remaining of their Preservation Easement, they will be required to submit a renewal per RSA 79D.

The Selectmen thanked everyone for attending.

Adjourned at 2:55

Respectfully Submitted

Dale Lawrence

- Barn Easements currently within their 10 years some may need to be filed with NH Registry of Deeds
 - Hammond, Caterino, Schad, Taylor
- Barn Easements that need to be renewed
 - Wegner and Newbold
- Barn Easements that were renewed after 10 years and need to be filed with NH Registry of Deeds
 - Kaufman (renewed 2013), Rand (renewed 2014)

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Lawrence