



NEWTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: Wednesday, May 25, 2022

TIME: 7:00pm

Location: Newton Town Hall, 2 Town Hall Road

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR SCENIC ROADS

The Conservation Commission of Newton, New Hampshire, as established by Chapter 36- A:1, shall have such rights, powers, and duties as are conferred or imposed upon it, by the Residents of Newton , authorized by Chapter 36-A:1 of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, and as such give the following notice of a Public Hearing.

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held at the Newton Town Hall on May 25th, 2022, at 7:00pm. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss tree cutting, trimming and road maintenance by the Town of Newton, on Gale Village Road.

MINUTES FROM PUBLIC HEARING MEETING:

Role Call Vote at 7:07

Members present: Chairperson Alicia Geilen, Vice Chairperson Nancy Slombo, Sandy Estabrook, Lorene Melvin, Trisha McCarthy

Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speaker: Ken Hamilton of Nordic Wood. Hamilton read a history of Gale Village Road. In 1999 three Newton roads failed safety measures on the master plan and Gale Village Road was one of them. In 2014 KV Partners completed a road analysis on Gale Village Road. Then in 2017 the speed limit on Gale Village Road was lowered to 25MPH from 35MPH. Road remains to be too narrow in places that preventing two emergency vehicles at the same time. In 2019 Conservation Commission completed site walk and observed the marked trees (about 9-12) that needed to come down and paved area to be widened. Many residents on site walk were against this work to be done, so at that time the Conservation Commission voted to tell the Road Agent not to cut or widen the road.

Speaker: Road Agent Mike Pivero spoke and said the plan is still the same as it was in 2019. About 12 trees to come down, others may be trimmed and eventually the road will be widened and eventually

Newton Conservation Committee

Newton, NH 03858

Office # (603) 382-4405 Email: conservation@newtonnh.net

www.newton-nh.gov

paved. This year there is some work being done on the road by Until. In addition to this the adjacent 92 acres of Fish and Game will also be doing tree work on their acreage and the logging trucks will be using Gale Village Road. Due to this excessive use, Road Agent Pivero said some of his road work will be done after Until and Fish and Game are done with their work.

Motion by Geilen to allow Road Agent Pivero to do road maintenance, including trimming, cutting about 12 trees and eventually widening and paving according to DOT regulations. Second by Estabrook, added discussion by Slombo to include, that any stonewalls that have to be taken down will be reconstructed per RSA for Scenic Roads RSA 231:157 & 158. All in favor, Motion passes.

Geilen motions to adjourn meeting at 7:25, 2nd by Estabrook and all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Trisha McCarthy

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