



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CHARLES E. SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF JULY 6, 2020

PRESENT: Mr. John A. Nason; Chairman, Mr. Marc Richard; Vice-Chairman and Mr. David Dufresne, Clerk

ATTENDEES: Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hardy, Elizabeth Keefe and Sydney Plante, Donna Pina, James Kordek

Opened the Meeting at 7:00 PM

Mr. Nason opened the meeting and dispensed with the Pledge of Allegiance. He advised all that this meeting is being video/audio taped. (Meeting Minutes taken from a DVD)

The Board met this evening once again to address a nuisance dog which resides at 300 Coy Hill Road. The owner, Elizabeth Keefe attended a nuisance dog hearing in October of 2019 where a gentlemen's agreement was made to rehome the dog to 777 Coy Hill Road. The dog (Sooner) is back at 300 Coy Hill Road and has on several occasions since been running at large. Since then, due to the personal relationship with Mr. Spain, the dog is back and clearly stated to the Board that in no way is the dog being removed without a court order.

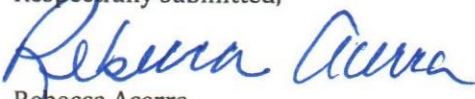
Mr. & Mrs. Hardy are in attendance this evening to express their ongoing frustration as to why the agreement is not being upheld. Mr. Keefe acknowledge that occasional mishaps do occur and apologized, however stated that there are a number of animals on that road, including cows that are loose and instead of calling the authorities, she goes and helps capture them and return them to the owner. The Board reminded her again that all are in attendance this evening due to her failure to maintain control over her dog plain and simple. Liz again stated "occasionally" and confirmed she has paid all of her fines, which she feels that she is also getting fines for another dog named "Tucker".


Mr. Dufresne stated that this is her (Keefe) opportunity to state her side of the story. She followed with her Attorney's name (Jeremy Cohen). Mr. Dufresne asked to hear from the Hardy's. Mrs. Hardy stated for the record that this has been an ongoing issue for the last 2 years, many incidents being video taped for evidence. They just want Ms. Keefe to follow the laws and the orders from the town. Mr. Hardy stated that on Father's Day of this year, he had the "pleasure" of spending time with her dog while the ACO was contacted. Ms. Keefe stated that wasn't even her dog, it was "Tucker". Liz stated that if it please everyone, and if anyone has a bullet in their pocket, the dog could be put down. Mr. Dufresne immediately stated that animal cruelty charges could be brought against her.

Mr. Richard asked Mrs. Hardy as to what resolution would she and Mr. Hardy be satisfied with. Mrs. Hardy stated that she would like a fence erected and fines imposed at the higher amount as per MGL. Mr. Dufresne asked if Ms. Keefe would consider putting the dog up for adoption. Ms. Keefe quickly responded no. ACO Plante stated that if the Board is requiring a fence, then she would like to see it installed by a professional company.

Motion to deem "Sooner" a nuisance dog made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous. Mr. Richard will contact Town Counsel for them to draft a letter to all parties involved. With no further business, the following motion was made: Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Rebecca Acerra
Administrative Secretary


David P. Dufresne, Sr., Clerk