Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen meeting August 14, 2017

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis and Jim Rousmaniere; Police Chief Rob O’Connor, Road Agent Ken Buffum, Fire Chief Tim Mason, Building Inspector Don Castagna.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the prior week’s meeting were approved.

The selectmen took note of certain requirements regarding a distribution of $7,746.86 of highway block grant funds from the State of New Hampshire that resulted from the passage of Senate Bill 38 that was referenced in the selectmen’s meeting notes of August 7, 2014. The requirements are that (a) no public hearing for the use of the funds is required since the sum is below a stated $10,000 threshold, (b) the selectmen should note receipt of the funds in their meeting minutes and (c) acceptance of the funds should be made in public session. It was agreed that all three requirements had been addressed. The selectmen also took note of a letter dated August 10, 2017 from State Highway Commissioner Victoria F. Sheehan that recommended that the selectmen document how the referenced funds are eventually expended.

Selectmen Davis reported that he will approach military veterans in town to see if there is any interest in petitioning the town to make changes to the terms under which veterans property tax exemptions are determined.

Selectmen Rousmaniere reported that he and Road Agent Buffum are scheduled to meet on August 16 at Town Hall with a consultant to the city of Keene’s Watershed Management Study Group to discuss the status of town roads that pass through and near city-owned property in town.

Fire Chief Mason reported that he will approach the town of Marlborough’s transfer station staff regarding the disposal of the no-longer-used soda machine standing on the west side of town hall.

Building Inspector Castagna discussed the proposed salt/sand shed project with selectmen and Road Agent Buffum and reported that he would develop cost estimates for the project.

Road Agent Buffum reported that he had looked into the possible cost of engaging a tree company to remove two joined oak trees on the east side of Middletown Road just north of the intersection with the Dakin Road. The trees appear to present dangers to passing vehicles. The estimated cost of removal is $1,400. The selectmen discussed whether the city of Keene might be approached regarding the tree disposal given the fact that the trees might present safety concerns to vehicles using the Dakin Road for the upcoming construction work on Babbidge Dam.

Selectman Davis prepared the manifest of bills to be paid; the manifest was signed by the selectmen. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.