Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen meeting April 2, 2018

In attendance: Selectmen Mark Funk and Jim Rousmaniere; resident Shari Tenofsky-Beteau.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. The minutes from the meeting of March 26 were approved.

At the request of two residents, the selectmen produced copies of a tax credit form for military veterans who newly qualify for property tax relief under the All-Veterans Tax Credit rule change that voters approved at town meeting.

The selectmen alerted another resident to the fact that they the prior week they had suspended the $50 rental fee associated with rental of Town Hall for private purposes. They further alerted the resident to a renter insurance vehicle through OneBeacon that might be of use if the renter’s homeowner’s insurance policy could not be used to satisfy the insurance requirement of the rental policy.

Shari Tenofsky-Beteau, a resident on Houghton Ledge Road, expressed concerns regarding various aspects of roads-related work on Route 9 and Houghton Ledge Road. She referenced concerns associated with the transport of excavated material from the north side of Route 9 to a property abutting hers on the north side; specifically, she was worried that the material might be contaminated from highway traffic. She also expressed concerns about the quality of related reconstruction of Houghton Ledge Road. Selectman Rousmaniere reported that he had visited the site and had spoken with state Department of Transportation officials and also representatives of R.S. Audley, Inc., the contractor on the project. He reported that he was informed that the top soil from the excavated area would be removed before any material was excavated and transported elsewhere; further, he reported that he had been informed that, regarding the deposit of the excavated material on an abutter’s property, the state Department of Environmental Services had determined that no wetlands would be affected by the deposits. Further, Rousmaniere reported that Shaun Flynn, who heads the state’s highway construction bureau, advised that the state had determined that nothing of historical significance in the referenced property had been found. Rousmaniere also reported that he was informed that as much as half of the estimated 65,000 cubic yards of excavated material would be transported to the abutting property on Houghton Ledge Road, with the remaining material to be transported to a different part of the property that is not on Houghton Ledge Road. He also reported that he had been informed that Houghton Ledge Road, after reconstruction and the replacement of cement barriers with guardrails, would be left in a two-lane state. He added that the representatives from Audley reported that, after truck transport of excavated materials up Houghton Ledge Road had been completed, the road would be left in suitable condition. Rousmaniere reported that he had also been advised that the transport of excavated materials would begin in a month or so, and also that the work would entail hundreds of truck trips. He added that the contractor on the project had taken note of drainage problems at the bottom of Houghton Ledge Road where it meets Route 9, and that it would install materials and piping to address the matter. Ms. Tenofsky-Beteau thanked the selectmen for their information.
Separately, Rousmaniere reported that he was informed that the “intent to excavate” form prepared by Audley was appropriately addressed to the state government and that the town would be notified later in the year about its receipt of excavation tax (calculated at 2 cents per cubic foot). Rousmaniere reported that he had alerted Audley and state officials that the town had not received an “intent to cut” form related to tree-clearing for the project; he was advised that the sub-contractor who handled that part of the project would be advised to file such a form with the town.

Selectman Funk prepared the manifest of bills to be paid; the manifest was signed by the selectmen. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.