Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen’s meeting August 26, 2019

In attendance: Selectmen Mark Funk and Jim Rousmaniere; Gerald Nelson, a colleague of Mr. Nelson; Michelle White

The meeting opened at 5 p.m.

The selectmen met with Gerald Nelson and a colleague of Mr. Nelson regarding logging-related matters on property off the Newcomb Road, a Class VI road. The selectmen had invited the logger to discuss aspects related to the removal of logs from the property to a loading area closer to Middletown Road. The issue at hand was possible damage principally to the Newcomb Road and the Scholtz Road (both Class VI roads). The selectmen stated that they had approved an intent-to-cut application some time earlier only to learn at a later date that the planned logging operation would entail skidding cut logs along the roads, as opposed to a less potentially damaging removal process. The selectmen explained that a bond would be required to assure that funds would be available to return the roads to their initial condition after the logging project was completed. Selectman Rousmaniere said that the face value of the bond would be $50,000. Mr. Nelson replied that that was “ridiculous,” at which point Rousmaniere proposed that Mr. Nelson recommend a different level; Mr. Nelson replied that the selectmen should just as well rescind the intent-to-cut, at which point he and his colleague left Town Hall.

The selectmen then discussed drafting a letter that would announce that the intent-to-cut was being rescinded, with the expectation that such letter, following review and amendment by the town’s attorney, would be emailed to Mr. Nelson.

The selectmen met with Michelle White regarding a town-wide Halloween Party to be held in Town hall Oct. 26. She asked for assistance in preparing signage to announce the event. The selectmen reported that they would place a notice of the celebration on the town Web site. She agreed to have her contact information made available to anyone who would like to volunteer or otherwise contribute to the event. Herewith: gingerbug79@yahoo.com

Selectman Rousmaniere reported that his communications to state Department of Transportation officials regarding the timing of promised adjustments to Houghton Ledge Road have gone unanswered. He reported that he will continue to work on the matter.

Selectmen Funk reported that the final tax exemption/credit has been updated.

Selectman Funk filled out the manifest, which was signed. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.