

**TOWN OF JAFFREY**  
**Jaffrey, New Hampshire**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 15, 2019**

**Chairman:** Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.

**Selectmen:** John E. Belletete, Kevin Chamberlain

**Town Manager:** Jon Frederick

**Staff:** DPW Director Heglin, Building Inspector Deschenes, Administrative Assistant Zola

**Others:** Aetna Street, Wheeler Street, Stratton Road Residents

**A. Call to Order – 6:00pm**

Chairman Sterling opened the meeting explaining that the purpose is to facilitate conversations with the neighborhood to develop a solution to the water issues on Aetna, Wheeler and Stratton. The source of the problem is on private property, which prohibits Town direct involvement in correcting the problem. The goal is to stop the water from flooding yards and flowing into the roads.

TM Frederick demonstrated on the GIS map of the area how the water runs generally from the south to the north down the rear of the properties between Stratton and Wheeler, and ultimately across the Assembly of God Church parking lot and out onto Stratton Road. The problem is made worse by sump pumps in the area trying to deal with the surface water at the rear of the properties. There exist 2 catch basins on Aetna Street that are currently not functioning which the Town will be repairing, which will help the water flow from Stratton Road, but the surface water drainage needs to be addressed before it makes it to Stratton road..

Building Inspector Deschenes explained that this problem has occurred due to many of the homeowners filling in their yards which disrupts the natural water flow as well as re-grading yards, destroying the drainage ditches. Because of basement flooding, many residents use sump pumps that adds to the flooding into the Church parking lot, then into Stratton Road.

Richard Ouellete, resident of Wheeler Street, is willing to dig a trench on his property to divert the water to Wheeler and avoid Stratton road. Jeff Pelissier offered his heavy equipment to dig the trench. Rich Ouellete and Chris Miles are heavy equipment operators. DPW should be involved in the discussion of ditch heights in relationship to the catch basin heights. The neighbors will meet to discuss the details of getting this done. The town will investigate the condition of the cross culvert on Wheeler Street and replace as appropriate.

The suggestion of using the Town's "buying" power was also suggested by the residents to see if the cost of materials could be lowered. The Town understands and appreciates the financial burden on residents, since this is all on private land. That's why it's

important for all the residents to work together to ease the financial burden. Jon and Chairman Sterling made clear to the residents that town funds cannot be used directly to solve this private drainage problem.

It was suggested that the swale be installed before the fall wet season to gauge its effectiveness to determine if additional work is needed.

Ms. Pellissier mentioned that she has called DPW to complain about the condition of Aetna Street and was told that it would be addressed. TM Frederick explained that due to the price of the water project, the Aetna Street add-on could not be considered, however the Town is able to repair/replace the catch basins and the manhole cover. Once that is done, the Aetna Street issues can be addressed. The timetable for Aetna Street drain project is about 4-6 weeks out. Paving on Aetna Street would happen after the sewer project was completed...although no timeframe was given for the paving.

## **L. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola  
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.  
Chairman

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