

**MINUTES OF THE CONTINUED DOG HEARING**  
**John Mandigo**  
**Goodnow Town Hall**  
**August 10, 2015**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**TOWN OF CHARLEMONT**

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Acting Chairman David Cunningham called the continued hearing to order at 6:30 P.M. Also attending the hearing was Sarah Reynolds.

Phase I – Testimony

Ed Grinnell – Charlemont Animal Control Officer – complainant. Mr. Grinnell reported that a fence on the 511 Tea Street property has not been installed and that he has received complaints since the July 27, 2015 hearing that his dogs were loose on Route 2, the 2 unlicensed dogs located at Tatro Garage, Route 2, Charlemont are still chained. ACO Grinnell recommended filing charges and bringing the matter to District Court.

John Mandigo – 511 Tea Street – owner of the dogs. Mr. Mandigo stated that he has been recently ill. He has acquired the fencing but is in need of the posts.

Paul Fantucchio – 559 Tea Street – complainant. Mr. Fantucchio stated that installing a fence is fine but it does not resolve the barking issue. Mr. Fantucchio has tried to work with Mr. Mandigo for 3 to 4 years and he would like to see this issue resolved.

Jeffrey Sparda – 496 Tea Street – neighbor. Mr. Sparda stated that he has observed the conditions of the dogs, dogs running loose, the dogs not licensed, and is concerned with Mr. Mandigo searching for his loose dogs at all hours of the night.

Ed Grinnell – Charlemont Animal Control Officer – complainant. Mr. Grinnell stated that there is a State law that limits the number of dogs that can be owned to 3 and that the dogs must be legally licensed. Mr. Mandigo currently owns more than 3 dogs, all dogs owned are not currently licensed, his dogs are tethered, run loose and constantly bark. Mr. Grinnell stated that the Town has the option to afford Mr. Mandigo the opportunity to reduce the number of dogs he owns to 3 by a specific deadline and if he is not in compliance, the Town can take the dogs to be adopted out.

Phase 2 – Selectmen’s Deliberations

David Cunningham – Selectman. Mr. Cunningham explained that in his opinion, Mr. Mandigo is not able to provide the proper care for his dogs due to the number of dogs owned. Mr. Cunningham also stated that he feels by reducing the number of dogs owned, Mr. Mandigo will be able to provide better care.

On a motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Ms S Reynolds, the Board unanimously voted that Mr. Mandigo will have 7 days to find a home for the 3 dogs that are not currently licensed and 7 days to

install a fence at the 511 Tea Street property to confine the remaining 3 dogs. If Mr. Mandigo is found not to be in compliance with this decision, citations will be issued and a complaint will be filed in District Court.

The Board unanimously voted to close the hearing at 6:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Approved by:  
Charlemont Board of Selectmen

Kathy A. Reynolds  
Executive Secretary

This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Board of Selectmen.

No documents were reviewed by the Board during this hearing.