



Monday, April 24, 2023

## Board of Selectmen Minutes

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In attendance: Dianne Craig (Selectmen), Derek Tremblay (Selectmen), Shae Simino, Melissa Salinardi, Barbara Paronto, Kirsten Hershey, Bruce Nadeau, Chief Ed Andersen, Aaron Simpson

### CALL TO ORDER

The Board called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### ROAD AGENT UPDATE

- **Sand Bids:** Shae Simino presented the Board with winter sand bid options from six different businesses. Most of the bids included a dozer and operator rental for moving the sand.

Carroll Conrete – \$6.50 per ton of sand (no equipment or operator)  
Thomas Hersey Construction – \$20,121.50  
St. Pierre – \$32,000.00  
G.M. Trucking – \$24,315.00  
United Construction – \$14,970.00  
K.A. Stevens & Son Construction - \$11,250.00

The Board reviewed the information and agreed with the Road Agent that K.A. Stevens had the best offer for the Town. The Board asked Melissa Salinardi to respond to the other businesses and let them know that a decision has been made for winter sand purchase.

- **Roller Rental:** Shae shared the roller rental bids that he received. All bids are presented below for a full months rental.

Thomas Hersey Construction – \$3,500.00  
Equipment East - \$4,098.00  
United Construction - \$4,500.00

Shae suggested using Equipment East, even though the cost would be a bit higher, because they would be able to fix their equipment if something went wrong at no additional cost to the Town.

Dianne asked what the condition of the Town's roller was and why nothing has been done with it yet. She wondered how much it would cost to fix it or whether it was even worth fixing. Shae reported that he had started looking at the roller situation back in the Fall but with the change in seasons did not get very far into the project, however, he will continue to look it over and see if it is worth fixing or possibly selling. Derek agreed with Dianne and asked Shae to assess the situation of the roller and give a report to the Board. Once Shae determines the condition of the roller, the Board can make a decision.

The Board asked Melissa to respond to the other businesses and let them know a decision for the roller rental has been made. Shae stated that as soon as the highway team gets the roller they will start grading.

- **Transfer Station:** Shae mentioned that he made the decision to close the transfer station on Sunday, April 23rd, due to inclement weather. He stated that after receiving a phone call from one of the employees explaining that the day was extremely slow and the weather was very poor, he felt it best to close at noon as he was concerned for the health of the employees. Dianne stated that she was concerned that he closed the transfer station due to the rainy weather and mentioned that there should only be a few exceptions to closing. She added that the employees should be aware that they must be able to work in certain weather conditions. Shae remarked that he was concerned for their health and he made the decision to close. He also mentioned that there were a few comments on the Goshen Neighborhood Watch page which he responded to.
- **Training:** Shae mentioned that he had a culvert maintenance class on Wednesday, April 26th that he will be participating in.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Minutes of March 13th:** Some discussion was had regarding the editing of the March 13th minutes. Dianne Craig suggested accepting the minutes and creating a policy going forward regarding non-present attendees names being recorded in the minutes. Derek Tremblay agreed that approving the minutes was important and he was hesitant to leave them in draft form. He suggested approving the minutes with a redaction of the name of the resident who was not in attendance for that meeting. Dianne was in agreement.

***Derek Tremblay motioned to accept the minutes of March 13, 2023 'as amended'. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

- **Minutes of March 14th (Town Election Day):**

***Dianne Craig motioned to accept the minutes of March 14, 2023 'as is'. Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

- **Minutes of March 27th:** One typo error was corrected.

***Derek Tremblay motioned to accept the minutes of March 27, 2023 'as amended'. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT UPDATE

- **Transfer Station Ticket:** Melissa asked the Board if they would like to continue to issue a free dump ticket to all residents who pay their upcoming tax bill.

***Dianne Craig motioned to allow the Tax Collector to issue one free dump ticket to residents who have paid their upcoming tax bill. Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

- **Employee Personal/Vacation Time:** Melissa asked for clarification on the employee personal and vacation time. She wanted to know if the personal/vacation time renewed on the date of hire or on a yearly basis. Dianne stated that going forward she believes that there should be a probationary period for all new employees and that the time received should be from time accrued. She also stated that renewal of personal and vacation time should be on a yearly schedule and all time will reset at the new year with the exception of the five days of personal time that can carry over. Derek mentioned that it is important that the Board finalize the handbook and make sure verbiage is added for clarity on some of these issues. The Board will continue discussing the handbook when all members can be present.

- **Hazard Mitigation Assistance:** Melissa mentioned that she is in communication with Fire Chief, Ryan Hall, to discuss the application submission for a generator for both the Grange and Fire Department. Once more information is received she will give a report to the Board.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **Library Update (Bonnie Belden)**

Bonnie provided an update on the Discovery Park grant. She thanked Dianne for bringing to her attention concerns regarding the volunteer agreement. She resubmitted the document to the Town's insurance and has received a more appropriate volunteer agreement. She mentioned that she spoke with the grant representative and he suggested submitting the bill from DJ Tree Works for reimbursement. She assured the Board that she will submit the bill, however, the reimbursement time is roughly two months. Dianne asked if it was quarterly reporting. Bonnie explained that it was more dependent on a percentage amount.

Bonnie continued stating that they have continued to receive support for the grant and will be raising their thermometer tracker. Dianne asked how their clean-up went on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Bonnie shared that it was not a great turn-out and that only three people showed up to assist in the clean-up but she is hopeful that during this week of vacation, some students may come out to help. She had posted notices at the Newport High School and other various locations.

She mentioned that other donations have been coming in and that a grant from NH School Yard Action was received. She added that Lindsey Webb from NH Fish and Game has offered to help and even establish a pollinator garden within the park. The Goshen School District has also received a grant for preschool learning and Dr. Gail Paludi will be purchasing preschool learning items that will be part of the experience at the Library and the Discovery Park.

Bonnie pointed out that a new partnership agreement with the Selectmen should be edited and revised. She suggested a new grant administrator be appointed for the project as Steve Smith had been the go-to representative for the Selectmen last year. Derek asked how soon she would need the revisions. Bonnie stated that it wasn't pressing but that it should be done. Dianne mentioned that the Board had agreed at a previous meeting to manage any stewardship agreements as a whole Board and both Derek and Dianne agreed to discuss it at the next meeting when all members could be present.

Bonnie also handed the Board an invitation to Nature Fest which will be happening on May 20<sup>th</sup>. She explained that the event will be held in conjunction with the Goshen School Board's school fair. She hopes for a great turnout.

*Chief Andersen, Bruce Nadeau, Kirsten Hershey, and Aaron Simpson joined the meeting at 7:22 p.m.*

### **Property Issue (Update)**

Chief Andersen, Bruce Nadeau, Kirsten Hershey, Aaron Simpson gave a report of their private discussion regarding the concerns that have been addressed by Ms. Hershey in past meetings. Chief Andersen stated that the group has formulated a plan where the Town, through the Selectmen, Code Enforcement Officer and Health Inspector will address health and septic concerns. He first suggested that the Selectmen connect the Town's attorney with Mr. Simpson (Ms. Hershey's attorney). Bruce Nadeau added that once the attorneys have been connected, he will formulate cease-and-desist notices to Ms. Hershey's neighbor with the assistance of Melissa. Once the notices are drafted, the Board will sign them and he and Chief Andersen will post them according to regulations. Once everything is legally posted, the Code Enforcement Officer and Police Department can act accordingly. Bruce Nadeau stated that he will focus on condemning the building and addressing the grey water issue as both are seen as health concerns and are violations of the Town.

The Board gave permission to Melissa to connect the two attorneys and they will review the cease-and-desist notices once they have been created. No further actions were made and no questions or concerns were voiced.

*Kirsten Hershey, Aaron Simpson and Bruce Nadeau left the meeting.*

**Chief Ed Andersen:** Chief Andersen gave an update on the purchase of the police cruiser. He stated that in all his years of purchasing a vehicle he has never had the initial estimate be increased, however, the estimate has now been increased by 8%. According to his budget, the increase would not allow him to outfit the vehicle like he had hoped, however, he was able to get an estimate for a trade in value of \$5,000 which is much higher than he anticipated. He mentioned that at the Town meeting he suggested that he would put the vehicle out for auction but didn't think he would get more than \$1,000 for the sale. He asked if he had the ability to go with the trade instead of his original plan to sell the vehicle. Barbara Paronto stated that the original intent was to keep the vehicles in rotation and she believed that as long as he continues to use the funds towards the police cruiser there shouldn't be a problem. Dianne stated that she agreed and didn't see a problem with taking the higher trade in value which would allow for the outfitting to be done as well.

*Chief Andersen left the meeting.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Conservation Commission:** Melissa mentioned that there has been some desire from a resident to join the Conservation Commission. She did not know who was currently taking charge of the committee and was unsure if a chairperson was appointed. The Board discussed that someone would have to take charge, run the meetings, and be the point of contact for this committee and Dianne wondered if a Selectmen was able to fill the role. Derek didn't believe that a Selectmen could fill the position and both members thought it best for the Conservation Committee to be contacted to see if someone already involved would be willing to step into a leadership position. Barbara Paronto suggested seeing if a former member could provide guidance to the newer members and discuss the role of the Conservation Commission and different projects that have taken place in the past.
- **Twin Ridge Mountaineers Snowmobile Club:** The Board received a request for an extension from Judy Wilson to complete work on the class VI portion that was washed out during the flood several years ago on Mummery Road (see Selectmen meeting minutes May 3, 2022 for more details). The Board reviewed the request and agreed to grant the extension.

***Derek Tremblay motioned to grant an extension to the Twin Ridge Mountaineers Snowmobile Club for the completion of the restoration of the Class VI washed out portion of Mummery Road. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

- **Goshen/Sunapee Town Line Monument:** The Board received information from Pennyroyal Hill, Land Surveying & Forestry, LLC regarding a boundary marker on Brook Road on the town line of Goshen and Sunapee that is missing. In his letter to the Board, Mr. Clayton Platt, Surveyor, offered to put the marker in the right place at no cost to the Town. The Board reviewed the map that was presented. Barbara Paronto added some informational details and explained that she had spoken to Mr. Platt and his service would offer a more prominent, well documented record for the Town. The Board agreed that taking advantage of this situation would be helpful for the Town and for future surveyors and asked Melissa to reach out to Mr. Platt and see what the next steps are.

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

- **FEMA:** Dianne gave a report and stated that meetings with FEMA have been taking place every week and they are requesting more information from the Town which has included an H & H study of the Lempster Coach bridges. She mentioned that Merrigan's corner will be fixed in-house by the highway department and

hopefully work will begin this summer. The two Lempster Coach bridges are being reviewed by FEMA. Ball Park bridge has been red listed by the State, however, it is becoming more of a problem as FEMA has stated that they will only resurface the bridge. Brickyard bridge will be the last one to review and she believes that there also may be issues receiving assistance for repairs.

Barbara Paronto mentioned that discussion had been had regarding a bond and wondered if this was still an option. Dianne stated that the goal is to not go for a bond for these projects, however, there is now a timeline that has been set for completion by December 31, 2023 and if these bridges are not completed, an extension may need to be filed. Derek asked if the work that is being done will continue to remain as little to no impact to the taxpayers. Dianne stated, "yes," she hopes that it will remain as little impact to the taxpayers as possible. She also mentioned that tracking of the work done to the bridges has been lacking and going forward a better system will be put into effect.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Handbook:** This item was tabled until a future meeting.

**STANDING ITEMS**

- Monthly Budget Review – last meeting of the month – summary from the secretary.
- Veterans Monument Repair
- Flag Poles at Cemetery
- Planning Board Update
- Other Items

***Derek Tremblay motioned to adjourn. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (2-0).***

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled **May 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Salinardi