



Monday, July 10, 2023

## **Board of Selectmen Minutes – FINAL APPROVED**

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In attendance: Dianne Craig (Selectmen), Alicea Bursey (Selectmen), Derek Tremblay (Selectmen), Shae Simino, Bonnie Belden, Melissa Salinardi, Chief Ed Andersen (arrived at 7:15 pm)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ROAD AGENT UPDATE**

- **Road & Damage Report:** Shae Simino gave an update on the condition of the roads stating that there has been some washout on shoulders especially on Brickyard, Cross Hill, Rand Pond, Old Province, and Province Road. He has been working to open the shoulders of the road to help with drainage and prevent washout. He has not had any road closures yet, however, Mummery Road is being monitored as water continues to overflow the area. He discussed the drainage problem at the bottom of Brickyard Road and mentioned that he may need to put a new culvert at the base which will need property owner permission. Alicea Bursey asked how he was handling the extra work in regards to the rain washouts and wondered if enough material would be available. Shae mentioned that he feels good about how things were being handled and is happy to see that minimal damage to the roads had occurred and he was confident that he would be able to get additional material from the surrounding businesses if needed.
- **Roadside Mowing:** Shae mentioned that he is working on getting quotes for roadside mowing. He explained that in the past the mowing had been done every two years, however, he would like to get on a yearly schedule to help keep things trimmed and manageable. He will report to the Board when he has more information.
- **Wage Discussion:** A question was raised to Shae by an employee regarding pay differences for different jobs and Shae asked if it would be possible to adjust the wages to be the same no matter what job the individual was doing. Dianne Craig mentioned that it is not uncommon to have different wages set for different jobs and added that rates are based on certification and some jobs may not require certification which may merit a lower pay. Alicea Bursey agreed that the same rate for all may not be appropriate depending on the type of work. Derek Tremblay stated that the Town has had trouble finding hard-workers and would like to see the current employees stay as long as possible even if that meant changing the wages as long as the budget could afford it. The Board agreed that Shae should review his budget and if he can find the funds within his budget a wage adjustment could be made for the current year. They further advised him to plan accordingly for next years budget.
- **Highway Assistant Position:** Melissa Salinardi updated the Board that there have been a few more inquiries on Indeed regarding the Highway Assistant position. Derek Tremblay mentioned that he met with Shae last week to discuss interview scheduling and questions that will be used during the interview process. Alicea

Bursey will also reach out to Shae with additional questions that she would like answered during the interview process. The Board will review the applications and conduct interviews after July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Shae asked whether the Town would be willing to pay for a potential applicant to get their CDL. The Board agreed that for the right candidate it could be considered and written into their hiring contract.

- **Sign Removal:** Derek Tremblay mentioned that a sign at Gunnison Lake had been vandalized with bullet holes and asked Shae if he would be willing to take the sign down. Shae will take the sign down and replace it with the one that is located on the other side of Gunnison Lake.
- **Four Corners Road:** Shae remarked that Four Corners Road is difficult to maintain and add ditches to as the area is mostly ledge. He suggested blasting, however, was unsure if it could be done due to the closeness of the road to the Gunnison dam. Alicea Bursey stated that she did not think blasting would be an option and that a conversation would have to be had with the State. Shae mentioned that at this time, the road is one lane due to the difficulty in keeping material on the road.
- **Town Hall Maintenance:** Melissa Salinardi mentioned that one of the windows over the stairs was leaking from all the rain. The highway team will try and fix the leak when they get a chance.

*Chief Ed Andersen arrived at 7:15 pm.*

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

- **Traffic Concerns (Chief Ed Andersen):** Dianne Craig mentioned that she reached out to Mr. Shawn Carroll, Jr. to discuss the excessive speed of the trucks entering and exiting the Andersen Pit, however, she added that the traffic concerns go beyond the truck traffic. She expressed concern that so many cars, trucks, and other vehicles seem to be speeding through the center of Town which could potentially lead to accidents. She asked Chief Andersen whether the Town had options to add another speed limit sign or increase police monitoring.

Chief Andersen spoke about the possibility of purchasing a flashing speed sign which he believes would be a helpful additional to the center of Town. He mentioned that in the past he has not overspent his budget and believes that there would be plenty in his budget to purchase a sign this year. He shared that more police monitoring may be possible as his schedule may be changing and added that warnings will continue to be given as needed. Dianne Craig stated that if he could find something that would be within his budget the Board would be interested in what he could find. Derek Tremblay agreed and added that he supports the Chief's findings in this area. The Board agreed to allowing Chief Andersen to purchase a flashing speed limit sign for the center of Town.

- **Library Update:** Bonnie Belden gave a budget update on the Discovery Park grant. She explained that she will be working with Melissa Salinardi to log the hours for volunteerism, play items, donations into the portal to close out the second quarter expenses. She added that everything so far totals to about \$45,000 which is a little over half way to the goal. She also mentioned that Goshen School District, SAU #102, has donated play items through the Early Childhood Learning Grant which will be a wonderful addition to the park. She stated that the Trustees along with a few other volunteers have been working hard to clean the trail as often as possible. She added that a major clean-up day is scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup> (with a rain date for July 23<sup>rd</sup>). She expressed her excitement to finally being able to see some progress and remarked that there is still much to do but they are moving along with the transformation.

Bonnie gave an update on the slide that must be made completely in the USA stating that it has been difficult to find a business that makes these within the United States. However, she was able to find one company that could make an embankment slide, however, the cost is substantially more than anticipated, therefore, she is waiting to hear back from the grant representative as to which waiver she would need to apply for.

Chief Ed Andersen suggested that he may be able to get some additional volunteers. He will communicate with Bonnie when he has some available.

Bonnie also mentioned that she thought that the partnership agreement should be edited to reflect any updated changes. She will make the edits and bring it back for the Board to review and sign.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Minutes of June 26th:** The Board had no concerns or edits to the June 26th meeting minutes.

*Alicea Bursey motioned to accept the minutes of June 26, 2023 'as is'. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 2-yes, Derek Tremblay abstained.*

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT UPDATE**

- **Flags:** The Board signed a thank you card to be sent to Mr. Greenhalgh for his donation of the flags.

- **Non-Public Session:**

Melissa Salinardi requested to go into non-public session to discuss a property concern on Brook Road.

*Dianne Craig motioned to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (e), "consideration of lawsuits threatened in writing or filed against the body or one of its members." Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (3-0).*

*The Board invited Melissa Salinardi and Chief Ed Andersen to join the non-public session. Motion made by Alicea Bursey and seconded by Derek Tremblay. All were in favor-yes; motion carried (3-0).*

The Board entered non-public session at 7:47 p.m.

A property matter was discussed.

*Alicea Bursey motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 8:01 p.m. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried (3-0).*

*Alicea Bursey motioned to seal the minutes indefinitely as it would adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of this board and it would render a proposed action ineffective. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried (3-0).*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **MOU Review:** The Board reviewed the MOU agreement between the Goshen School District, SAU #102 and the Board of Selectmen. There was some discussion as to whether a cost to rent the Grange building should be considered. The Board agreed that not enough time has passed in order to calculate usage and determined that it would be difficult to charge the School District. The Board agreed to reach out to the School District and see if they would be willing to amend the MOU agreement to a five-year review. During which time, usage of the building could continue to be tracked by the School District and the building expenses would be paid for by the Town at no cost to the School District. The secretary will reach out to the School District with the suggested amendments.

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

- **LEOP:** Dianne Craig gave an update that she attended a meeting today (Monday) to discuss the next steps in obtaining the local emergency operating plan (LEOP). The report does not have to be completed until August 2024, however, the Board will review the plan as it becomes available.
- **FEMA:** Dianne Craig reported that she continues to work on the appeal for Ball Park bridge. She mentioned that the 2020 report that had been missing from the NH DOT was able to be found. She believes that in obtaining this report the appeal may be possible. She expressed her frustration with the FEMA process and suggested that in the future, if FEMA funds are pursued, that more people are involved in the process. She also stressed the importance of tracking volunteer and work time for any projects relating to FEMA and added that it is extremely important to gather as much data as possible to help the process go smoother. The Board discussed sending an email to the department heads to make them aware that reporting time spent in emergency situations is important and can be sent directly to the Board of Selectmen. The secretary will send an email to all department heads regarding this topic.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Handbook:** This item was tabled until a future meeting.
- **Planning Board Update:** No update.
- **Meeting Schedule:** The Board discussed upcoming meetings and work sessions. The Board will not hold a work session in July. The Board decided to cancel the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and move it to August 7<sup>th</sup>. The Board will hold a work session on August 21<sup>st</sup> and a regular meeting on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **STANDING ITEMS**

- Monthly Budget Review – last meeting of every month (summary given from the secretary).
- Veterans Monument Repair
- Flag Poles at Cemetery
- Planning Board Update
- Professional Development (Ongoing)
- Deputy Emergency Management Position
- MOU Review (five-year review)
- Other Items

*Dianne Craig motioned to adjourn. Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for **July 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Salinardi