

**Monday, October 7, 2024**

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

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**Board Members Present:** Dianne Craig (Chair, Selectmen); Alicea Bursey (Selectmen); Derek Tremblay, arrived at 6:34pm (Vice-Chair, Selectmen)

**Guest (s):** Road Agent Shae Simino; Recording Secretary Melissa Salinardi; Michael Aron and Judy Aron (arrived at 6:40 pm); Bruce Nadeau (arrived at 6:50pm)

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board signed and reviewed the consent agenda.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Craig called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ROAD AGENT REPORT**

- **General Update:** The Road Agent reported that his town phone was no longer working and that it would cost an additional \$70 to buy the rest of the phone out of the current plan and upgrade to a new phone. Dianne Craig stated that the Road Agent had to have a phone for his job and recommended that the Town pay for the additional cost and suggested that Shae get an estimate for the new phones' extended warranty. Alicea Bursey and Derek Tremblay were in agreement.
- **Lempster Coach Bridge Project:** Mark Caron met with Eckman Engineering and Pine Hill Construction on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss any preliminary work that needed to be done to the roads before bridge repairs could take place. He added that he would have tried to make himself available for the meeting if he had known about it sooner; however, he had a previous engagement and Mark was available to go in his place.

He stated that there is a possibility that no repairs to the Lempster Coach Road on the Goshen side would need to occur prior to the bridge repairs. He added that parts of the Lempster side of the road (near the bridge) may need to be widened to account for the trucks that will be used in this project. He also mentioned that no trucks will be entering the water at any time and stated that a plate will be placed over the water for vehicle travel. Shae confirmed that the tentative date that Pine Hill Construction will begin is during the week of October 14<sup>th</sup>. The Board had no further questions or concerns.

**Resident Complaint:** Dianne Craig stated that the Board received a complaint against the Highway Department regarding the roadside mowing that has taken place and the condition of the roads. The resident indicated that they were unhappy with the mowing that took place near their residence and the overall condition of the roads. The resident also stated that ... "the roads are the worst I have ever seen them. Grading the town roads twice a year should not be acceptable by anyone. Previous road crews would grade roads 4 times a year."

Shae read the full complaint and responded. He stated that he did leave broken branches on the sides of the road because he had run out of time during the week to pick the piles up; however, he stated that his intention was to go back and pick the material up during the current week. He stated that the mowers are high vehicles and the trimming of brush and trees is higher than usual due to the fact that he is trying to prepare for the winter months when branches and trees tend to fall low with the weight of snow and ice. He stated that he thought it was best to prepare the sides of the roads in this way to accommodate the new truck that the Town will be receiving soon. He stated that in the past, branches have swiped the sides of the Town vehicles when plowing occurs and he was trying to avoid this with the new vehicle. Shae also responded to the concern that the grader was not being used and stated that the previous assistant road agent had told him that the grading was only done twice a year, which is what he has continued to do.

Dianne Craig asked if he was going to go back and trim some of the areas that look choppy. Shae stated that he would go back and fix those areas. Dianne Craig asked if the Board had any additional questions or concerns and asked how the Board would like to respond to the resident. Derek Tremblay stated that he believes the Road Agent should speak with the resident and address his concerns. He added that if the resident would like to continue to reach out to the Selectmen, then they can address further concerns at that time. Melissa Salinardi will respond to the resident's email and Shae Simino will follow-up in person.

Shae Simino also stated that he encourages residents to reach out to him directly and share their concerns so that he can address them immediately. He also welcomed residents' opinions of the conditions of the roads and stated that he is open to hearing others perspective so that he can better serve the Town. Shae asked if the Board agreed with the resident's statement regarding the condition of the roads. Derek Tremblay stated that he understood that Shae has been placing material where needed and that he has seen improvement. The Board agreed that a lot of work to the roads has taken place and improvements have been made overall.

#### **Employee Discussion:**

Shae Simino requested to go into a non-public session to discuss an employee matter.

*Alicea Bursey motioned to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c), "Matters that, if discussed in public, would adversely affect the reputation of someone other than a member of the public body. However, if that person requests it, the meeting must be public. Such matters include any application for assistance or tax abatement, or waiver of fees or fines based on poverty or inability to pay." Dianne Craig seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay-yes; 3-0.*

The Board entered non-public session at 6:54 p.m.

The Board invited Melissa Salinardi and Shae Simino into the non-public session.

The Board discussed a personnel medical concern.

*Derek Tremblay motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 7:03 p.m. Alicea Bursey seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.*

*Dianne Craig 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. Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.*

## APPOINTMENTS

- **State Representative Address (Michael & Judy Aron):**

State Representative Judy Aron stated that she is running and hoping to be reelected for a fourth term. The Arons's stated that they came before the Board to introduce themselves and to address questions or concerns from the Town's. Dianne Craig thanked Ms. Aron for being diligent to send email correspondence making the Board aware of certain issues.

Michael Aron stated that he was not running against Judy Aron but rather for a different and larger district that also included Goshen. Mr. Aron shared some of his recent roles in his community and others, including being the Chair of the Planning Board of Acworth, a member of the Budget Committee for Fall Mountain School, and Chair of the Sullivan County Republicans Committee. He stated that he is running to make a difference in Concord and wants to represent the small towns. He mentioned that the upcoming budget planning at the State level is a top priority this year and he hopes to fight for small town resources.

Judy Aron remarked on the budget as well stating that there have already been requests at the State level for budget cuts. She stated that she hopes that a vote for a good budget can occur. She mentioned a few bills that she has worked on including a disaster relief bill and a bill to assist in the clean-up of streams from debris.

The Board had no further questions or concerns and thanked the Aron's for their presentation.

*The Aron's left the meeting at 7:19 p.m.*

- **Multi-Family Dwelling:** The Board spoke with the Building Inspector, Bruce Nadeau, regarding a multi-family dwelling property concern. Bruce Nadeau asked to go into a non-public session.

*Alicea Bursey motioned to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c), "Matters that, if discussed in public, would adversely affect the reputation of someone other than a member of the public body. However, if that person requests it, the meeting must be public. Such matters include any application for assistance or tax abatement, or waiver of fees or fines based on poverty or inability to pay." Dianne Craig seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.*

The Board entered non-public session at 7:20 p.m.

The Board invited Bruce Nadeau and Melissa Salinardi into the non-public session.

The Board discussed a property concern regarding a multi-family dwelling.

The Board discussed what constitutes a requirement of a building permit. Bruce Nadeau stated that renovations to the interior that do not change the appearance or dimensions of the dwelling would not necessarily need a building permit.

Derek Tremblay read from the Zoning and Building Regulations, *Section XVI. Building Ordinance: 2. REQUIREMENT OF PERMITS FOR ALL BUILDINGS No building shall be erected until a permit thereof has been issued under the terms of this ordinance. Remodeling into habitable dwellings of existent structures not now being so used or conversion into apartment units of existent homes, attached ells and/or accessory buildings shall place them within the scope of this ordinance. Any additions to existing buildings for the creation of living space shall also require a permit.*

The Board agreed that unless the structure is being changed, no building permit is needed at this time. Bruce Nadeau mentioned that some changes to the regulations in the future should take place to better serve the Town in regards to housing renovations.

***Dianne Craig motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 7:45 p.m. Alicea Bursey seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.***

Alicea Bursey stated that she was not sure if the motion to seal was necessary for this discussion. The Board discussed that multiple resident names were addressed and that the reputation of a person should be considered. Alicea Bursey rescinded her request.

***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. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.***

*Bruce Nadeau left the meeting at 7:48pm.*

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **• Review of Regular Meeting Minutes (September 30, 2024):**

***Dianne Craig motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 30, 2024 “as is”. Alicea Bursey seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 2-0. Derek Tremblay abstained.***

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT UPDATES**

- **Building Resilient Communities and Infrastructure (BRIC):** The Board received an email regarding a grant that was approved for updating the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Board will review the documents and discuss this further at the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Timber Intent to Cut:** The Board reviewed a timber intent to cut for a property on Mountain Road, Tax map 410, Lot 014. The Board was concerned for the conditions of the Town roads and stated that they would like the Road Agent to monitor the condition of the roads while the logging trucks are logging in that area. Photos of the road prior to the timber cut and after the timber cut will be taken as documentation.
- **Timber Intent to Cut:** The Board reviewed a timber intent to cut for a property on Center Road, Tax map 206, Lot 016. The Board had the same concerns regarding the road conditions and will ask the Road Agent to monitor the condition of the roads at this location as well.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Hazardous Building:** One last follow-up letter has been sent as a courtesy to the property owner; however, no response has been made. The Board agreed to move forward with legal action.
- **Handbook:** The Board will continue to work on finalizing the handbook.

- **Utility Update:** No update at this time.
- **FEMA:** Abutter notifications and public notices have been sent out and posted to alert residents that the work on Lempster Coach Road Bridges will be beginning soon. Alicea Bursey will post a notice on Facebook informing residents.

**STANDING ITEMS & OTHER BUSINESS** (Some standing items may not have been discussed during the current meeting).

- **Monthly Budget Review**
- **Veterans Monument Repair**
- **Planning Board Update:** All members were present at the last Planning Board meeting, no update was given.
- **Brickyard Road Bridge**
- **Abandoned Property**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Salinardi