

Monday, October 28, 2024



Board of Selectmen Minutes – FINAL APPROVED

Board Members Present: Dianne Craig (Chair, Selectmen); Derek Tremblay, (Vice-Chair, Selectmen); Alicea Bursey (Selectmen)

Guest (s): Carl Casagrande; Donald Zipfel; Sebastian Zyzdorf; Clark Wamsley; Road Agent Shae Simino; State Representative Hope Damon; Recording Secretary Melissa Salinardi; Claudia Istel (arrived at 6:52p.m.)

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board signed and reviewed the consent agenda.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Craig called the regular meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROAD AGENT REPORT

- **General Update:** Shae reported that the grading of the roads has been finished and that the Highway Department has been able to use the roller which has been working well. He reported that trapping of the beavers near the Mummy Road bridge has begun and he already can see positive results. Shae also mentioned that he has cleared around the burn area and is waiting for fire permits to be able to use the burn pile at the transfer station again.

- **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 6:33 p.m.

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

The Board discussed a personnel medical concern and staffing issues.

Alicea Bursey motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 6:43 p.m. Dianne Craig 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.

- **Lempster Coach Road Bridge Project:** Shae reported that Pine Hill Construction has been working to repair the Lempster Coach Road bridges and he has asked Pine Hill and Eckman Engineering to provide reports of the project status. He also mentioned that he has been checking on the project every few days and will continue to monitor the development.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Property Concern (Donald Zipfel):**

Mr. Zipfel was present to discuss his concerns regarding his property on Brickyard Road. He stated that he was looking for information and facts about the bridge repair. Dianne Craig gave a brief summary of previously discussed facts. She mentioned that prior to the 2021 storm, the Board of Selectmen were preparing to purchase new decking for the bridge; however, no decking was ever purchased and then the 2021 storm destroyed the remainder of the bridge. She further explained that originally the road leading up to the bridge was thought to be a Class V; however, after receiving information from NHDES, it was made known that the portion of the road in question was in fact a Class VI. She also mentioned that the Town did apply for FEMA funding to repair the bridge; however, the Town was denied. Alicea Bursey stated that the Board has been left to decide what to do with the bridge now that no funding is available.

Mr. Zipfel wondered how much of the road was unmaintained leading up to the entrance to his property. Shae Simino stated that the distance was probably a quarter of a mile. Mr. Zipfel inquired whether building on a Class VI Road was possible. Alicea Bursey stated that a Class VI Waiver to build would have to be obtained from the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Zipfel was interested in reviewing the document and pursuing this option. A waiver will be sent to Mr. Zipfel for his review.

Donald Zipfel left the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

- **Property Concern (Carl Casagrande):**

Mr. Casagrande expressed concerns regarding an abutting lot that continues onto a Class VI Road on Page Hill Road. He wondered whether building on a Class VI Road could take place and Alicea Bursey stated that the property owner would have to apply for a Class VI Waiver to build on that road.

Mr. Casagrande stated that there is a gate that he has placed at the beginning of the Class VI Road entrance and he has asked his neighbors to close the gate to deter people from driving up the road; however, the gate is often left open which has caused vehicles to get stuck with no turn-around area. Mr. Casagrande also expressed concern that his neighbors are building without permission and that the entrance is being used at all hours of the night causing excess noise and travel.

Mr. Casagrande is hoping to see the gate be closed more often. He would also prefer to not see building on the lot. Dianne Craig suggested that he reach out to Chief Ed Andersen to address the excess vehicle travel and noise complaints. Alicea Bursey again stated that if the property owner is building on the lot, they should have a Class VI Road Waiver; however, she noted that no waivers have been submitted to the Board of Selectmen regarding this property. Dianne Craig stated that the Board will have the Building Inspector look into the building portion of Mr. Casagrande's concern. Mr. Casagrande thanked the Board for their time.

Carl Casagrande left the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- **Hope Damon:** Dianne Criag invited Ms. Damon to address the room. State Representative Hope Damon stated that she has been currently serving in District 8 and is running again for a second term. She stated that she sits on several committees and mentioned a few of her bills that have been passed, including a housing bill and a bill to include the eating disorders helpline number on high school student ID cards. The Board had no questions or concerns.
- **Claudia Istel:** Dianne Craig invited Ms. Istel to address the room. Ms. Istel stated that she is running against Judy Aron as State Representative. She expressed her concern for democracy and stated that she is running to support small towns. She mentioned her support towards public education and stated that it is her desire to help people as much as possible and meet the needs that are being neglected. She spoke briefly about the school voucher program and stated that this is one subject that she will continue to stand against. The Board had o questions or concerns.

APPOINTMENTS

• **Board of Selectmen Interview:**

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

The Board entered non-public session at 7:23 p.m.

The Board invited Clark Wamsley into the non-public session.

The Board discussed the open Board of Selectmen position with a potential candidate.

Dianne Craig motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 7:31 p.m. Derek Tremblay seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.

Hope Damon and Caludia Istel left the meeting at 7:33pm.

• **Board of Selectmen Interview:**

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

The Board entered non-public session at 7:34 p.m.

The Board invited Sebastian Zyzdorf into the non-public session.

The Board discussed the open Board of Selectmen position with a potential candidate.

Derek Tremblay motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 7:42 p.m. Alicea Bursey seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Alicea Bursey-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; Derek Tremblay; 3-0.

The Board stated that a decision for the open Board of Selectmen position will be made after November 5th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• Review of Regular Meeting Minutes (October 7, 2024):

Derek Tremblay motioned to approve both the Non-Public Session and the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2024 “as is”. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

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.

Dianne Craig motioned to accept the terms of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) as presented in the amount of \$9,187.17 for updating the local hazard mitigation plan. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$12,249.56, in which the town will be responsible for a 25% match (\$3,062.39). Alicea Bursey seconded the motion.

The Board discussed the purpose of the grant and agreed to move forward with signing the agreement.

The Board also agreed that Chris Moen, Emergency Management Director, who signed the original agreement, should continue to have the authority to sign BRIC documents when necessary. The Board had no further questions or concerns.

VOTE: All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

• Health Trust Renewal Rates: The Board reviewed the new Health Trust medical insurance rates. An increase will occur; however, the Board decided to make no changes to what is offered and will keep the current insurance plan.

Dianne Craig motioned to accept Health Trust medical insurance plan “as presented” for the upcoming 2025 year. Alicea Bursey seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

• NHDES Red Listed Bridge: Dianne Craig stated that NHDES reached out to discuss the approval of funds to repair Ball Park Road Bridge. An on-site inspection of the bridge with the NHDES project manager is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2024. She explained that the Town has been awarded funds to repair this bridge and is scheduled to move forward as soon as the project manager discusses next steps which could be as soon as 2025. Dianne Craig mentioned that a QBS process will have to be followed for all bids and that LPA certification may be needed for Town employees.

The Board discussed the cost to the Town which will be 20% of the total amount. The Board thought that adding a line item to the Capital Reserve Funds for the Ball Park Bridge Repair would be needed. The Board agreed that putting money aside for this project would be beneficial and help offset the tax burden. The Board

remarked that, although, the Town has been denied for FEMA funding twice, this state funded grant is necessary and needed for the repair of Ball Park Road Bridge.

Shae Simino asked whether this Capital Reserve Fund request would affect his Highway requests for the CRF. The Board stated that he should continue to put his requests in and that it will be up to the Town to decide how much is actually put into the Capital Reserve Funds.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Hazardous Building:** A follow-up letter was received on October 24th from the property owner. The Board read the letter aloud and noted that the property owner stated that work to fix the hazardous building has begun and will continue. Dianne Craig mentioned that the Police Chief, Fire Chief and Building Inspector/Health Officer have all been asked to submit pictures and reports of the property. The Board would like to review these reports and will wait to move forward until the reports have been reviewed and more progress from the property owner has been made.
- **Handbook:** The Board will continue to work on finalizing the handbook.
- **Utility Update:** No update at this time.
- **Code Enforcement Position:** Derek Tremblay reminded the Board of a resume received through email correspondence for the Code Enforcement position. The Board would like to interview the interested person during the November 25th meeting.

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

- **Monthly Budget Review:** The Board reviewed a monthly budget report and had no questions or concerns.
- **Veterans Monument Repair**
- **Planning Board Update:** Derek Tremblay stated that the Planning Board motioned to approve the Ball Park Road subdivision, they completed a final list of Master Plan survey questions, and they conducted their annual site inspection of the gravel pits. He stated that Mr. Shaun Carroll, Jr. plans to be finished with Phase II by the end of the year and will continue to move forward into Phase III, which includes more timber cutting in the future. Derek Tremblay stated that Shaun Carroll has offered free sand to the Goshen Highway Department and encouraged Shae Simino to reach out to Mr. Carroll for further details. The Board has no questions or concerns.
- **Brickyard Road Bridge:** Dianne Craig asked Shae Simino if the small section of the Class VI portion of Brickyard Road has been plowed by the Highway Department. Shae responded, “no”.
- **Abandoned Property**

OTHER ITEMS:

- **Old Home Day:** Dianne Craig mentioned that a meeting to discuss potential Goshen Old Home Day festivities will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Library. Anyone who is interested in joining the group is welcome to attend.

- **Speed Issues:** Shae remarked that he was contacted by a resident on Lear Hill Road regarding other drivers speeding around the corners and they have asked if the Police Department can increase patrol in that area. The Board will reach out to the Police Department to address this concern.
- **Resident Concern Follow-up:** Dianne Craig mentioned that the Board received a follow-up email from the Blys's regarding their previous email with concerns about the Highway Department. Shae Simino mentioned that he spoke with the Bly's and addressed their concerns. The follow-up email consisted of praise for the Highway Department and the Board thanked Shae for reaching out to the residents.

Both Dianne Craig and Alicea Bursey shared concerns with one line of the email which stated, "what he has to work with." Shae stated that he did not indicate anything to the resident that would imply faulty or broken-down equipment. Dianne Craig stated that she feels that the Board has been working hard to bring the Highway Department's resources up and hopes that is recognized by residents.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Salinardi