



Monday, April 14, 2025

Board of Selectmen Minutes – FINAL

Board Members Present: Derek Tremblay (Chair); Sebastian Zyzdorf; Dianne Craig (Vice-Chair, Selectmen-arrived at 6:36pm)

Guest (s): Blake Gross (DRA Representative), Lisa Mudge (DRA Representative); John Hatfield (Commerford Nieder Perkins); Road Agent ShaeDel Simino; Recording Secretary Melissa Salinardi

CALL TO ORDER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board signed and reviewed the consent agenda.

APPOINTMENTS

- **2025 Revaluation:** John Hatfield, Commerford Nieder Perkins assessor, stated that the updating of values is based on current market sales and he added that the Town should expect to see a large increase of roughly 90% in home values during this revaluation year. He stated that his office will be sending out letters to taxpayers in the early fall to explain the increase and offer office hours to discuss any questions or concerns that residents might have. He explained that during this revaluation all properties in Goshen will be reassessed and values will be updated accordingly.

DRA Representative Lisa Mudge stated that it is the DRA's responsibility to oversee the revaluation process and that they will provide a random field review of properties checking to make sure data has been entered correctly and is accurate with value increases. She added that the goal is to bring the whole municipality up to standard market value.

It was noted that notices should be posted informing residents of the revaluation process and the increase to property values. John Hatfield, Lisa Mudge and Blake Gross all agreed that the more information taxpayers receive regarding the revaluation process the better. Derek Tremblay asked if there was a template for communicating this information to residents. John Hatfield stated that he was willing to send something to the Town to use.

Derek Tremblay asked when the work would begin. John Hatfield stated that the majority of the field work has been completed over the last few years and that the next step is to review the sales and values of the properties. He added that the entire revaluation should be completed by November 3, 2025 and that letters to residents can be expected to be mailed in the fall. DRA Representative, Blake Gross added that DRA also sends a letter to residents who will be chosen as part of the random review once the assessing office has finalized their sales data.

Lisa Mudge suggested posting information about the revaluation as soon as possible so that the residents can be informed. She further explained that once the appraisal report from the assessing office is received, DRA will begin their follow-up review of the revaluation process.

The Board also reviewed documents submitted by DRA, including the ratio study and assessment review information packet. Lisa Mudge further explained that DRA will schedule a visit to the Town office and review Current Use files, Veterans, Solar, and Elderly credits and exemptions, as well as other important revaluation documents. There was further discussion of what the Town office can expect and what should be kept in files for the State to review.

Lisa Mudge also explained the abatement process and stated that getting this information out to residents will also be an important task for the Board.

The Board had no further questions or concerns. They thanked the representatives for joining them and explaining this process.

John Hatfield, Lisa Mudge, and Blake Gross left the meeting at 7:20 pm.

- **Property Concern:** The Board will follow-up with the Police Chief and the Health Inspector regarding this topic during a future meeting.

ROAD AGENT

- **General Update:** Shae Simino reported that the Highway Department has been working on fixing the muddy roads, and he believes they are now in better condition as the weather starts to improve.

Twenty-five bags full of trash were picked up by the Highway Department on Messer and Province Road. Shae stated that several residents have taken blue trash bags to assist with the clean-up of the roads. Residents have already started working on Cross and Center Road and he appreciates their assistance with this matter.

The new Freightliner truck was taken in for a covered warranty maintenance and Shae is putting letters on the vehicle to identify it as a town vehicle. It was also noted, later in the evening, that the reimbursement money from the Granite State Clean Fleets Grant was received and the Board will motion to accept the funds during an upcoming Public Hearing on April 28th.

Shae was pleased to report that the old 02 International truck auction ended this evening and the highest bid came in at \$3,350.00

Derek Tremblay motioned to accept the highest bid for the 02 International, now decommissioned, dump truck in the amount of \$3,350.00. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0. No discussion.

Shae asked for clarification on who maintains the Gunnison Lake access road. Dianne Craig stated that she believes the State maintains the road. Shae will reach out to them for further clarification and then open the gate, for the season, when the road is passable.

As the road conditions to improve, Shae suggested lifting the posted signs by the end of the week (April 19th) and he asked if the hours for the Highway Department could change starting next week. The Board agreed to lift the posted signs by the end of the week and also to allow the Highway Department to switch their hours based on Shae's recommendation.

Shae stated that he spoke with the Pine Hill Construction owner regarding the work scheduled to begin again on Lempster Coach Road bridges, both Class VI & Class V. Pine Hill Construction would like to begin work

again and gave a tentative date of May 1st. Notifications of this continued work will be sent out to abutters of both bridges and notices will be posted as soon as the dates are finalized with Pine Hill Construction.

Dianne Craig mentioned that she was happy to see trash being picked up on the roads, but asked if this could not have been delegated to another person, such as the highway helper position. She thought that the use of the highway department's time and resources could have been spent elsewhere and the cost to the Town could have been lessened if another individual was asked to take on this job. Sebastain Zyzdorf liked the idea of offering the blue bags to residents and asking for their assistance. Shae stated that ideally, he would like to have a Town clean-up day and offer hotdogs, and hamburgers as rewards for picking up trash. The Board agreed that a town-wide clean-up day would be a good idea, but suggested that this be a spring activity.

Shae furthered discussed the increased trash on Messer Road and suggested putting signs up to enforce a littering ordinance. The Board will investigate littering ordinances in Goshen and continue discussion at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• Review of Regular Meeting Minutes (March 24, 2025):

Sebastian Zyzdorf motioned to approve the Regular Meeting and Non-Public Minutes of March 24, 2025 "as is". Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT UPDATES

- **NH School Funding Fairness Project:** The Board reviewed an email correspondence asking for Selectmen members to sign a petition to support the NH School Funding Fairness Project and a public letter that will be presented to the Senate during their budget deliberations which will highlight adequate funding for public schools without overburdening local taxpayers.
- **Cemetery Update:** Melissa Salinardi reported that an email from the Cemetery Trustees was received. The committee members have agreed to increase the plot price from \$250 to \$500. The members are also planning on mapping out the remaining lots of the cemeteries. The Board agreed with the decision of the Cemetery Trustee members and had no further questions or concerns.
- **Ambulance Update:** The Board reviewed an updated contract with the Town of Newport for the Ambulance contract renewal. The Board noted that the cost had increased; however, agreed that the option of using the Newport Ambulance services was necessary for the residents of Goshen.

Derek Tremblay motioned to waive the purchasing policy for the Ambulance contract based on consideration for the safety of the Goshen residents. Sebastian Zyzdorf seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

Derek Tremblay motioned to accept the Ambulance Contract with the Town of Newport, effective January 1, 2026 and in the amount of \$53,117 (2026 payment). Dianne Craig seconded the motion. All were in favor-yes; motion carried, 3-0. No further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- **Overwatch Foundation Grant Update:** Derek Tremblay gave an update on the progress of the .gov migration and the Overwatch Foundation grant status. He stated that the technology committee has been meeting with the Overwatch Foundation and has requested a project timeline. He added that the grant is a 3-year grant which should assist the Town in covering all expenses for licensing and migration costs; however, the Town will need to prepare for future costs and this will be determined based on the amount of licenses needed for email accounts. The technology committee members will continue to meet and discuss town employee emails and the project timeline.
- **Hazardous Building Follow-up:** The Board received legal counsel regarding a hazardous building concern.

Derek Tremblay motioned to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (e), "Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation." Sebastian Zyzdorf seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Sebastian Zyzdorf-yes; Derek Tremblay-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

The Board entered non-public session at 8:11 p.m.

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

The Board discussed legal proceedings regarding a property concern. All information was sent to the attorney via email. The Board agreed to the legal advice given.

Derek Tremblay motioned to come out of the Non-Public Session at 8:21 p.m. Dianne Craig seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Sebastian Zyzdorf-yes; Derek Tremblay-yes; Dianne Craig-yes; motion carried, 3-0.

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

Derek Tremblay suggested edits to the standing item list. The Board agreed to create one Budget item that would include reports from the Budget Committee Selectmen ex-officio and the Planning Board Selectmen ex-officio. They also agreed to remove the Veteran's Monument Repair as this is being discussed by the Old Home Day committee. Derek also suggested adding the discussion regarding the littering ordinance to the list for further discussion. The Board agreed to all changes.

- **Budget Review (Budget Committee & Planning Board):** Sebastian Zyzdorf stated that quorum was not met at the last Planning Board meeting, but that April 17th the Planning Board is scheduled to hold two Public Hearings, one for a subdivision on Rand Pond Road, and one to review the excavation permit renewal for Phase 3 in the Anderson Pit.
- **Abandoned Property**
- **Littering Ordinance**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Salinardi.