

Final



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2021**

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: JOHN (JACK) MEANEY, CHAIRMAN; FREDERICK W. HIPPLER, VICE CHAIRMAN; JONATHAN H. OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; SHERRY M. BURDICK, SELECTMAN; JOHN VAN LOENDERSLOOT, SELECTMAN

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR/ZOOM HOST: Naomi L. Bolton

GUESTS VIA ZOOM: Finance Administrator Rouse, DPW Director Knapp, Police Chief Moore, Frank & Mary Jo Campana, Steve Roberts, Wayne Meattey, Sarah Whearty, Vanessa Hippler, Brittany Hunt

Chairman Meaney opened the meeting to order at 6:17 pm.

NONPUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Osborne seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 6:18 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3II (a&c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Van – yes; Chairman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Osborne - yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Van seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 6:30 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Van – yes; Chairman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Osborne - yes. Passed 5-0-0

The Board met with DPW Director Knapp regarding positions at the Highway Department and Transfer Station.

Chairman Meaney called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm., welcomed those via zoom to the March 15, 2021 Weare Board of Selectmen Meeting. Chairman Meaney roll called the Board members, all present.

Swear In Newly Elected Officials

Chairman Meaney swore in the officials' below to faithfully, impartially discharge, and perform all the duties incumbent on them according to the best of their abilities, agreeable to the rules and regulations, the constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire:

Steve Roberts – Board of Firewards – nonmember

Wayne Meattey – Board of Firewards – member

Sarah Whearty – Trustees of the Trust Fund

Frederick W. Hippler – Board of Selectmen
Sherry Burdick – Board of Selectmen

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brittany Hunt, 194 Buckley Road, #17, spoke concerning a propane delivery to her campsite/condo being denied as All Seasons Campground/Condo is closed for the months of November and March, no road access. She stated the Association is looking for the Town to manage their By-Laws. Also, she would like the Town to tell the Association their By-Laws need to be rewritten. Additionally, she stated the Association is taking advantage of Town services.

Town Moderator Eileen Meaney read a statement thanking Town Officials, Boards, Commissions, Committees, Department Heads and the Select Board for their hard work and dedication in putting forth the Town Election, assisting her in her role as host. Also, she addressed Ethical Conduct for members of committees, encouraging the Board to revisit the RSA re: Ethics Committee. This is needed based on some behaviors she has seen over the past two years.

DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:

DPW Director Knapp stated, after a discussion with the Board, due to the Default Budget summer hours for the Transfer Station are on hold. He congratulated Selectman Burdick and Vice Chairman Hippler on their re-election to the Board.

Chief Moore stated he took delivery of a new 2021 Chevy Tahoe front-line patrol cruiser. It will take three months to be fully upfitted. He thanked the citizens who supported this, as it was definitely needed.

Reappointments of committee members – moved to next meeting 3/22/21

BOS – Select Committee for Representation

Town Administrator Bolton explained the following Boards require an Ex-Officio. Assignments as stated:
Planning Board meets 2nd and 4th Thursday @ 7:00 pm – Chairman Meaney
CIP Committee meets Wednesday mornings @ 8:30 am from August to October – Selectman Osborne
PARC meets the 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 pm – Selectman Van
Stone Fund meets twice a year – Vice Chairman Hippler

Elect Chair and Vice Chairman for the Board

Selectman Van nominated, Selectman Osborne seconded to appoint Vice Chairman Hippler as Chairman. Selectman Van – yes; Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes, Chairman Meaney and Vice Chairman Hippler abstained. Passed 3-0-2

Selectman Van nominated, Selectman Burdick seconded to appoint Chairman Meaney as Vice Chairman. Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Van – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes, Vice Chairman Hippler and Chairman Meaney abstained. Passed 3-0-2

MANIFEST:

To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated March 18, 2021 as included in the following manifests:

Payroll Manifest \$ 63,146.84 (Weekly payroll)

Accounts Payable Manifest

\$ 52,946.89

Total

\$ 116,093.73

Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to accept the manifest as follows, which passed. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Meaney bridged the question of alternating BOS meeting times to the first and third and any as needed Mondays. The Board agreed, to begin April 5th.

MINUTES:

March 8, 2021 Minutes: Selectman Osborne moved, Chairman Meaney seconded to accept the minutes of March 8th as written, passed 5-0-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

General Items:

1. Forestry Contract – forth coming
2. Zoom meetings:
 - BOS – Monday, March 15th @ 6:30 pm
 - PARC – Tuesday, March 16th @ 7:00 pm
 - BOS – Monday, March 22nd @ 6:30 pm
 - PB – Thursday, March 25th @ 7:00 pm
3. Building Inspector – Kyle Parker gave his notice, effective March 31, 2021. Part time position to be advertised as a fixed schedule, reaching out to surrounding towns as possible Mutual Aid, to share with contractors and place on website. Morning (7:00 am to 9:00 am) and afternoon (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm) office hours for walk-ins/phone calls, on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Inspections scheduled between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Friday mornings. LUC Dearborn-Luce works Monday to Thursday 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Fridays off. Kelly to have inspection folders ready in advance for Fridays. The Board agrees.

Building & Maintenance Projects:

- Walker Roofing – met with Chairman Meaney and Town Administrator Bolton on Thursday, March 11 to address the Town Hall returns and the Stone Building roof end cap. Once again, a return call for pricing was slated for today, as of this evening, no response. RFP to reach out to vendors, Melanson Co., etc.
- Gazebo and Schmidt property signs – DPW to install as schedules allow.
- Reservoir Drive – No Parking signs, DPW to install when ground softens/schedules allow.
- Town Hall Sign – DPW to install as weather/schedules allow.
- Employee Ladies Room and Town Building Maintenance – TBD

- Opening of Town Office Building – Town Administrator Bolton is ok with opening the Town Office building for regular business hours, but prefers mandating Committees still meet via Zoom. April is a busy time with dog registrations, Rabies Clinic could be held outside, weather permitting as Town Hall is closed.

Selectman Van is for opening in April, against the mandate all Boards, Commissions, Committees meetings via Zoom until further notice. He prefers to mandate in person at the Town Office or Zoom, no meetings held outside.

Town Administrator Bolton explained moving meetings back to the Town Offices, following Governor's orders, would still mandate masks and 6 ft. distancing which limits only three or four people to come to meetings. Down the road, with vaccinations, orders could be lifted leading to the return for in-house regular committee meetings allowing public access.

Selectman Van understands, but does not agree with Zoom 100%, all the time.

Chairman Meaney stated his opinion is there has been no suffering for availability of Town services. Live committee meetings would still mandate masks and 6 ft. distancing, sanitizing, etc., allowing for two or three public at large. Not in agreement to opening the Town Offices. No rush for in-person meetings, Zoom is working well, should continue with it.

Selectman Burdick stated to re-visit in May.

Selectman Osborne concurs with Chairman Meaney, stay Zoom for the next couple of months.

Vice Chairman Hippler stated he is indifferent, his opinion is to stay in a recording platform with Zoom, Non-Public Sessions should meet in person.

Chairman Meaney suggested opening the building in May to correspond with the Governor's timeline to open things back up.

Selectman Burdick suggested a May opening, this allows for six weeks of opportunity for vaccinations.

Vice Chairman Hippler agrees with the increase of April business the Town Office building should be open, with good weather coming windows can be opened for ventilation.

Selectman Osborne moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to open the Town Office building for regular business hours effective Monday, April 5th. Mandating all meetings Zoom, to revisit May 1st.

Discussion: Vice Chairman Hippler stated with the doors open, monitoring would have to be done of how many people are in the Town Office building at all times, keeping 6 ft. distancing. Does the remote door opener still work?

Town Administrator Bolton responded there are signs all over stipulating only two people allowed in the Town Clerk's office and only three people in the lobby. There are three seats in the main lobby area, 6 ft. apart; people have been very good following the protocol.

Vote: Selectman Burdick – Yes; Vice Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Van – no; Chairman Meaney – abstained. Passed 3-1-1

Selectman Van moved, Vice Chairman Hippler seconded to keep the Town Hall closed, revisit first BOS meeting in June. Passed 5-0-0

CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER BUSINESS

Selectman Osborne suggested a Cemetery RFP with two and a half months until Memorial Day.

Town Administrator Bolton reiterated Finance Administrator Rouse's notice to keep a close eye on expenditures in a Default Budget. Projects may not happen.

Vice Chairman Hippler thanked the townspeople who voted and for his position back on the Board. He also thanked Chairman Meaney for navigating a very interesting COVID year.

Selectman Burdick seconded Chairman Meaney has done a great job over this past year.

Chairman Meaney thanked the Board, team support, and wished Vice Chairman Hippler well on his upcoming Chairman position starting next week.

Selectman Osborne asked if the Cemetery RFP could be included in Monday's BOS meeting.

Vice Chairman Hippler informed the Board that our other current lawn contractor is not interested in taking on the cemeteries.

Town Administrator Bolton explained it is going to be tough, only a certain amount of money allocated.

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Hippler made a motion, Chairman Meaney seconded to adjourn at 7:22 pm. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Karen Nelson

Karen Nelson transcribed from

TA Bolton notes & You Tube recording