

Final



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
April 5, 2021**

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

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR/ZOOM HOST: Naomi L. Bolton

GUESTS VIA ZOOM: Conservation Commission Chairman Andy Fulton, Conservation Commission Secretary Michael Camacho, PARC Director Lisa Purington-Grolljahn, Vanessa Hippler

Chairman Hippler called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm., welcomed those via zoom to the April 5, 2021 Weare Board of Selectmen Meeting. Chairman Hippler roll called the Board members, all present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:

1.) PARC Director Lisa Purington-Grolljahn stated the Board met Friday, and though applying asphalt for the boat ramp repair is not favorable, it is this year's only option. No decision has been made regarding the gesture from Eversource for an Arbor Day tree planting, waiting to hear what kind.

Town Administrator Bolton explained Cory Keeffe, Eversource Consulting Arborist, stated it depends on what the nursery has at the time of planting, perhaps a Kousa Dogwood, Maple, Oak or Pine. A request can be made from these selections. Looking to plant on April 30th with Asplundh Tree Service. PARC members and the Board of Selectmen invited to attend.

PARC Director Purington-Grolljahn stated PARC is thrilled to receive the planting she prefers a leafy shade tree, not pine, designated area will be staked. Also, she will be with her family on vacation on April 30th. She suggested one of the trees could be planted at Bolton Field.

Chairman Hippler asked PARC Director Purington-Grolljahn if PARC is ok with moving forward with the boat repair out of the maintenance line. She responded in the affirmative.

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to extend \$1000.00 from the ground maintenance line of PARC to repair the boat ramp by DPW. Passed 5-0-0

PARC Director Purington-Grolljahn confirmed with Town Administrator Bolton the tree selections offered by Eversource. Selectman Burdick suggested not choosing an Oak tree as they shed acorns in the fall, a Maple tree would be better. PARC Director Purington-Grolljahn agrees. Town Administrator Bolton to relay to Cory Keeffe the requested selection, two Maple trees.

2.) Conservation Commission Chairman Andy Fulton stated the committee has a full roster of members, but has room for alternates. The Commission was voted into existence in 1967 +/- and they look to the BOS to renew/confirm memberships. Coordinating with the PB, advise the BOS when necessary, grateful Selectman Burdick is a full member. Looking forward to a great working partnership for 2021.

Chairman Fulton gave his background history for the benefit of Selectman Van. Chairman Fulton is a NH Professional Geologist. Working for NHDES, cleaning up at petroleum stations, home heating oil spills, and water treatment for clean drinking water.

Conservation Commission Secretary Michael Camacho works to lower polluting emissions for the NHDES air pollution field. His membership with the Conservation Commission is to keep Weare's heritage from the past moving forward into the future. He is learning the intricacy of forest management and contracts.

Chairman Fulton stated with his role, as secretary, Michael Camacho, has done the committee meeting minutes in the past. Chairman Fulton would also like the BOS to reconsider Lori Davis's reappointment to the Conservation Commission, as she is a fully engaged rapid learner. If not reappointed in two weeks, he requests an explanation. Others, who wish to join the commission, can become alternates.

Chairman Hippler thanked Chairman Fulton and Secretary Camacho for speaking and appreciates the increased communication between the two Boards.

Chairman Hippler asked the Board of Selectmen if they had comments. There was none.

Chairman Fulton suggested a discussion to address Town Administrator Bolton's thoughts to streamline memberships to after Town Meeting.

Chairman Hippler replied absolutely.

Town Administrator Bolton clarified it is difficult to monitor committee member's expiration dates. The idea is for everyone to have the same.

Chairman Fulton responded the Conservation Commission is not looking to be different, maybe some adjustments are in order. He asked could he expect the reappointment as mentioned.

Chairman Hippler answered he is not sure as there was no nomination, nor second and therefore no vote. The Board's consensus would have to change.

Chairman Fulton suggested addressing at BOS April 19th meeting along with Forestry contracts.

Discussion regarding House Bill 111 State Representatives

Town Administrator Bolton reached out to Leah Cushman, working tonight, Keith Erf, committed to JS Deliberative Session, and Gary Hopper, no response, all three Hillsborough 2 Representatives. Keith Erf

Vice Chairman Meaney elucidated a government employee, Selectmen, for example, acting proper within their guidelines “color of authority” have qualified immunity. If they eliminate this one can be sued personally and professionally. No immunity even if you acted properly.

Vice Chairman Meaney also commented on House Bill 2, municipality funding, may mean more block grant money in the new budget.

To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated April 8, 2021 as included in the following manifests:

To order the Treasurer to sign payroll checks dated April 15, 2021 estimated to be about \$70,000.00. Furthermore, to order the Treasurer to sign up to the amount of \$75,000.00 for accounts payables that cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting. Reports and actual check amounts will be reported to the Board of Selectmen by inclusion on the Manifest Memo at the next scheduled meeting.

March 29, 2021 Minutes: Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Van seconded to accept the minutes of March 29th as amended, passed 4-0-1. Selectman Osborne abstained

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

General Items:

1. E-Subscribe numbers for next meeting.
2. Radio Communications, still open
3. Forestry Contract, CC to discuss then joint meeting, next reviewed by Town Attorney
4. Zoom meeting schedule:
 - Friday, April 2, PARC @ 7:00pm
 - Monday, April 5, BOS @ 6:30pm
 - Tuesday, April 6, ZBA @ 7:30pm
 - Thursday, April 8, PB @ 7:00pm
 - Tuesday, April 13, PARC @ 7:00pm
 - Wednesday, April 14, TTF @ 4:15pm
 - Wednesday, April 14, CC @ 7:00pm
 - Monday, April 19, BOS @ 6:30pm
 - Thursday, April 30, PB @ 7:00pm
5. Reappointments: Cable Committee – John Lawton, 1 year

Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to reappointment John Lawton to the Cable TV Committee for one year. Passed 5-0-0

6. Building Inspector advertising set for April 9th
7. Arbor Day, April 30th, Eversource and Asplundh Tree Service to plant two trees
8. Chase Park, boat ramp, NHDES 10 day wait

Building & Maintenance Projects:

- Walker Roofing still no confirmation, supposed to be completed by end of April
- Clark Roberge, Town Hall Sign, six to ten weeks for Swenson Granite to cut pieces, install June 1st, DPW to dig 48" hole end of May
- Eversource – post cards for every road they tree trim, signed by BOS

Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Van seconded to allow Town Administrator Bolton to sign postcards to be sent out in a timely manner in order for tree trimming to take place. Passed 5-0-0

- East Road Barn Roof, panel flew off in windstorm, Selectman Burdick stated the Historical Society is prepared to pay for half or all of the repair bill.

Selectman Van asked does this building qualify as a government building, in a default budget.

Vice Chairman Meaney responded usually the entity that leases a building is responsible for the maintenance.

Chairman Hippler stated the contract needs to be revisited. He also mentioned the default budget, not as much money went into the government-building fund.

Selectman Van restated his question, does it qualify.

Chairman Hippler reiterated the document needs to be reviewed to decide who is responsible for what.

Selectman Burdick added the Historical Society will pay a good portion of the bill.

Selectman Van suggested getting three repair estimates.

Town Administrator Bolton questioned what type of roofing material is to be quoted.

Selectman Van replied to repair what is existing.

Selectman Burdick stated the roof is old sheet metal, may fly off in next storm. There is dry rot in the roof as well, could entail a new sub roof.

Chairman Hippler replied with the barn possibly needing a new sub roof, it needs to be determined where the Town's responsibility lies. It might be a substantial investment. If the Town is liable, simple fix for this year, then put it on the warrant. He suggested three quotes to repair, securing what is there and a quote for complete metal roof replacement.

Selectman Osborne stated the old highway garage metal roof was saved. Possibly use some of that.

Chairman Hippler responded to inquire with DPW Director Knapp.

Selectman Burdick suggested getting a quote for 50-year architectural shingles. Perhaps rough sawn lumber.

- MOA – Memorandum of agreement explanation from 3/29. It was an agreement between the Police Union and the Town. Allowing the Lieutenant modification/flexibility of his schedule in the same pay cycle. For an example, if he worked a twelve-hour shift then the next day he would work an eight-hour shift to avoid overtime.

CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Chairman Hippler answered Travis Corcoran's questions from BOS 3/29.

- ✓ Email to Ms. Davis – should have been sent from Town Administrator Bolton's personal account as it was not sent in the capacity of the Town Administrator or official Town statement.
- ✓ Was Ms. Davis the only person to not be reappointed – No, not the only one.
- ✓ Does the Town have an Ethics Committee – the Town has an Ethics Policy, copies can be sent out. There is an Ethics Board with zero volunteers.
- ✓ Accusation of Ms. Davis not being reappointed because of her membership to the Weare Tax Payers Coalition – Any BOS member can 100% respond that is not why she was not reappointed.

2. Chairman Hippler read the following letter sent to the Board:

Naomi Bolton
Town Administrator
15 Flanders Memorial Road
Weare, NH 03281

April 1, 2021

Dear Ms. Bolton,

I am writing today in response to comments made at the BOS meeting on March 29, 2021.

After listening to the public comments, I would like to express my opinion about Lori Davis being appointed to the Conservation Commission in our town. Ms. Davis has shown a complete lack of regard to a large number of residents in Weare on social media. She has repeatedly made condescending, disrespectful and, at times, malicious comments. All of this is evident on the Weare Facebook pages.

Ms. Davis claims that she is being "attacked" because she has a "difference of opinion." Having a difference of opinion in politics and the running of certain boards in a small town is inevitable. However, dealing with those differences in a respectful way shouldn't be hard, and it should be expected of people who are on committees or are elected to any position within our town. The only thing that Ms. Davis has shown to those who may disagree with her is malice; she gave us all a little sample of that malice when she publicly named those who either confronted her or disagreed with her.

It is my opinion as a more than 30 year resident of this town, that Ms. Davis should not be appointed to any committee or commission, not because I might disagree with her politics, but because I believe that she has not one ounce of respect or regard for the people who live here who don't agree with her. She doesn't appear to have any desire to engage in meaningful conversation with people, and her only tactic to interact with those who might oppose her is to degrade, insult and attack them. This should not be the kind of conduct we, as residents of Weare, should accept from any town appointed committee or commission member.

I respectfully request that this letter be taken into consideration when the BOS or town administrator begins the process of appointing committee or commission members. We should strive to do better as a town, and appoint members who are able to show respect to ALL residents, regardless of their positions on different issues.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Paveglia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Paveglia
81 Meadow Drive
Weare, NH 03281

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3. The Board of Selectmen received a letter thanking Chairman Hippler for serving the Town, complimenting his decision-making in dealing with concerns from Town residents.

4. Selectman Van mentioned an email regarding the Weare Patriotic Celebration. Town Administrator Bolton explained the emailer is in favor of holding the Patriotic Celebration this summer. It highlighted kids like to see the parade and fireworks.

Town Administrator Bolton stated there is a lot that goes into having the Celebration. The Patriotic Committee is exploring options. The Board of Selectmen and the School grants permission for use of the property. An update from the amusement company is forth coming. Coordination of several people are needed once this is established. It is a waiting game; guidelines need to be adhered to, not a simple process. A field request may come for the fall once definitive answers come in.

5. Selectman Burdick stated an email came in from a resident on Reservoir Drive. Vice Chairman Meaney stated this email should not be discussed in public as it pertains to someone's reputation. Chairman Hippler concurred. It was sent to the new Building Inspector.

6. Chairman Hippler inquired if IT was contacted regarding trouble he is having receiving emails. Selectman Osborne stated he is having trouble as well. Vice Chairman Meaney stated he too has emails with files that do not open correctly. Town Administrator Bolton to investigate with IT.

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Van made a motion, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to adjourn at 7:47 pm. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Karen Nelson

Karen Nelson transcribed from

TA Bolton notes & You Tube recording