

Final



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
August 30, 2021**

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

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi L. Bolton

GUESTS: DPW Director Benjamin Knapp, Police Chief Chris Moore, Library Director Clay Kriese, Town Moderator Eileen Meaney, Library Trustee Secretary Brenda Cannon, Library Trustee Chairman Mark Carey, Mildred Hall Advisory Chairman Betty Straw, Tom Clow, Brian Townes, Heleen Kurk, Neal Kurk, Leigh Bossee, Ben Hallee, Mark Hallee, Frank Campana, Rhonda Gregg

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 6:31 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3II (b). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes. Passed 3-0-0

Chairman Hippler entered the meeting at 6:37pm.

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 6:51 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes. Passed 4-0-0

The Board interviewed potential employees.

Chairman Hippler opened the meeting at 6:54 pm., welcomed those present to the August 30, 2021 meeting of the Weare Board of Selectmen and proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Clow addressed the Town Sign Ordinance, specifically, electronic signs, prohibitive internally lit ones. He stated the PB years ago deliberately established the sign ordinance to deter these with the exception of Country Three Corners because they were grandfathered. He understands their convenience, but before Route 114 becomes South Willow Street he suggested the Board enforce the Zoning Ordinance that spells it out clearly.

Mildred Hall Committee Expenditure

Chairman Betty Straw stated during their meeting on August 25, 2021 the committee voted to recommend the BOS expend the sum of \$40,000.00 from The Charles and Ethel Eastman Fund towards the cost of purchasing the James and Mary County Lot by the Conservation Commission. Weare Poor Farm Town Forest is adjacent to this property.

Chairman Hippler commented the CC had come before the BOS in reference to this purchase. He asked the Board if they had any questions.

Vice Chairman Meaney pointed out the CC letter mentioned the claim by a resident of a property line dispute, to be cleared up by a land surveyor.

Town Administrator Bolton responded a public hearing scheduled for September 20, 2021, status update at that time.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation

Ben Hallee Life Eagle Scout Troop #24 presented his project to the Board to build a bee hotel to be placed by the Weare Library. He shared with the Board his diagram and list of materials needed. All funds to be raised by selling Crispy Crème Donuts and donations. His bee hotel will help with pollination within a 300 ft radius.

Chairman Hippler was impressed with Ben's plan and asked what is the depth of the posts. Ben replied two feet into the ground.

Selectman Burdick asked where at the Library would this be located. Ben replied that has not been finalized yet, perhaps behind the building uninterrupted by people.

Chairman Hippler asked what is the upkeep, cleaning, and if he has discussed this with the Library Director. Ben replied yes and his plan is to re-drill holes in the logs every two years removing debris.

Chairman Hippler asked the Board or the Library Director and Library Trustees if they had any questions. There were none.

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to approve Ben Hallee's Scout Project, bee hotel, behind the Library as directed by the Library Trustees. Passed 4-0-0

DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:

1. Library Director Clay Kriese presented his State of NH Certificate of Municipality that needs to be filled out and signed for a NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources State Library IMLS ARPA Grant he received in the amount of \$1988.00. Clay stated he used the money to purchase STEM related kits and games.

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to approve the State of NH Certificate of Municipality. Passed 4-0-0

2. DPW Update Director Benjamin Knapp

A. Road work is about to wrap up. Weather permitting Bogue and Etta Roads will be top coated. Once Mr. Neville's grader is available shoulder work will begin. This year Bogue, Etta and Thorndike (Quaker to Reservoir Drive) Roads will have been top coated. Pine Hill, Hatfield and Walker Hill Roads were reclaimed and received a 2" base pavement along with drainage. Approximately 4600 ft. of River Road (almost Barnard Hill to Clough Park Road) was reclaimed and then asphalt injected in the subsoils, allowing for a 5 - 6" base along with a 2" base pavement. To be top coated next year.

B. Grading and calcium chloride applications along with wash out and culvert repairs are on going

C. Refreshed and applied new paint lines

D. Chip coated Old Francetown Road, double chipped in some area

E. Mountain Road and Mountain School Road had a rubberized chip coating application for flexibility, to help with the prevention of potholes and cracks. Though double in cost to traditional coating, more suitable for the heavy traffic these roads have.

F. Trash trailer is in the process of being built

G. Bridges washed for maintenance

H. Waiting on a back ordered bearing for the roadside mower repair

I. New Hire: Brian Townes as a fulltime Transfer Station attendant starting rate of \$17.00 per hour, after 6 month's probation to increase to \$17.50, hire date: August 31, 2021. Chairman Hippler stated the Board met with Brian prior to tonight's meeting in a Non-Public.

Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to hire Brian Townes to work at the Transfer Station starting rate of \$17.00/hr, after probation to \$17.50. Passed 4-0-0

J. Selectman Osborne suggested handicapped parking spaces on the small paved parking area near the Gazebo on East Road, needed during the Patriotic Celebration. DPW Director Knapp recommended temporary designated spots as not to interfere with others needing a place to park, especially during snow removal for the apartment complex across the street or for ice skating parking when the PARC rink is in use. He is agreeable to stripe the spots and willing to place temporary signs when needed for Town functions.

3. Discuss CBA – detail rate Police Chief Chris Moore

Chief Moore followed up with his request for his eight Officers that are not yet vested in the retirement system to receive the Police Detail retirement benefit pay portion that is afforded to his other four Officers that are vested. Currently, this difference of \$15.71/hour, for the vested Officers these funds enter their retirement account. For the non-vested Officers these funds go into the Police Special Detail Revolving Fund.

Chairman Hippler explained a vested Officer makes \$46.38 an hour with the extra \$15.71/hour put in his retirement account. A non-vested Officer makes \$46.38/hour.

Vice Chairman Meaney raised the question if this could interfere with the CBA, guaranteeing an increase of \$15.71/hour to the eight Officers.

Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to change the vendor rate to \$63.51 an hour. Passed 4-0-0

Discussion: Vice Chairman Meaney is concerned for the additional \$15.71 pay increase up front to the eight non-vested Officers. This could set the Town up for the vested Officers to claim it is unfair. The Board could be violating the CBA.

Chairman Hippler asked for Town Administrator Bolton's copy of Attorney Mark Broth's response to refresh his memory.

Selectman Osborne stated according to Finance Administrator Beth Rouse's email the non-vested Officer could receive a 1099 Form for the \$15.71 increase.

Chairman Hippler reading from Attorney Broth's email stated, "If the detail rate creates a surplus because the detail is worked by someone under the new retirement system, the town has no obligation to share the portion of the detail rate that would be attributed to retirement for old retirement system-eligible employees."

Town Administrator Bolton reiterated, Police Chief Moore stated the Town is not under any legal obligation, but it is the right thing to do. The Board does not have to pay the difference.

Chairman Hippler and Vice Chairman Meaney agrees a definitive legal answer is needed. Is the Town violating the CBA by giving the non-vested employee a check for the NHRS difference?

4. Discuss volunteer to serve request-Conservation Commission

Neal Kurk has signed up for the CC as an alternate. Chairman Hippler asked why? Neal Kurk responded for 30 years he has been a member of the SPNHF. In addition, a 40 year member with the PLC and serving as President for a time in the 1980s. He stated he is willing to serve, has experience and knowledge in conservation.

Chairman Hippler asked the Board if they had any questions. There were none.

Selectman Burdick moved, Chairman Hippler seconded to appoint Neal Kurk on the Conservation Commission as an alternate. Discussion: Vice Chairman Meaney stated this is a conflict as he is on the Finance Committee. The Conservation Commission handles financial transactions.

Neal Kurk responded that he was on the Planning Board for many years along with the Finance Committee. Both have budgets, he concurs with Vice Chairman Meaney the Conservation Commission has a much larger financial expenditure.

Vice Chairman Meaney stated the Planning Board does not oversee their own budget. Unlike the Conservation Commission that purchases property.

Neal Kurk offered he could recuse himself for voting in either group as the need arises.

Town Administrator Bolton asserts the Conservation Commission does not come before the Board before they spend their Conservation money, 75% of the Current Use money. Chairman Hippler concurs that is a concern.

Neal Kurk replied the Finance Committee is not involved with the Conservation funds. Funds involving taxpayers he could recuse himself.

Chairman Hippler requests Town Counsel review the possibility of a conflict if someone were to serve on both the Finance Committee and Conservation Commission.

Selectman Burdick moved, Chairman Hippler seconded to withdraw the motion until legal counsel recommendation.

Selectman Osborne suggested Town Counsel should review memberships across all committees for possible conflicts.

MANIFEST:

To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated September 2, 2021 as included in the following manifests:

<i>Payroll Manifest</i>	\$	63,035.26 (Weekly & Fire monthly payroll)
<i>Accounts Payable Manifest</i>	\$	79,001.45
<i>John Stark Accounts Payable Manifest</i>	\$	650,000.00

Total	\$ 1,542,036.71
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Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 73,615.47 (Checks dated 08/26/21)
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Building & Maintenance Projects:

1. East Road Barn roof - Sentry Roofing proposal is to install four corrugated/ribbed metal roof panels provided by the Historical Society, install ice and water protection on affected areas, labor issue warranty and certificate of insurance - Total: \$590.00
Town Administrator Bolton suggested the Weare Historical Society pay the amount to the Town and the Town pay the bill. The Board agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1.) Selectman Osborne stated the Gazebo field ruts from the Patriotic Celebration were repaired Saturday, August 28, 2021.
- 2.) Chairman Hippler mentioned concerns from an Old Francestown Road resident and Hodgdon Road resident are being worked with.
- 3.) Chairman Hippler asked how they should handle the illegal electronic signs. Town Administrator Bolton to send a letter of non-compliance. Twenty days to fix or \$275.00/day penalty. The Board agreed.

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 8:15 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3II (e). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes. Passed 4-0-0

Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Chairman Hippler seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 8:39 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Chairman Hippler seconded to seal and restrict these nonpublic session minutes. Passed 4-0-0

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Meaney made a motion, Selectman Burdick seconded to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Passed 4-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Karen Nelson

Karen Nelson transcribed from
TA Bolton notes & You Tube recording