



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2022**

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

ABSENT: none

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi L. Bolton

GUESTS: DPW Director Benjamin Knapp, Richard Brown, Andrew Volckmann, Gary Fitzgerald

Chairman Hippler opened the meeting at 6:30 pm., welcomed those present to the February 7, 2022 meeting of the Weare Board of Selectmen and proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Richard Brown, George Moody Road, asked the Board what the Reclamation Plan is for Duck Pond. He presented a document with Moody Pond elevations and stated he has gone to DES. He stated the Town ruined Moody Pond by wrongfully draining it. He has lived here for 63 years; it has always been a pond. He asked Selectman Burdick if she remembers skating on it, she did. There is ice over the pond with no water under it, now just a stream. Changing the flow at Duck Pond blew out Moody Pond dam.

Chairman Hippler responded there is no plan.

Richard Brown stated the Board needs a plan. Over the last three or four years it is “ridiculous” what has been done between the State and the Town. The dam on Moody Pond was opened even though it was on his family’s private property. DES will be coming out.

Town Administrator Bolton stated she has seen what she thought was the State backhoe on Route 114. DPW Director Knapp has done work along the road. She believes the State has been up there. Richard Brown replied the Town has been in there as they have “ripped out” Duck Pond and took out the dam near the cistern. Town Administrator Bolton stated she would ask DPW Director Knapp. She stated DPW worked near Duck Pond Road.

Richard Brown stated it needs to be redone, as the elevation is so low. Moody Pond is fire protection, why isn’t the Fire Department concerned.

Chairman Hippler stated the Board would address it and find out who is responsible, the State or the Town.

2. Andrew Volckmann came to the podium. Town Administrator Bolton explained Andrew Volkmann had come before the ZBA to build a duplex on Pondview Road. An email was received from the neighbors alleging an error was made. The Town sent the email received from Pondview Road residents in reference to Deed

January 27, 2022 Minutes: Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectman Van seconded to accept the minutes of January 27th as amended, passed 5-0-0.

Speaking Assignments for 2022 Deliberative Session

ARTICLE	ITEM	SELECTMAN
3	Operating Budget	Vice Chairman Meaney
4	Town Employee/Library raises (non-union)	Selectman Burdick
5	Library Increase \$1/hour	Selectman Burdick
6	PARC Increase \$1/hour	Selectman Van
7	Hire 2 FT FF/EMT	Chairman Hippler
8	Ambulance	Chairman Hippler
9	Capital Area Mutual Aid Compact	Selectman Van
10	Police Cruiser	Selectman Van
11	Skate Park Equipment	Selectman Van
12	Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund	Selectman Osborne
13	10 Wheel Plow Truck	Selectman Osborne
14	10 Wheel Plow Truck	Selectman Osborne
15	Medium Duty Highway Vehicle	Selectman Osborne
16	Road Reconstruction	Selectman Osborne
17	Master Plan Update CRF	Chairman Hippler
18	Cemetery Cy-Pres	Selectman Burdick
19	Town Forester - CC	Selectman Burdick
20	Designated Town parcel to CC land	Selectman Burdick
21	All Veteran's Credit	Vice Chairman Meaney
22	Modify Elderly Exemption	Vice Chairman Meaney
23	Delegate Cemetery Trustees to BOS	Vice Chairman Meaney
24	Reinstate Ethics Committee	Chairman Hippler
25	Other Business	Chairman Hippler

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER BUSINESS

Selectman Burdick commented she could apply for a Moose Grant for a new roof for the East Road Barn. First, she needs to put it on the State Historical Registry. She is looking for permission from the Board.

Town Administrator Bolton asked in doing so, what are the limitations for the building in the future? Selectman Burdick stated she is not aware of any.

Selectman Van asked could this put restrictions as to the type of roof that can be installed. Selectman Burdick replied no.

Chairman Hippler stated the conversation is to be continued later.

Chairman Hippler opened the public hearing at 7:00 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING: To hear public testimony and comment on the acceptance of approximately 2400 LF of Hilbren Road (off Twin Bridge Road) as a Class V Town maintained road.

Chairman Hippler asked DPW Director Knapp and Gary Fitzgerald to speak. No comments.

Town Administrator Bolton stated the Planning Board and Town Engineer had Site Walks in the area. She also stated DPW Director Knapp had been there. As part of the subdivision regulations, Gary Fitzgerald posted a

warranty bond, 25% of the total cost, at \$162, 986.75. His insurance company sent this over today. To be left with the Town for two years. He also presented his original deed for the roadway.

Town Administrator Bolton has to track down the road “as built plan” to go for the record. Gary Fitzgerald to have Art Siciliano send another one. He stated the road was started in May and finished in November of 2009, one coat of pavement.

Town Administrator Bolton stated the top coat is on and the markers have been found.

Chairman Hippler asked the Board for comments. Vice Chairman Meaney stated he visited with the Planning Board. At first, boundaries were missing, but then corrected.

Chairman Hippler asked for the public at large to speak. Being none, he closed the hearing at 7:04 pm.

Chairman Hippler asked for a motion, as the Board had no discussion.

**Selectman Osborne moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to accept 2400 LF +/- of Hilbren Road, off Twin Bridge Road, as a Class V Town maintained road. (Upon acceptance of the recording)
Passed 4-0-1 Chairman Hippler abstained**

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER BUSINESS

Selectman Burdick continued her discussion with the Board. She will work on the Registry of Historical Places. Chairman Hippler asked her to send the application to the Board for review. He wants to make sure the Town is not restricted going forward. To revisit at next meeting.

DPW Director Knapp to address the Public Comment from Richard Brown.

Director Knapp stated the DPW did drain some of Duck Pond near Route 114 in order to be able to remove the dam near Duck Pond Road. He stated, a few years ago, per order of the Board of Selectman, the State was asked to stop maintaining the culvert. Director Knapp warned them, at the time, the issues this would create.

Selectman Van asked why did the BOS, back then, have the State stop maintaining it. Director Knapp replied it was an individual who used to fish there and thought the pond was too low. At the time, Director Knapp informed them it was going to cause problems. This individual had said he would use his backhoe if it were to get too high. That never happened.

However, once the beavers plugged the dam, the water flooded the area, about two feet above Duck Pond Road. Residents on the backside lost a lot of trees because of the water. Residents along George Moody Road were worried about their property flooding as well. He was hesitant on trapping the beavers because the Town does not own the dam.

Once frozen, he drained it. When the snow is gone, he will have it backhoed from Town land, Duck Pond Road, to remove the beaver dam.

Chairman Hippler asked could the Town have the State take over maintaining it. Director Knapp responded no cooperation there in his experience and to his knowledge, the dam is privately owned.

Vice Chairman Meaney suggested writing to the State Director of Operations in Concord, NH. Also, if the beavers cause an over flow, the Town has the right to remediate.

Chairman Hippler to sign the letter and determine who owns the dam.

Director Knapp stated the DPW has worked on the dam all summer long trying to undo what the beavers create. He stated the beavers should be trapped.

Chairman Hippler agreed, once the beavers are gone the water level could be maintained.

Selectman Osborne suggested the trapper, permitted legally, who has the Board's permission to trap beaver in the Woods property.

The DPW did not pull out the dam at Moody Pond.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

General Items:

1. Custodian Position - removed
2. Joint Loss Management Committee - has not met since Covid
3. Radio Communications - open item, email Two-Way to have them start evaluation
4. Forestry Contract - back on track
5. Tennis Courts - waiting to be notified for repair schedule
6. ARPA Expenditures - open item
7. Collins Cemetery - open item
8. Cemetery Trustees - Judy Rogers was brought back in to help with the maps
9. Asbestos Testing on 487 North Stark Highway (Barden) - weather permitting come Spring
10. Driveway Bond Policy - open item
11. New 2022 Town Truck - under coating done at Mulholland, DPW applied the Town seals, new plates being applied for. Rhino lining prices forth coming.
12. TA Bolton Signed Eversource tree trimming for Gettings Road, Lots 192 & 193
13. Lost Boys Hideout - October 2021, Town Assessor sent letter regarding the tent platforms erected for a campsite business advertised on many websites. The property is in Current Use. The Board to pursue a Current Use penalty for the areas being used.
14. BOS to meet 2/14 at 6:15 pm with Town Clerk for brief meeting to approve the ballot for printing. Regular BOS meeting to be 2/23, Wednesday, due to the holiday on Monday 2/21.
15. Deliberative Session to be live streamed 2/12 at the WMS Café, 9:00 am. start time.

Building & Maintenance Projects:

1. Town Hall Projects - open item
2. Clinton Grove Bell Tower - on hold
3. Riverdale/River Road - to get together with Town Engineer, need visit with Zoning & Planning Boards.

Selectman Van moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to authorize the Chair to sign letter to Eversource Tax Dept. Passed 4-0-1, Chairman Hippler abstained

Chairman Hippler gave a shout out to Maskiell Painting, they did a great job!

Town Administrator Bolton added they were very accommodating working with our schedules and painted extra in the Women's/Men's bathroom. He also painted the trim around the Tax Office window and some touchup in the Building Department hallway.

Selectman Van asked could he provide a quote to paint the BOS conference room. Also, he mentioned getting better tables for the BOS conference room.

Chairman Hippler gave a shout out to DPW as they did a great job keeping the roads clear!

Town Administrator Bolton commented having the Meet the Candidates night via zoom Wednesday or Thursday before the vote, once cleared by Town Counsel.

Chairman Hippler opened the public hearing at 7:31 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING: To hear public testimony and comment on the establishment of a special revenue fund, to be known as the Transfer Station Recyclable Special Revenue Fund, separate from the general fund, pursuant to RSA 31:95-c.

DPW Director Knapp stated this is not a new concept, talked about for years, to keep 50% of the annual recycling revenue. Must have a Town vote to expend any of the money to be used to update/buy equipment at the Transfer Station. At no tax impact, there is much that needs to be done, for example, an indoor recycling facility, a new skid steer or trailer. The other 50% to be for offsetting taxes.

Selectman Van asked how much do you anticipate. Director Knapp stated it fluctuates, but this year would have brought \$40,000.00.

Chairman Hippler asked if there would be a cap. DPW Director Knapp responded no their need is so great, money will be spent before it gets too high.

Chairman Hippler asked for rough numbers for the last five years, to be ready for Deliberative.

Chairman Hippler asked isn't there already a Capital Reserve Fund. Director Knapp replied yes, but he has some big expenditures coming.

Selectman Osborne stated there is already a Transfer Equipment line. Should have changed that line to include buildings and have the 50% deposited there. Chairman Hippler stated they have to be separate, one taxation one revenue.

Vice Chairman Meaney stated if the Special Revenue Fund is approved, to expend money it has to go to Town vote. The agents for the Capital Reserve Fund is the Board, money available for an emergency.

Selectman Burdick confirmed who the agents would be to expend from the Transfer Station Recyclable Special Revenue Fund. The taxpayers would vote on expenditures.

Chairman Hippler asked the Board and public for comments. Being none, he closed the hearing at 7:41 pm.

Status of the 4500 Truck

Selectman Osborne asked what the status is of the 4500 Truck. Director Knapp stated the insurance adjuster came down and Director Knapp pointed out the problem areas. The Adjuster wrote the wiring harness and shift linkage, among other things, caused the fire. Director Knapp stated something happened before the fire, the shifting linkage burnt in half. He got permission to take the truck for a third party estimate, TMS to evaluate in writing. The insurance company will adjust the check.

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Hippler made a motion, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to adjourn at 7:46 pm. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Karen Nelson

Karen Nelson transcribed from
TA Bolton notes & You Tube recording