

FINAL



WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 1, 2022

**PRESENT:** KEVIN J. CAHILL, SELECTMAN; JONATHAN H. OSBORNE, VICE CHAIRMAN; SHERRY M. BURDICK, SELECTMAN; FREDERICK W. HIPPLER, CHAIRMAN; JOHN VAN LOENDERSLOOT, SELECTMAN.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Naomi L. Bolton

**GUESTS:** Robert Richards, Acting Fire Chief; Donna Osborne; Leah Cushman; Tom Clow; Frank Campana; Nick Fox; Jack Dearborn; Tom Flaherty; Richard Butt; Denise Purington

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Hippler called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Chairman Hippler recognized Vice Chairman Osborne. Vice Chairman Osborne stated that he would like to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of members from the community that have passed away in the past couple of weeks. Caleb Morrison, son of Treasurer Tina Connor; Marjorie Chapman, former employee for the Town; and longtime resident George Sawyer, Jr.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Leah Cushman, North Huntington Hill Road stated that she has had issues with 91-A requests not being answered in a timely fashion, which is a violation of state law. Ms. Cushman stated that minutes by law are supposed to be posted in 5 days. She did speak with Town Administrator Bolton who is currently doing the minutes until an assistant is hired. Ms. Cushman pointed out that most boards appoint one person to act as the secretary to take on this task until such time a person is hired and urged the board to do so.

Tom Flaherty, Sunrise Lane echoed the previous speakers concerns. He understands the town is short staffed but there needs to be a way to make it happen. Not only for state law but for transparency.

Jack Dearborn, 148 Gould Road, stated that he is speaking as a private citizen. He was approached by DPW Director Knapp for assistance in looking at a multi-year plan for a new transfer station with possible expansion capabilities. Mr. Dearborn has been to Hillsborough. Hillsborough, with Windsor and Deering going there has about the same population and Weare generates about half again as much as they do in trash. Mr. Dearborn wanted to be clear and that he is not casting any dispersions on DPW Director Knapp or his team, it's just an observation. We are recycling cans, paper, cardboard, steel and whatever in which we generate around \$85,000 - \$90,000 in revenue. One question is, can taking out some recyclables drop that cost for hauling to Wheelabrator. The next question is, is there demolition going into the trash that otherwise should be put into the demolition container. Another question is, is it really just our trash. Mr. Dearborn stated that if we are going to look forward to considering upgrading the current facility we need to look at this. Back in 1980 or 1985 when the current facility was built the decision was to recycle, do single stream or do nothing at all. It was decided to go with 100% recycling. He again is not casting any

aspersions on the town, but we have a cost to the town and a potential revenue that's not being realized. Mr. Dearborn pointed out that it would be helpful to understand over the coming years what our actual transfer station trash load is, so we can design not only for the future but for the distant future, hopefully 30 year out. The population is going to continue to increase. Mr. Dearborn stated that he understands the Board is looking at making a decision to go with clear bags. He thinks that there needs to be a behavior change to get results. Mr. Dearborn stated that he has someone pick up his trash, but he does use the transfer station for demolition. He would ask the Board to consider changes for the long term.

Richard Butt, Old Town Road, stated that he has similar concerns about the transfer station. He hopes the Board takes it slow. He doesn't think a selectman should head up any of that. He thinks that it's the responsibility of the department of public works to put people together, put a project together and then submit it to the Board and let the Board make decisions. Selectmen driving a project, and it has happened in the past, it goes wrong because there is a built-in prejudice. When that person presents that information as a board member and it's very unlikely that the board is going to go against it. So any of these types of projects, if you have a specific expertise bring it to the table when it's presented to the Board like Selectman Van does when it comes to communication. As far as Mr. Butt knows he's not heading up the communication project but he certainly has an expertise in that area and can ask specific and pertinent questions. Mr. Butt stated that he has been upset at some of the comments that have been made regarding recycling and its insinuated people in town are not recycling. He recycles and it is a little bit of an effort to break down the boxes and separate things. When he goes to the transfer station on a regular basis, he sees most people aren't just dumping trash and running. They go to the other locations, so he thinks there needs to be a study done. Let's not just jump into it. Put a committee together and let's build a new facility. Let's do it gradually. Let's see what the numbers are like presented earlier by the previous person. Let's look at the data and let the data drive the direction that we are headed. There was one more issue Mr. Butt wanted to raise. Mr. Butt stated that this is the first board in modern history that has decided that you're only going to meet every other week instead of weekly. Every previous Board with an exception during the summer, July and August would meet every two weeks. The majority of the time the Board met weekly and if that's the case which has been made by the Board then he would appreciate a Board member making a motion to cut their pay in half. Mr. Butt stated, "why should I continue to pay you a salary that was based on hours that you have just obviously just decided to cut in half, so why don't you cut your pay in half?"

Frank Campana, Quaker Street stated that on tonight's news and we all know it was anticipated thanks to the public utilities commission, Eversource and 112% increase. Mr. Campana stated he has said this before that he is basically living off the default budget from last year. He has to absorb that increase plus everything else as everybody in this Town and the State has to do. He has no doubt that the Town is cutting corners and he didn't mean that in a disrespectful way but trying to economize the best you can to make up for gasoline, diesel and what's coming down the road. Mr. Campana stated that his only caution for the Board, when the time starts coming, don't say or inundate the population with woe is me, we got a default budget things didn't get done because he's sure that in a lot of the population things aren't getting done either.

#### **DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE ITEMS:**

Concession Trailer Discussion: Town Administrator Bolton stated that there was a request via email, which clearly speaks for itself. Chairman Hippler stated that we have had a couple of emails regarding the concession trailer that the Weare Athletic Club (WAC) has down at Ineson Field. The Board met with WAC at the last meeting to park a mobile concession trailer down at Ineson. The concern is about space at Ineson. The email from Parks and Recreation was to move the trailer down to Bolton Field. Chairman Hippler stated that he doesn't have a problem with that. He thinks that's fine. If that is the wishes of Parks and Recreation then that should be adhered to. Selectman Van stated that there is a lot more room down at Bolton Field than Ineson. It sounded like it was going to be floating throughout the season, but when it gets finally parked it should be at Bolton. Town Administrator Bolton has asked Town Counsel who will be drawing up a one-year lease similar to the one for the Gordon Brown Barns. The registration and

insurance has not yet been received. Once that is received Town Counsel can finalize the lease with its permanent home during the off-season to be Bolton Field.

Acting Interim Fire Chief Bob Richards: Acting Chief Richards has the change of dispatch phone numbers, instead of going to Goffstown they will be going to Capital and it needs the Board's signature. He received an email today from 9-1-1 asking to hurry up and get this back to them. Selectman Van asked when the transition date was. Acting Chief Richards stated, September 21<sup>st</sup> as of today. Notification to Goffstown was made with an October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for transition. Acting Chief Richards stated that there was a reason that October 1<sup>st</sup> was not going to work because of it being a weekend. There was a discussion about different dates. The Board agreed to sign the letter and will confirm the date with Capital tomorrow.

Transfer Station Update: DPW Director Benji Knapp is out of Town for tonight's update. Town Administrator Bolton stated that she circulated the handout to be given with the new window Transfer Station stickers. The majority of the Board indicated that it was fine. The stickers will be located in the lower passenger side windshield. The police chief weighed in and the original location top corner of driver's side where the oil change stickers go was illegal. The website and phone number was also added. The rest is as what was already done and Thank You, Town of Weare was added to the bottom right corner. 100 handouts were printed and there are 10,000 stickers here so we should be ready and good to go.

Selectman Cahill stated that we have the new sticker program with the new location confirmed. There is a bit of a logistical problem in the town clerk's office. There are just some clarifications that need to be made. Selectman Cahill spoke to her today. Today being the first of the month she was extremely busy, so he will probably speak to her again tomorrow at some point. Generally the attendants at the transfer station have stepped up. The place is looking really good and running well. They are doing a good job and taking a very proactive role. The building department has continued to keep them with active building permits so we can assess whether or not the demo is being generated in town. Director Knapp's bulky item program initiated on 5/14 had had extremely positive results. We have dropped from 100 plus pieces or furniture or mattresses per week to under 20, which means an estimated net savings to the public of somewhere between \$20,000 - \$25,000. That's where it looks like it's headed. Selectman Cahill is unsure if the pendulum will swing the other way or not, but it is truly a positive move. Feedback from the household trash bags being considered to go clear for residential trash has generally been positive. The sign program promoting the recycling is now in place which is great so hopefully that will have an impact. Chairman Hippler noted that those were all free correct. Selectman Cahill replied yes they all come from New Hampshire the Beautiful grant program. We got \$500 worth of signs. We are back in that program so now that is \$500 that would normally be spent that now is granted to the Town by the State. Selectman Cahill stated that there are a couple of clarifications that need to be made based on citizen feedback regarding this clear bag proposal. First, is that it will not require any additional staffing. This is really a mechanism for a quick glance, scan, and transparent look at what is going into that residential hopper and flagged. If in fact as stated by Mr. Dearborn tonight isn't appropriate for that hopper is should be in demo or somewhere else but it may have mistakenly placed in a bag by someone and it's now ending up there. This is not a pay-as-you-throw program. That has to be really emphasized. This is strictly changing your black or opaque back to a clear plastic bag. One of the things that has happened in the last few months is every major bag maker has now gone clear or provides a clear bag for the same price including drawstring bags, which was a concern that one of the people that spoke to it. They prefer to be able to tie the bag with a drawstring. Selectman Cahill stated that he is going to repeat what Mr. Dearborn stated earlier as he beat him to it. We still continue to see about one-third more per trash per capita headed to the incinerator than neighboring towns. There doesn't appear to be any clear answer at this point and any other method for the Board to assess this. After 4 months of research and studying existing programs that have proven successful in helping to mitigate unnecessary trash being placed in the municipal trash compactor. Selectman Cahill made a motion to enact a one-year trial on the clear initiative, it will be assessed one year from the date, which would be if voted yes it would November 1<sup>st</sup> of 2022, which gives 90 days for the town to advertise this, to promote the program, and allow everyone to transition from black bags to clear

bags. That is not to say we can't use black bags, but black bags will not go into the residential hopper. They can go into the demolition hopper or any other place, but residential trash will go in a clear plastic bag.

There were interruptions from the crowd as to it being on the agenda, which Chairman Hippler stated that it is under Transfer Station Update. Another resident suggested that it be put to public hearing and Mr. Butt asked who was solicited to get the date from. Selectman Cahill stated that on May 2<sup>nd</sup> we had a public meeting we solicited during that public hearing we asked for anyone concerned regarding this proposed program to comment. We've received about 20 emails. We have had residents go to the podium and spoken. We have had people call the Town Administrator and asked questions, including some of the private haulers. Selectman Cahill and Town Administrator Bolton met with one of the commercial haulers for clarification. At the end of that meeting, Selectman Cahill walked away with that individual feeling comfortable with the program. It is a one-year trial to find as stated by Mr. Dearborn, we are looking for this magical 1,000 ton of material that we are sending to the incinerator over a neighbor with a very similar demographic. This has actually been going on since March. We have been discussing this and we are at a point where we are losing money weekly, similar to how we were losing money weekly with the bulky items. We went from 132 items a week to 18 items last week. More input continued from the crowd until Chairman Hippler took order and stated that we have received positive input thus far he doesn't know if a public forum to hear all opinion before we enact that. That was his own feeling. Chairman Hippler stated that his current vote would be no if we were to do a motion. Selectman Van asked for a point of order. There was a motion made and before there is a lot of discussion a second should be made. Chairman Hippler asked for a second to Selectman Cahill's motion. After a few minutes, Chairman Hippler stated that it fails a second so it doesn't go anywhere. He agreed that there needs to be a public discussion more directed to this. He thinks that there has been a lot of positive changes that have taken place down there and he agrees with Selectman Cahill 100% that the bulky moving over was a no-brainer. This is something the Board needs to tread lightly with as this is a big change. Selectman Van stated that he agrees with some of the comments from the audience that this should be maybe not a public hearing but definitely a public forum. We have had those in the past as a board to gain feedback and this affects a large group. He felt it would behoove the Board to definitely listen to the public on this. Chairman Hippler stated that we should hear from all the commercial haulers as well. Selectman Van added that with something like this we need to involve DPW Director Knapp. Chairman Hippler agrees with Selectman Cahill's timeline with a 90-day transition but he would like to hear more from the public. Selectman Cahill stated that if we are having this meeting he feels we should get feedback regarding the 100% recycling mandate. Currently we have no means and methods to enforce it. According to Director Knapp and all the data that we have we are seeing somewhere between 25 and a max of 30 percent participation. Selectman Cahill just most recently made another trip to a neighboring transfer station to assess what they have done for recycling so far against this year against what we have done and Hillsborough as of last week in aluminum alone exceeded everything that we did last year. We do have a problem and how do we get to a solution. Selectman Cahill appealed to the rest of the Board members that we have a fiduciary responsibility here to suggest, is it an open, do we start doing what a neighboring community does and periodically open a bag and turn it away? Selectman Cahill is not looking to do that. He is not looking to turn away any bag. He just wants the attendants to be able to physically see it and currently they can't. That's all he is looking to do is be able to see what is going into the residential hopper. Board members stated they understand that. Selectman Cahill then asked if the Board would please include the 100% recycling because he is going to propose that if we are not going to create any sort of a method that we rescind that. We vote that we now go to voluntary recycling. Chairman Hippler stated that it can be a two-fold discussion. Chairman Hippler stated that we will schedule a public forum when Director Knapp gets back and it will be on the clear bags and the 100% mandatory recycling program. Selectman Burdick stated that she has one comment. If we have commercial haulers coming in from all over we don't know for sure we are getting just Weare's trash.

## **MANIFEST:**

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Osborne seconded **to order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated August 4, 2022 as included in the following manifests:**

<b>Payroll Manifest</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>72,855.01</b> ( <i>Weekly payroll</i> )
<b>Accounts Payable Manifest</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>137,576.33</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>210,431.34</b>

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**As there is no Selectmen meeting scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2022**

Please vote:

**To order the Treasurer to sign payrolls checks dated August 11, 2022 estimated to be about \$80,000.00. Furthermore, to order the Treasurer to sign up to the amount of \$90,000.00 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. Vote: 5-0-0**

#### **MINUTES:**

June 6, 2022 Minutes: Vice Chairman Osborne moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to approve the June 6, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 5-0-0

June 20, 2022 Minutes: Selectman Van moved, Selectman Cahill seconded to approve the June 20, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 5-0-0

June 23, 2022 Minutes: Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to approve the June 23, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 5-0-0

June 27, 2022 Minutes: Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to approve the June 27, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 5-0-0

June 29, 2022 Minutes: Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to approve the June 29, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 4-0-1 (Vice Chairman Osborne)

July 18, 2022 Minutes: Selectman Van moved, Vice Chairman Osborne seconded to approve the July 18, 2022 minutes as written. Vote: 5-0-0

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

1. Joint Loss Management Committee: the next meeting will be Tuesday, August 30, 2022 @ 9:30 AM
2. Radio Communication: work in progress. On July 27<sup>th</sup> Two-Way Communication was present. The project has been swapped to use current existing cell towers versus building our own towers at the East Weare and South Weare Station.
3. River Road Bridge: the surveying is completed and the environmental study is being worked on
4. Rental Ordinance: 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing – trying to coordinate a meeting with the school, town counsel and the calendar as far as advertising – looking at Wed. 8/24 at 6:30 PM – WMS Cafetorium. Selectman Van stated that he has a business meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> so Town Administrator Bolton will try to find another meeting.
5. Weare Representatives Meeting: invited to Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Leah Cushman will be here. Keith Erf replied that he can't be here.



6. Cemeteries – the burials that we had scheduled have all been handled. Dignified is a company that digs sites for many communities. Town Administrator Bolton has received their price list and insurance certificate so they provided the digging for the last burial and the payment will be handled through the funeral home. The Board will still need to probe the lot when getting a phone call and mark the location. Town Administrator Bolton stated that the current rules and regulations need to be modified to include the costs for the burial, but also to have cemetery deeds to be recorded for a later public hearing. In the past few weeks Selectman Cahill and Town Administrator Bolton have been out to the cemetery to mark locations for corner markers of lots that have been sitting in Manchester over a year ago. Town Administrator Bolton would like to work on prices for hiring a company to layout the lots and mark them so that when you sell someone a lot you can find it. The idea was going to see about gathering prices and check into the possibility of using cy pres money. Cy pres money can be used within the cemetery. The Board talked about getting into the building in the cemetery. Keys have not been located so the idea is to find a locksmith. **Selectman Van moved, Chairman Hippler seconded to contact a locksmith to gain access but not to exceed \$300 out of cy pres funds. Passed 5-0-0**
7. Town Hall Bathroom Renovations: David Erickson from Weare provided the Board with an estimate to repair the men's room at the Town Hall. He left a message this morning that he picked up an additional piece of vinyl for \$25 for the men's room floor that would need to be added to the quote provided. Selectman Van asked if he has liability insurance. Town Administrator Bolton will check with him.

#### **EXOFFICIO UPDATES:**

None since last meeting.

**Parks & Recreation**: Denise Purington, member of Parks and Recreation apologized for being late. Chairman Hippler brought Ms. Purington up to speed with what the Board did earlier this evening. The Board wants it registered and insured. Legal counsel is drafting a one year lease. The Board agreed to let Parks and Recreation dictate the location, which will be Bolton Field because Ineson's parking is smaller. The Board is still waiting to receive the registration and insurance at this time. The lease will not be signed until those items are received. Ms. Purington gave the Board an update on the tennis courts. The tennis courts have been resurfaced thanks to the Emma Sawyer fund. They finished on Thursday and sitting/curing right now. They will reopen on Thursday morning. They look great. They are not perfect because it wasn't a dig up it was just a resurface and there were a number of good sized cracks. Parks and Recreation have started talking about the five year plan which they will come back at a later time and talk about it.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER BUSINESS:**

Email regarding Ford Garage: Selectman Van stated that the Board received an email from a retired service man with concerns about the security of the old South Weare Garage and how it had gained some popularity on social media. The Board understands the concerns, but it is private property so there is nothing the Town can do. Selectman Burdick stated that the owner has been renting the bottom out to someone that is doing car repairs.

Letter from Weare Democrats: Town Administrator Bolton received a letter from the Weare Democrats looking to jump on the season and request usage of the Town Hall. They have rented it several times in the past and left it in better condition than they found it. They understand the costs of electricity may affect the rental cost so they are prepared to pay an additional \$25. They are also prepared to put down an additional, refundable, deposit, if that would help allay any concerns about usage. The Board would like to have Romeo, the Building Inspector go take a look at the bathrooms so we can develop a scope of work and obtain bids.

Hometown Hero: Granite State Communications has sent the Board information asking them to select a hometown hero. The Board was asked to think about candidates to discuss at the next meeting.

East Road Barn: Selectman Van stated that the Board received an email regarding a piece of the roof that is lifting. Selectman Burdick stated that there has been a panel starting to be blown off during the last high winds. Selectman Van asked if it was Town or Historical Society's responsibility. The Board stated it is the Historical Society's. Selectman Burdick stated that they are going to have to figure out what they are going to do with that because that whole roof has got to come off, that is not a minimal repair. That's a full blown project. All the wood is dry rotted. It's a 200 year old barn. Selectman Burdick stated that she has not heard anything back from the State but will check on it.

Study at Transfer Station: Selectman Van stated that tonight at the podium one of the residents made a comment about a possible study to be done at the Transfer Station. He wondered when Director Knapp returns if he can reach out to NRRA to see if they have anyone that can come over and sit there for a day or a couple of days and do the study. Vice Chairman Osborne stated that they have a SWAT (Solid Waste Advisory Team) that will come out here for nothing, as far as he understands. Either of these options are something that Director Knapp will have to reach out for.

#### **NONPUBLIC SESSION:**

**Chairman Hippler moved; Selectman Van seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 7:47 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3II (a & c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Cahill – yes; Vice Chairman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Van - yes. Passed 5-0-0**

**Chairman Hippler moved; Selectman Van seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 8:12 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Cahill – yes; Vice Chairman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Van – yes. Passed 5-0-0**

**Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to seal and restrict the minutes of this nonpublic session. Passed 5-0-0**

**Chairman Hippler moved; Selectman Van seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 8:13 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3II (c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Cahill – yes; Vice Chairman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Van - yes. Passed 5-0-0**

**Chairman Hippler moved; Selectman Van seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 8:28 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Cahill – yes; Vice Chairman Osborne – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Selectman Van – yes. Passed 5-0-0**

**Selectman Van moved, Selectman Burdick seconded to seal and restrict the minutes of this nonpublic session. Passed 5-0-0**

**Selectman Van moved, Selectman Cahill seconded to accept the resignation from Jane Murchie, Deputy Town Clerk dated July 22, 2022 with her last day being September 1, 2022. Passed 5-0-0**

**Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Van made a motion, Selectman Burdick seconded to adjourn at 8:29 pm. Passed 5-0-0**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A True Record.

*Naomi L. Bolton*

Naomi L. Bolton, Town Administrator  
From notes and YouTube Video