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WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES February 5, 2024

PRESENT: FREDERICK W. HIPPLER CHAIRMAN; SALIM BLUME, SELECTMAN; SHERRY M. BURDICK, SELECTMAN; JANICE MATHEWS, SELECTMAN.

ABSENT: BENJAMIN D. KNAPP, VICE CHAIRMAN

GUESTS: Police Chief Moore, Tom Clow, Jackie Pratte, Kyle Parker, Brent Dickinson, Diana Dickinson,

Frank Campana, Tara Mann, Chris Mann, Louisa Erf, Wayne Meattey, Leah Cushman

 $These \ minutes \ were \ transcribed \ from \ the \ following \ link: \ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_-C6a4E46UQ$

Chair Hippler called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi L. Bolton

Public Comment: Kyle Parker said that he would be happy to fill in as building inspector. He is not looking to be hired back as full-time it would be just to fill in if the Goffstown agreement is not working out.

Jackie Pratte of Winter Road said that she thinks that it would be great to have Mr. Parker help out for the time being, that way they would have someone for the time being. Ms. Pratte said that she noticed that at the deliberative session, the Vice Chairman for the Planning Board had mentioned that he thought they still needed building seals. Ms. Pratte asked if the BOS had filtered the information down to the Zoning and Planning Department. TA Bolton said that the motion for that was made on the 22nd of January when they had no recording and she is trying to finish them because Selectman Mathews had summarized the legal opinion from NHMA, PRIMEX, and Town Counsel. TA Bolton said Vice Chair Knapp publicly corrected the vice chairperson at deliberative session.

Diana Dickinson of Del's Way asked for clarification of the BOS if it is the position of the BOS that the ball fields are to go in the gravel pit and no other conclusion can be made. Chair Hippler said that the BOS has not discussed that, and things could change. Selectman Blume stated that when he was speaking at the deliberative session, he was trying to be clear that he had been through that process from multiple facets and had seen it for this entire election year. Selectman Blume said that he was speaking with his opinion from being a Selectman. Ms. Dickinson stated that point when you introduce the article and describe the background to it you do not offer your opinion on that point. If you have your opinion, then you recuse yourself as a Selectman and speak as a regular person with an opinion. Ms. Dickinson said that also at the deliberative session CC Vice Chair Steve Najjar said that Denise Purington threatened them and that petition article 26 was her following through on that. It was slander and it violates the Town of Weare's Code of Ethics. Ms. Dickinson asked the BOS if they were going to do anything about the comment made by Steve Najjar and if not then she will bring it to the Ethics Committee.

Tara Mann of Worthley Road said that she agrees with everything that Ms. Dickinson stated. Ms. Mann gave the BOS the markers in which Selectman Blume spoke about the fields in the recording. Ms. Mann said that she feels that Selectman Blume was acting against the interest of PARC during the deliberative session, and it was very clear during the PARC meetings that the committee felt the hayfields were the appropriate place for the recreational fields. Ms. Mann stated that she thinks that Selectman Blume should be removed from the Ex-Officio position for the PARC because Ms. Mann thinks that Selectman Blume is working to counter the committee. Ms. Mann said at the deliberative session Lori Davis slandered her personally and through social media and has screenshots and they also heard Steve Najjar slander Denise Purington and it is inappropriate. Ms. Mann said that she has never seen Town Officials conduct themselves the way they did, and something needs to be done.

Brent Dickinson of Del's Way reiterated what Ms. Dickinson and Ms. Mann stated. Mr. Dickinson said that he thinks that Selectman Blume's conduct was horrific. Mr. Dickinson said that he thinks Selectman Blume is in someone's pocket. Mr. Dickinson said that the BOS needs to address the Chair and Vice Chair of the Conservation Commission barring Selectman Burdick's input because their conduct over the past little while as official capacities as they announce their official capacities is to threaten a woman and then slander the woman in public.

Frank Campana said that on January 8th he was continuing his comments in regard to a line in the police budget regarding a cruiser unfunded line. Mr. Campana said that he gave his thought to what the Police Chief thought of asking for a cruiser through the Capital Improvements Committee, which has been standard practice for a while. Mr. Campana said on January 15th the line was still there unfunded and a handout was given for the public hearing, Mr. Campana said that he looked at the police budget and the line was eliminated. Mr. Campana reviewed the written minutes and the YouTube video to see if there was any discussion of why the line was removed and he stated that he hoped that line had disappeared which would mean that the request for the vehicle would be through the standard capital improvement process. Mr. Campana said that the Police Chief said in a YouTube video how to replace a cruiser if it crashed. Mr. Campana said he is not an expert but there is a mechanism for emergency expenditures and would think that would be the way to go. Selectman Blume said he did ask the question of what happens to the lines that are zeroed out and the answer was they do not get put on the final budget. Mr. Campana said contrary to what others think he thinks that the BOS, Finance Administrator, and TA Bolton did a great job for a seven-hour meeting.

Selectman Blume said that he will never make certain people happy, he is sorry and has too much in his personal life to lose. Chair Hippler said that Selectman Blume is still young in the profession. Selectman Blume said he believes it is an error that the PARC Ex-Officio is a non-voting member and thinks that the BOS should investigate that, to be consistent with the other Ex-Officio. Tara Mann said that in the past the Ex-Officio was a voting member and stated at the time she was on the PARC the Selectmen did not feel comfortable being a voting member. Selectman Blume said that was not conveyed to him and he felt that on Saturday when it was brought up that he was a non-voting member was to diminish any stake he had in PARC.

Police Chief Moore said that he has received multiple comments about TA Bolton and how much of a good job she has been doing. Police Chief Moore said many people have been saying she has been very helpful and wanted to pass the information along.

Ballot 2024: TA Bolton presented the BOS with a copy of the 2024 ballot for review before it went to the printer. TA Bolton said that Town Clerk, Maureen Billodeau spent Saturday and Sunday making corrections to the warrant and tried to capture the changes that were made in the deliberative session. TA Bolton went through the changes regarding the warrant articles. The BOS accepted the warrant changes. Chair Hippler said that there is one contested position this year and that is for the supervisors of the checklist. TA Bolton said the person who streams for them usually gets paid \$90 per hour for the meet the

candidates she was thinking because it is uncontested this year for Selectmen that they would not have the streaming because the newspaper and Weare In The World will be doing it. The BOS asked that TA Bolton check with the moderator before not having the Meet the Candidates night. The BOS discussed the primary purpose statements regarding the warrant articles and made corrections and changes.

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BOS Report for Town Report: The BOS reviewed the proposed BOS report for the Town report and made corrections and changes.

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- **MANIFEST:**
- 108 Chair Hippler moved; Selectman Burdick seconded:
- 109 To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated February 8, 2024, as

included in the following manifests: 110

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- 112 Checks Dated February 8, 2024
- 113 **Payroll Manifest \$ 77,888.70** (*Weekly payroll checks*)

114 **Accounts Payable Manifest** \$111,607.00 John Stark Accounts Pavable Manifest \$ 250,000.00 115 \$600,000.00 116 **Weare School Accounts Payable Manifest**

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TOTAL: \$1,039,495.70

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120 Passed: 4-0-0

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MINUTES: The BOS tabled the meeting minutes.

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Correspondence: Chair Hippler read an email that he and Vice Chair Knapp received from a resident to his fellow board members in regard to the trailer caddy. The Board discussed the idea presented to the BOS of converter dollies. Chair Hippler said that he thinks it may be difficult to back the trailer into the compactor. Discussion ensued.

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Selectman Blume said that the BOS received an email from Kaloogian. TA Bolton said the Town Counsel has been meeting with his Counsel. There has been an agreement between the two Counsels, and they agreed that it needed to go to the site plan but then the BOS received correspondence from Mr. Kaloogian, and she is not sure how to respond. Selectman Mathews said that she thinks the BOS should have the Town's Counsel tell them where they think it stands. Chair Hippler agreed. Discussion ensued.

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Chair Hippler said that they had a couple of public comments made tonight at the podium regarding the Ethics Committee, and he believes that the committee reports to the BOS. Chair Hippler said he does not think it is appropriate for the BOS to initiate anything if the Ethics Committee is going to report back to them. If it is something someone would like to bring before the Ethics Committee, it is their right to do so. Selectman Blume agreed with Chair Hippler.

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141 Chair Hippler said that they have a mapping contract for \$3,350 and \$20 a building if it is added or changed. It runs from April 1st, 2024 to March 31st, 2025. TA Bolton will scan it and send it to the BOS. 142

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144 Selectman Mathews asked if they were going to reschedule the discussion with the Fire Department. Chair 145 Hippler said yes it would be the best thing to do.

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- 147 Selectman Mathews said that she would like to make a motion to retire the May 5, 1986 Town of Weare
- 148 Bid Policy because it is thoroughly covered by the Town of Weare January 2, 2023 Purchasing Policy, to
- 149 avoid conflicts between the two documents. Selectman Burdick asked for time to review the policies. The
- 150 BOS will review them and bring them back for discussion.

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.52	Selectman Mathews asked her fellow BOS members how everyone was doing on the performance reviews.
.53	The BOS agreed to figure out a schedule for next Monday. Selectman Mathews asked about the RFPs they
54	need to put out for legal, tax deeding, and engineering. Selectman Mathews said she would also like to
.55	review the lease agreements that the Town has. Selectman Blume spoke to the Boy Scouts about their rights

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Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Hippler made a motion, and Selectman Blume seconded to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Passed 4-0-0

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- 161 **ADJOURNMENT**
- 162 A True Record.
- 163 Kearsten O'Brien
- 164 Kearsten O'Brien, Minute Taker

and obligations as a US Citizen.