

DRAFT



WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 26, 2024

**PRESENT:** JANICE MATHEWS- CHAIRMAN, SALIM BLUME- SELECTMAN, JAMES DRURY-  
SELECTMAN, DAVID PRATTE-SELECTMAN.

**ABSENT:** BENJAMIN D. KNAPP- VICE CHAIRMAN

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Naomi L. Bolton

**GUESTS:** TIM BURGESS, STEVE PLOUDE, GREGG WHITE, JACKIE PRATTE.

**These minutes were transcribed from the following link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOH-LkEcrh8>

Chairman Mathews called the meeting to order at 8:09 PM.

**Chairman Mathews motioned to enter into a nonpublic meeting at 8:09 p.m. to RSA 91: A-3 II (b).  
Selectman Blume seconded. Roll call vote: Pratte – yes; Mathews – yes; Blume – yes; Drury – yes;  
Unanimous in favor. 4-0-0**

**Chairman Mathews motioned to come out of a nonpublic meeting at 8:29 p.m. to RSA 91: A-3 II (b).  
Selectman Blume seconded. Roll call vote: Pratte – yes; Mathews – yes; Blume – yes; Drury – yes;  
Unanimous in favor. 4-0-0**

The BOS interviewed two potential DPW employees, both current and part-time.

**Chairman Mathews motioned to enter into a nonpublic meeting at 8:29 p.m. to RSA 91: A-3 II (c).  
Selectman Pratte seconded. Roll call vote: Pratte – yes; Mathews – yes; Blume – yes; Drury – yes;  
Unanimous in favor. 4-0-0**

**Chairman Mathews motioned to come out of a nonpublic meeting at 8:34 p.m. to RSA 91: A-3 II (c).  
Selectman Blume seconded. Roll call vote: Pratte – yes; Mathews – yes; Blume – yes; Drury – yes;  
Unanimous in favor. 4-0-0**

Chair Mathews welcomed the public at 8:37 PM.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

Chair Mathews said the last several days have been extremely challenging for the town and most of them were without power for many days. Chair Mathews thanked the DPW, Police, Fire and Rescue, Linemen, the Call Center individuals, tree service companies, and the neighbors' helping neighbors.

**Chair Mathews made a motion to hire Tim Burgess as a transfer station part-time employee with a pay rate of \$22 per hour effective March 28<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Selectman Blume. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

Selectman Blume said that Tim has been working around the town offices as the handyman for the past couple of months and he has been doing a good job and they are happy to have him continuing with helping the town.

**Chair Mathews made a motion to hire Steve Plourde as a full-time truck driver at a pay rate of \$23 per hour and to be effective April 12<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Selectman Pratte. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

Selectman Blume said that Steve was a part-time driver and they knew he may want to go full-time and the board is very excited to have him come full-time.

**Chair Mathews moved to seal and restrict nonpublic RSA 91: A-3 II (c). Seconded by Selectman Pratte. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

**MANIFEST:**

**Chair Mathews moved; Selectman Pratte seconded:**

**To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated March 28, 2024, as included in the following manifests:**

Checks Dated March 28, 2024

**Payroll Manifest**

**\$ 90,950.77** (*Weekly payroll checks*)

**Accounts Payable Manifest**

**\$ 156,130.50**

**TOTAL:**

**\$247,081.27**

**Motion passed 4-0-0.**

**Building Inspector Job Description and Advertisement:** Selectman Drury reviewed what the Town of Weare has for a job description currently and it is very clear. He reviewed other town building inspector job descriptions and asked his fellow BOS members if they would like to word it differently. The BOS discussed having a section on preferred qualifications and minimum qualifications. TA Bolton gave the background of how the Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer position used to be done. She said that she would like to see the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) go back to the Planning and Zoning meetings because if there are questions on zoning then the CEO can explain the determination. The BOS agreed to have the person in the role to supervise the admin assistant of Land Use and will add attending Planning Board and Zoning Board meetings as a requirement. Selectman Blume suggested putting in the description to attend some Selectmen's meetings as requested. Discussion ensued regarding changing it from supervise to oversees the Land Use assistant and TA Bolton will conduct the reviews of the employee. The discussion was regarding NFPA certifications and ICC certifications. Selectman Drury will take the recommendations, put them into the document and bring it back to the board next Monday.

**Board and Committee Re-Appointments:** TA Bolton said there are several reappointments this year and asked the BOS if they would like to have a face-to-face with the re-appointees or just have the form signed by the Chair of the Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Commission. Chair Mathews suggested the three because of the legal implications of those committees. Selectman Blume said he thinks it would be beneficial to have the members come in. Chair Mathews asked about doing the Energy Committee at the same time. TA Bolton said they could do that, as they need to establish the committee. TA Bolton asked

the board if they would like applications for that. Selectman Blume suggested treating the energy committee like the PARC as one-year terms and giving them time to establish bylaws. The BOS will schedule the re-appointments in person for the existing boards and talk more about the energy committee.

TA Bolton said that George Merrill who has property off of River Road, will be back in May and the Board agreed that they would hear this topic once he returns. The Town will need to hold a site walk and public hearing, so abutter notices will be sent when that is to occur.

Discussion ensued regarding the April 1<sup>st</sup> agenda. Chair Mathews said they need to discuss, after they hear what Acting Chief Roarick has to say, regarding the integration of the Fire Department.

**55 Winter Road:** Selectman Pratte recused himself from the discussion. TA Bolton sent the BOS a draft response letter to Mark Bailey's attorney. Chair Mathews asked if the letter was in congruency with what the legal counsel said the opinion should be. TA Bolton said yes, and the letter that the Board has is the one that Town Counsel made corrections to. Selectman Blume said that there was no reason to counter the town counsel. Selectman Drury said this creates a path forward. TA Bolton clarified with the Board that she will remove the word draft from the middle of the letter, sign the letter on behalf of the Board and mail it to Mr. Bailey's counsel. The Board agreed with those steps.

**Non-Meeting with Legal Counsel:** Selectman Pratte returned to the table. Chair Mathews said the non-meeting with legal counsel was in regard to the Warrant Articles 24 and 26. There are additional facts the board needs to gather and at this time there is no specific path forward. Chair Mathews said that the worst case would be that it would need to go in front of a court for a declaratory judgment.

**NHMA Training:** Chair Mathews & Selectman Blume will sign up for April and then Selectman Pratte & Selectman Drury will sign up for May.

**Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Mathews made a motion, and Selectman Blume seconded to adjourn at 9:41 p.m. Passed 4-0-0**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A True Record.

*Kearsten O'Brien*

Kearsten O'Brien, Minute Taker