

FINAL



WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 20, 2023

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

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Naomi L. Bolton

**EXCUSED:** BENJAMIN D. KNAPP

**GUESTS:** Brian Reopel, Brad Townes, Jame Drury, Frank Hebert, Frank Campana, Tom Clow, Clarence Gardner, Maria Fassiano, Tom Flaherty, Jackie Pratte, David Pratte, Jack Dearborn, Attorney Mark Broth

**These minutes were transcribed from the following link:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6pX1uVZK48&t=31>

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

**Public Comment:** Frank Campana said that when interviewing the candidates for the open Selectman seat it was not asked of Mr. Houde and Mr. Meaney their political affiliations by Chair Hippler like he had asked Mr. Flaherty and Ms. Mathews. Mr. Campana said that he did go back and look at the YouTube video to make sure he was not incorrect, and he was not. Mr. Campana said that Chair Hippler treated the candidates differently. Mr. Campana said that his second part of public comment has to do with when the tax rate was set. Mr. Campana heard someone from the table say, "To your point, people are struggling." Mr. Campana said it is because of what the BOS presented to them last March and there were only 800 people able to vote because of the snowstorm.

Richard Butt presented an article that he hopes the board will include in the 2024 warrant. He would like to propose the Veteran's tax credit be increased to \$750. It is currently \$500. Before 2005 the credit was \$100 and in 2005 there was an article to increase the credit by \$300 to make it \$400. In 2016 there was an article supported by the BOS to increase the credit by \$100 to make it \$500 per year. Mr. Butt provided the BOS with a copy of the RSA and the article.

Brian Reopel said that the Veterans that hurt the most are the ones that are 100% permanently and totally disabled and right now their credit for the town is \$1,400 which he thinks the max is \$2,000. He would like to see this brought forth to the voters to decide. He thinks both credits should be increased. Mr. Reopel asked what he would need to do to talk to the Highway Department to fix the road in front of his house because there are chunks of pavement in his driveway. He suggested they push the snow towards the circle instead of the houses until they can figure out what to do in the future with the torn-up road.

Jackie Pratte said she watched the last two YouTube videos and said she is confused because it seems like the BOS are the supervisors of some employees. If they have an issue with the employee good, bad, or

indifferent she does not feel it is defaming someone to come up to the BOS if they feel the information, they are given is incorrect. She would like an explanation of what the avenue may be for Town’s people if they feel like there is a discrepancy with Town Employees.

Bradley Townes said that he would have paid a nice price to dispose of a crib mattress at the Transfer station if his attitude was nicer. Mr. Townes said that he paid \$16 for a crib mattress that had no metal and was not the size of a king mattress. Mr. Townes said no employee of the Town should conduct themselves the way Frank did that day, and he called the Police and they have a video of it. It is a nonprofit and they made money off him that day. Mr. Townes asked for a process and procedure for the transfer station. Chair Hippler said they can get him what they have if he gets ahold of the TA to get a copy.

**Traffic at the Middle School:** Mr. Reopel asked if there was any thought about making a dirt road that is open for a half hour so people who exit south of 114 could go that way that way there is less of a traffic problem or hazard. Chair Hippler said he does not think the town owns up to the road. Selectman Burdick asked if you could use the exit at the very end of the school. Mr. Reopel said that could work because you would not have to direct traffic at a four-way intersection. TA Bolton said they do not use the fire lane because of the buses and that is why there is an officer there directing traffic. They also had to put in a crosswalk at the middle school because of the intersection. The Police Officers were there per the SAUs. TA Bolton said when Rte. 114 is resurfaced the state wants a traffic light to be installed. Frank Hebert, Captain of the Weare Police Department said he would like to clarify that it is not a waste of their time, and he does not believe they make it worse. There have been many complaints about the safety of the children. They are not there a lot the pressing times seem to be between 7 and 7:15 am. The layout is not ideal, and they are doing the best they can. If anyone thinks that the PD is making it worse, he would like information on how. Selectman Blume asked if the SAU was contributing since they made the request. Captain Hebert said they are not they are only there for ten maybe fifteen minutes. Captain Hebert said that the SAU has had many conversations in terms of having citizens be trained and that cannot be done, and they are doing the best they can. Clarence Gardner said that a Police Officer directing traffic is a lot better than getting a traffic light. Chair Hippler said there is no easy way to leave the middle school and it is a horrible intersection. Selectman Mathews said the only question she would have asked is what is being done to increase the bus ridership if anything or if it is feasible. Selectman Blume said this is another reason to encourage people to go to the School Board meetings.

**CIP Committee:** Jack Dearborn chair of the CIP subcommittee presented the 2024 CIP. The scope of review for the year is 2025 through 2029. Mr. Dearborn said there would be a slight change in the totals if there were members present last Thursday. Selectman Mathews asked if that would cause the committee to go back to the Planning Board for reapproval. Mr. Dearborn said that he will be sending a copy to the Planning Board and if they wish him to go back, he will be happy to do so. Mr. Dearborn went through each request and grants that could be used for some of the requests.

**MANIFEST: Selectman Blume moved; Selectman Mathews seconded:**  
**To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated November 22, 2023, as included in the following manifests:**

<u>Checks Dated November 9, 2023,</u>	
<b>Payroll Manifest</b>	<b>\$ 73,827.68</b> <i>(Weekly payroll checks)</i>
<b>Accounts Payable Manifest</b>	<b>\$ 51,855.55</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$ 125,600.23</u></b>

**Passed: 3-0-1. Opposed Hippler.**  
TA Bolton informed the BOS that the gentleman interested in the Handyman position will accept the position at \$22 and would like to start Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Chair Hippler motioned to hire Tim Burgess at the rate of \$22 an hour to be the part-time general services maintenance person/ handyman. Seconded by Selectman Burdick. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

Selectman Blume brought forth the MOU and would like to work out the details with Attorney Mark Broth. TA Bolton said that it was her understanding that the MOU was going to be negotiated with their lead negotiator and two of our negotiators. Selectman Blume said the second option was modified and they need to determine if they are okay with it. Attorney Broth said there is no need to sign the MOU until it's been shared with the Union, and they agree with it and then it comes back to the BOS.

Selectman Blume thanked TA Bolton for getting the policy books together and having them at their seats for the meeting.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION:**

**Chair Hippler motioned to end the public meeting and enter into a nonpublic meeting at 7:50 p.m. to RSA 91: A-3 II (a & c). Selectman Burdick seconded. Roll call vote: Mathews – yes; Hippler – yes; Blume – yes; Burdick – yes. Passed: 4-0-0**

**Chair Hippler motioned to come out of nonpublic at 8:04 PM. Seconded by Selectman Blume. Roll call vote: Mathews – yes; Hippler – yes; Blume – yes; Burdick – yes. Passed: 4-0-0**

**Chair Hippler motioned to seal and restrict the nonpublic minutes. Seconded by Selectman Blume. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

**Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Hippler made a motion, and Selectman Blume seconded to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Passed 4-0-0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A True Record.

*Kearsten O'Brien*

Kearsten O'Brien, Minute Taker