

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– May 13, 2024

Present: Richard Bielefield, Chris Ellms, Margo Connors
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Larry & Judy Sawyer, Betsy Holcombe, Chief Allan Clark, Marcia Roosevelt

RICHARD BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the minutes, of May 6, 2024, seconded by MARGO CONNORS. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

Evan Carmean and Kyle Kinsey have both expressed interest in serving on a town board.

MR. ELLMS made a motion to appoint Jennifer Roshak as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer received a request for the Tri Town Recreation Program to utilize the basement and playground for summer program. They were advised that they can submit dates and if no conflicts, they will be allowed.

Jennifer notified all outstanding Intent to Cut Wood or Timber that Reports are due this week.

The board received a request from the Town of Easton to sign on to a letter they are sending to the NH Site Evaluation Committee about oversight of the pending Eversource X-178 Project. The letter did not take a stand for or against the project. MR. ELLMS made a motion to not sign on the letter, seconded by MR. BIELEIFELD. The motion passed with one member abstaining.

Jennifer updated the board on a recent meeting with FEMA, attended by their representatives, State personnel, Road Agent Glover, Police Chief Ho-Sing-Loy. The filing for the December 17/18, 2023 storm has been amended and filed with FEMA. There will be follow up meetings to attend.

Jennifer Childs Roshak, volunteered to assist with Emergency Management for the town and will meet with Chief Ho-Sing-Loy.

The board approved the following building rentals;

Sylvia Hutchinson Memorial	September 8, 2024	Sugar Hill Meetinghouse
White Mtn Garden Club	July 19, 2024	Sugar Hill Meetinghouse

The board signed the building permit for John & Sandra Degnan on Map 208, Lot 9, 216 Crane Hill Road for a new home.

The board has requested the Franconia Notch Chamber of Commerce to update the previous Lupine Map with fields and parking noted.

The Trustees of the Trust Funds are all registered for the 2024 Trustee Training Workshop.

The board received an inquiry from North Country Council asking if our community was interested in installing EV Charging Stations, if there are any specific sites identified for EV Charging Stations and if there are any organizations/businesses/other groups that might be interested in hosting an EV Charge Station. We will ask to be included on their list but it does not commit our community to EV Charging Station or guaranty funding of same.

MARGO CONNORS updated the board on a recent meeting with Hoyle & Tanner Representatives Joanne Theriault and Josif Bicja, Town Engineer Red McCarthy, Road Agent Doug Glover regarding transplanting the Hawthorne plants on the Gale River at Crane Hill Bridge. The plants will be pruned now and moved in the fall. The relocation area was chosen and soil tests will be done.

CHIEF CLARK presented his 2024 First Quarter Summary. Total fire runs are down from 21 last year to 13 this year. Total EMS calls were 14 with majority of calls for residents. The wage summary was also included. There are currently 23 active firefighters plus 1 EMS member. The Chief reviewed a resident with frequent calls. He is working with Ski Hearth Farm on the sprinkler system for the venue. The Chief continues to look for grants to help with the cost of the 12 SCBA/RIT Packs which was funded partially through the creation of the FD Equipment Capital Reserve Fund at Town Meeting.

Regarding the FEMA projects, we have received final approval for the \$255,000 in funds for the Indian Brook Bridge replacement. All approvals are in place with paperwork due by August 15, 2024. No response on the February 2017 which has them owing the town \$227,000. Chief Clark has requested a meeting with NH Homeland Security Director and FEMA.

The board will set June 3rd at 3:30 pm to look at the areas in town that will be affected by Eversource pole replacements.

SHORT TERM RENTAL

The board discussed and took questions regarding short term rentals and permitting process. The board must have a permit as it is required by the Zoning Ordinance. This will be for rentals 30 days and less. A notice will go out with the tax bills notifying owners that a permit will be required. MARGO will work on a template for the permit and Chief Clark will provide the checklist of 12 items for life safety. At this time owners will complete the checklist as part of the zoning permit application.

With no more business before the Board, MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MS. CONNORS the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday May 20, 2024, at 5:00pm at the Crapo Building. Work meeting no public input.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator