

## SELECTMEN'S MEETING– September 23, 2024

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

Guests: Judy Sawyer, Brian Beaulieu, Claire Von Karls, Paul Reid, Betsy Holcombe  
Chief Ho-Sing-Loy, Douglas Amsbary

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

CHRIS ELLMS made a motion to approve the minutes, of September 16, 2024 seconded by MARGO CONNORS. The motion passed unanimously.

The board will meet in Franconia on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm with Easton and Franconia Select Boards to discuss recreation and transfer station business. The board will return to Sugar Hill for their regular meeting at 5:15pm and will then hold a Public Hearing at 6:00 pm as prescribed by RSA 31:95-b Section III and RSA 91A:2 to discuss the acceptance and expenditure of unanticipated money from the State, Federal or other government unit or private sources by the Select Board.

The board discussed the repair of the Highway Department Grader. The transmission needs to be replaced and all agreed that the repair of \$24,179.25 was the way to move forward. The funds will come from the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. They are also replacing the oil tank in the garage as the current tank is leaking. Those funds will come from the Highway Department Building Capital Reserve Fund.

The NHDOT advised the town that the Crane Hill Bridge is in the Emergency Vehicle Posting Group 2 which requires the town to post by September 12, 2025 the weight and axle limits. Jennifer will advise the state that bridge construction will be going on at that time and the limits will change with the new bridge.

The Select Board signed the Ballot Sheets from the Primary to seal the box.

MARGO CONNORS reported on a NHMA planning workshop she attended that covered the 2024 changes to planning and zoning regulations.

The board approved the following permits:

Neil Pilotte – New Home 1740 Route 117 Map 219, Lot 49

Isabel & Trevor Hardy – Solar 411 Birches Map 220, Lot 11 (pending Fire Chief Review)

The board approved the following building rentals:

ACT – Meetinghouse October 7, 2024 – Mt. Washington Observatory Event.

Judy Weisenberger – Crapo Building Watercolor Meetup Saturdays 9:30-12:30 October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 until March 30, 2025.

Judy Weisenberger – Wreath Making private event November 14, 2024 8:00 am – 1:00pm

Judy Weisenberger – Children's Fundraiser Books, Toy Sale Oct 10-12

Judy Weisenberger – Children's fundraiser Books, Toy Sale November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 9-4

Jennifer is to contact the Town Attorney regarding who payments are made to for easements, SFPNHF or the property owner.

Grafton County will be hosting an Open House at the Registry of Deeds on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm.

CHIEF HO-SING-LOY met with the board at their request to discuss the speed signs currently on Main Street. The board would be interested in purchasing additional signs. Chief Ho-Sing-Loy advised the board that depending what they want the signs to say and do, the costs run from \$3,200 to \$5,000. They can be bought with different color flashing lights and messages. All are solar so locations must be where they can get the sun. A mobile unit that could be moved around town \$8,000- \$10,000. Any signs on Route 117 require approval from the State DOT. The board again discussed ways to slow traffic down on Route 117 including bollards in several locations.

DOUGLAS AMSBARY met with the board to discuss questions he had regarding the new Short Term Rental Permit process. Discussed was the need for a full payment every year, perhaps a smaller renewal fee for subsequent years. Also Mr. Amsbary inquired about why just short-term rentals and how the board came up with the 30- day window. Mr. Amsbary explained his process with Air B&B handling the Rooms and Meals portion for the State. Margo stated that the intent of the permit was for protecting neighborhoods, traffic flow and safety. The board appreciated hearing Mr. Amsbary's comments and concerns as a short-term rental owner.

CHRIS ELLMS gave an Eversource update about the Helicopter traffic for the next two weeks, Jennifer has posted on the town website. WMUR will be in Sugar Hill tomorrow doing a piece on the repair work that is being done. Chris noted that Eversource would be having an Open House for municipal on Wednesday at 3:00pm at the Streeter Pond Switching Station. Margo is going to speak with someone in Bethlehem regarding their enforcement of a height restriction. In Easton it sounded like they did not sign off on Wetland Permit and Margo will follow to get additional information.

With no more business before the Board, MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday September 30, 2024, at 5:00 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette  
Town Administrator