

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– November 4, 2024

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

Guests: Judy & Larry Sawyer, Betsy Holcombe, Road Agent Doug Glover
Brian Beaulieu, Carl Martland, John Tardelli, Fred & Claire Von Karls

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

The board will not meet and the town offices will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2024.

MR. ELLMS made a motion to approve the minutes, of October 28, 2024 seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

The board abated a Current Use Change Tax due to an assessing error.

The board approved building permit and demolition permits for Anji Seth and Chris Stoltz to demolish their home and build a new home at 160 Streeter Pond Drive pending conditions as set by the building officer.

Jennifer updated the board on drone information from NH State Police and from the town attorney about putting in place restrictions on town property.

The board received an update on the Crane Hill Road project from Town Engineer Red McCarthy. It is estimated the bids will go out in January for an April 2025 start of construction. The board was provided a sample pay schedule so that they can talk with the bank regarding cash availability through the project. The actual construction of the bridge will be reimbursed at 100%.

The board received a complaint about the blinking lights on Main Street that are left on all night.

The board received a thank you letter from Spencer Purinton to the Sugar Hill Fire Department for an incident at his new home on Carpenter Road.

Margo signed a proxy for the Grafton Regional Development Corporation.

Jennifer will advertise for another hearing for unanticipated funds from the December 2023 storm. It will be November 18th at 6:00 pm.

ROAD COMMITTEE

The board discussed the current state of the roads with the Road Agent and members of the highway committee. Doug explained how the roads have been finished in the past with a sealed liquid spray that is no longer available to use. He estimated to pave Blake Road would cost \$300,000. He noted that the paved roads cost the town less to maintain. There are currently

seven roads not paved. Carl keeps track of the roads each year and felt this year they are in the best condition he has seen them. The highway committee meets with Doug once a year and drives the roads to plan for the yearly maintenance. Birches Road will see repairs after the new construction slows down. The board feels the process is working and more roads were able to be shimmed this year with the release of the FEMA funds from 2017. The roads should have a topcoat that would seal and keep water out. Jennifer will get the past ten years' worth of costs for the paving and Doug will update with which roads were done and hand off to Carl for updating his charts. Doug noted that many people appreciate the rustic look of the dirt roads. Blake Road was discussed and we will be getting the road counts that the North Country Council did. Doug also noted that he uses the least amount of salt and usually it is on roads like Crane Hill with a 15% grade. There is salt in the sand to keep the sand from freezing. Traffic on Streeter Pond Road was also discussed and any repairs will be after the construction of the new bridge in 2025. There was discussion on how to make Streeter Pond a no through truck road and Doug was not sure if that would influence the Highway Block Grant that we receive every year from the State. The next goal is to have a budget for March Town Meeting so that the highway department can keep up the yearly improvements.

With no more business before the Board, MS. CONNORS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. ELLMS, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday November 18, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator