

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– February 10, 2025

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

Guests: Judy & Larry Sawyer, Fred & Claire Von Karls, Nancy Martland
Kathy Jablonski, Betsy Holcombe, Elizabeth Thompson

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the meeting and Budget Hearing minutes, of February 3, 2025 seconded by MR. ELLMS. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer confirmed that the auditors were in office today and scheduled for tomorrow as well. The MS636 and Warrant have been submitted for DRA review.

The board received a confirmation from DES that they received the Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands application 2025-00330 for Crane Hill for the Crane Hill Bridge Project.

The board received the latest updates on the U199 project from Eversource.

The board received a letter from Franconia resident James Walker regarding the Transfer Station being closed today and no notification and question why other departments couldn't have stepped in and staffed.

The Planning Board had a conceptual hearing on a subdivision for what was the Meader property on Dyke Road.

The board on a motion by MR. ELLMS, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD approved the new building permit format and fees. The motion passed unanimously.

The board received plans and information regarding the running of conduit for the County Middle Mile Broadband Project between 620 and 809 Pearl Lake Road. The board had questions and MR. ELLMS will contact and set up a meeting with the Road Agent.

The board approved a building permit for a rebuild for Nibbrig/Rowe at 190 Sunset Hill Road with the building conditions by Dave Wiley. Map 219, Lot 11

The board has signed a garage building permit pending conditions for Hadley Holdings LLC on Hadley Road Map 227, Lot 12.

The Lafayette Recreation Committee sent an update on their work with the Franconia Town Attorney regarding the Lafayette Recreation Expendable Trust Funds established in 2017. The committee and Attorney worked on rewording of the ETF that will be presented to Franconia voters at town meeting in March. The new wording would allow for a majority vote of the recreation committee and name the Select Board as agents to expend for supporting recreational

programs and events, providing financial assistance to participants in such programs; maintaining, repairing, replacing and improving (both capital and non-capital improvements) facilities and grounds used by the Recreation department; and purchasing new equipment and vehicles to support recreational activities and programs.

MARGO CONNORS shared with the board, driveway permit regulations and Jennifer has shared with the Road Agent and will send to the Town Engineer for his recommendations.

MARGO CONNORS shared the Select Board report for Mr. Ellms and Mr. Bielefield to review.

The board discussed the NHMA Legislative Updates that concern municipalities. Some override town regulations.

The board received the latest newsletter from Littleton Fire and Rescue showing one call in January for medical in Sugar Hill and would like Jennifer to reach out to Chief Chad Miller in Littleton regarding future ambulance increases and to keep the Town in the loop.

ATTORNEY ELIZABETH THOMPSON met with the Select Board regarding Blue Sky Towers proposing a monopole telecommunications tower on Map 216, Lot 4 owned by Presby Family Irrevocable Trust on Route 117. The question for the board is if the town requires just a Special Exception and or Variance regarding the height. Is Site Plan Review required by the Planning Board? If the SPR is required what is the order of applications to the town and are there notice requirements of 12-K7. They also asked if the plans are sufficient to detail stormwater design or if a separate plan is required. The tower company has an agreement with Verizon Wireless and expect that ATT & T Mobile may be options eventually. Blue Sky partners with Vertex and has towers in Easton, Lisbon and one in Littleton. This tower should connect with the recent tower installed in Lisbon. Currently they are looking at 150' but will know more after surveys, flying a balloon etc. They meet all Federal Health & Safety requirements. If RSA 12K then regional communities within twenty miles will be notified, most likely Lisbon from this location. Access will be over Salmon Hole Brook with a 72" culvert. A very steep road that will just be access to the tower location. The tower is on a 100x100 area with a cabinet. Jennifer will follow up with the town attorney to get some clarification and get back to Attorney Thompson.

Open Comment:

LARRY SAWYER inquired about a town ordinance in regard to jake brakes. Does this fall under the noise ordinance. Mr. Bielefield stated that we have investigated this before and not much that the town can do with Route 117 being a State Highway.

With no more business before the Board, MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MS. CONNORS, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday February 24, 2025 at 5:00 pm at the Crapo Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Town Administrator