

**Board of Selectmen
February 23, 2022**

Present: Mark P. Duffy, Chair; Richard C. Edwards; Kenneth G. Fifield; Dino A. Scala, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’.** The motion passed unanimously, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.

The Board returned to public session at 6:35p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to promote Officer Brandon Jendrock to the position of Police Sergeant, at the hourly rate of \$26.58, effective as of February 28, 2022. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’.** The motion passed unanimously, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.

The Board returned to public session at 6:45 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to authorize an increase to \$28.17/hour for Peter Gosselin. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’.** The motion passed unanimously, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.

The Board returned to public session at 7:01 p.m. No action was taken during the immediately preceding Non Public Session. At this point, those present included Joe Gore, Transfer Station Manager. Mr. Duffy led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Appointments – None scheduled.

2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1

--Mr. Gore recommended that the Transfer Station permit fee be increased from \$5/2 years to \$10/2 years. Mr. Duffy noted that the 2020/2021 permits have already expired, and new permits have been issued at the \$5 cost. Mr. Gore estimated about 1000 permits have already been sold. Mr. Duffy noted any price increase should wait. Mr. Fifield stated that the entire fee schedule for the Transfer Station should be reviewed. Mr. Edwards agreed, adding that much more should be going over the scale. Mr. Gore advised that it cost 4 times the regular amount to chip brush as landscaping contractors are now bringing in brush at no cost. It was noted that these contractors should be required to purchase a contractor's permit and weigh their material on the scale. Mr. Fifield suggested conducting a work session to review/revise the fee schedule, then hold a public hearing. We may be able to increase the permit cost prior to 2024, if we publicize the anticipated increase in cost by a date certain.

Mr. Gore received confirmation that the landscaping contractors are to purchase a contractor's permit and weigh their material on the scale, paying for same. Neither should we accept larger diameter material (even though the chipper can handle it) as the process was not designed for same. Stumps should not be allowed. Only material generated in Wakefield should be accepted. The Board will support Mr. Gore in enforcing the ordinance to require the above.

Mr. Gore will work on his recommendations for revision of the fee schedule, to include weight/cost for disposal of various material. A work session will be planned for March 23.

3. Unfinished Business

a) Review of Sealed Non Public Minutes – The Board reviewed a number of sealed minutes ranging from 2019 to 2022, voting to unseal several as follows:

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of January 31, 2022 NP #1. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of October 13, 2021 NP #3. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of January 13, 2021 NP #5. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of December 9, 2020 NP #5. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of December 9, 2020 NP #7. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of January 22, 2020 NP #1. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of January 22, 2020 NP #2. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of September 4, 2019 NP. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 28, 2019 NP #4. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 28, 2019 NP #5. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 28, 2019 NP #6. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 14, 2019 NP #1. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 14, 2019 NP #2. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 14, 2019 NP #3. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 14, 2019 NP #4. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to unseal the minutes of August 14, 2019 NP #5. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

All other sealed Non Public minutes reviewed were left as sealed.

4. New Business – None scheduled.

5. Proposed Capital Reserve Expenditures – None scheduled.

6. Correspondence

a) Mr. Duffy stated he received a letter from an attorney advising of his representation of residents of Bonnyman Road. Mr. Scala stated that once the survey of Bonnyman Road is recorded, it will be a public document. This survey involved more research time compared to field time. Although we have received a request to view the survey from the public, we must wait until it actually becomes a public document. Mr. Edwards has advised the DPW Director to continue research and development of a plan of action for this road. Mr. Duffy stressed that the Board will certainly allow the public to view the proposed plan once developed.

b) The Board also received a copy of an article from Chuck Robbins regarding use of salt adversely affecting our lakes. Mr. Fifield noted that, unlike years ago, people now expect to access our roads regardless of the weather. He referred to the State roads adjacent to Lovell Lake and Province Lake. Perhaps the Town could influence the State DoT regarding use of salt adjacent to the lakes. Perhaps we could utilize signs indicating "Caution: Low Salt Area". It may be reasonable for the Town DPW, NH DoT and our Town Administrator to continue to pursue alternatives. Mr. Edwards will discuss with Todd Nason.

7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2 – None forthcoming.

8. Administrative Matters

a) Town Administrator's Update

--Voting is March 8, 8a – 7p, in the Opera House. Absentee ballots are now available—call the Town Clerk with questions. If Board members are unable to be present on March 8, a proxy may be selected.

--We have received notification that our grant application to the Governor's office was accepted, and we could be awarded up to \$50,000 for upgrading the security system for the PD laptops. A public hearing to accept these funds will occur on March 23.

--Mr. Scala will interview another law firm on Thursday and anticipates making a recommendation to the Board in March. He stressed that the Board should expect a significant increase in legal costs.

--Mr. Scala had a meeting with Jen Czyns from Strafford Regional Planning Commission regarding potential grants for the proposed multi-generational recreation facility. There is a potential to receive as much as 53% of the total cost of the project. The timing could be tight between the grant application, awards, bond application, etc.

--Mr. Robinson is working to get hard numbers together on the actual cost of the multi-generational facility, and he expects to see a reduction from the \$7 million estimate. Mr. Duffy stressed the importance of alerting the public of the reduced cost prior to voting day. Mr. Duffy asked whether there are any grants for the DPW building. Mr. Scala advised the search continues; however, most grants appear to be for other purposes.

--Congratulations to our out-going Police Chief John Ventura as he starts his new adventure in the Town of Brentwood, as well as to our own Mike Fenton, who has stepped up as our in-coming Police Chief!

b) Building Permit Releases – None forthcoming.

c) Payment Manifests – Mr. Edwards moved to approve AP #5 in the amount of \$74,048.23. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

d) Minutes – Mr. Edwards moved to approve the minutes of February 9, 2022, as presented. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, which passed 2-0-1 (Mr. Fifield abstaining).

Mr. Edwards moved to approve Non Public minutes of February 9, 2022, #'s 1 & 2, as presented. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, which passed 2-0-1 (Mr. Fifield abstaining).

e) Selectmen's Work Session


Mr. Edwards will meet on Friday with the Building Department to begin discussions as to how to simplify the inspection process and rules/regulations for the public.

Mr. Fifield has a work session at the Public Safety Building next week.


Mr. Edwards moved to adjourn at 8 p.m. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

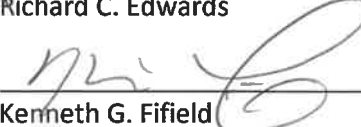
Approval of Minutes:



Mark P. Duffy, Chair



Richard C. Edwards



Kenneth G. Fifield