

## MINUTES

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN HALL**

**April 4, 2022  
6:30 PM**

---

### **ATTENDEES:**

Shane Beattie, Selectman    Troy Merner, Selectman    Leon Rideout, Selectman  
Town Manager Benjamin Gaetjens-Oleson    Charity Baker    Michael    Nadeau  
Department Heads    Members of the public    Phlume Media

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Selectman Shane Beattie.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES:**

**Land Use Coordinator Robin Irving** reported the zoning board at their last meeting approved an area variance for LRH-2, the owners of the Chesley Block, allowing 4 units on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors. Some discussions came up at the zoning meeting about parking and garbage disposal.

The planning board will be meeting next week to discuss a technical subdivision for Prospect Farm. They are adjusting the lot line of their properties to give more land to the house lot so it qualifies for current use.

She reported the town did not get the feasibility grant that would have been for the study to connect to the Groveton system &/or for a study for an alternative water source, however we did receive an \$80,000 grant for expansion of the asset management plan. It is going to focus on a fiscal plan and rate setting.

Ben also mentioned receiving notification that we were awarded the GOFFER grant which was the \$50,000 grant to help toward the purchase of an ambulance. He will put out a notice for a public hearing to accept both grant awards at the next selectmen's meeting.

Robin also wanted to discuss another grant to construct a water tower. She believes the last 2 cycles the town has not been granted this award but is hoping this year will be different with all the monies out there.

She also reported she has been downloading samples of capital asset plans from different towns to try and create a base so when she starts to get a team together to work on a town wide asset management plan, they have something to build from.

**Highway Foreman Tim Brown** reported they are currently trying to keep up with fixing the roads from the mud and the holes. They are going to start doing some clean up. The truck that passed on town meeting is currently being built and believes that it will be here around the first of May and should be competed with the body sometime in June. He shared the actual costs of the truck with the board.

He is going to be looking to purchase another truck next year and he recommends following the same procedure as they did with this truck, ordering w/no guarantee on funding so it will arrive in the budget year.

Ben also mentioned he has been getting calls from people expressing what a great job the highway crew is doing keeping our roads passable this spring.

**Water/Sewer Supervisor Timmy Bilodeau** reported the chlorine pumps are all in and running and they also redid all the piping for the pumps, it looks like new. He is hoping he may be able to get a grant for new fluoride pumps. He also reported water meter reading will be starting soon. He thanked Robin for all the work she has done on the asset management plan grant. Robin mentioned they will also be getting a handheld GIS and line locator out of the grant.

**Transfer Supervisor Brian Patnoe** reported the pre-crusher is ordered and the rental is going to be there on Wednesday to be installed. It is all tested and it is in rough shape but it works well. They are in the middle of their spring clean out. Electronics and fluorescent bulbs went out last week. Scrap metal is going out tomorrow. Cardboard will probably go out next week. He is looking to do a split load with another town to get the propane tanks and fire extinguishers out. The freon guys should be there in the next couple weeks to pump the freon to get that all cleaned up.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Review and approval of March 21, 2022 meeting minutes.

**Motion made by Leon and seconded by Troy to accept the March 21, 2022 meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.**

- Board signed various paperwork –
  - Gravel tax warrant was signed for A.B. Aggregates. Tax Map R01, Lot 006. 124,600 cubic yards of gravel. Warrant amount - \$2,757.20
  - Timber tax warrant for Jacqueline Bagley, Tax Map R17, Lot 045. 7 acres cut. Warrant amount - \$418.63.
  - Intents to Excavate were signed –
    - A.B. Aggregates, Tax Map R01, Lot 006. 25 acres lot. Estimated 100,000 cubic yards of gravel
    - Paul Crane, 2 intents – Tax Map R13, Lot 066 & 068. Estimated 100 cubic yards of bank run from each lot.
    - Supplemental for Cheryl & Debra MacKillop, Operation 21-247-06. Tax Map R11, Lot 024.
    - Timber tax warrant was signed for Shawn MacKillop, Tax Map R19, Lot 003. 2 acres cut. Warrant amount \$6.02.
    - Timber tax warrant was signed for Barbara Peaslee-Smith, Tax R13, Lot 064. 30 acres cut. Warrant amount \$464.60
- Kent Fountain – Ben reported he has spoken with the Primex, the town’s insurance company and a representative is coming tomorrow morning. The rep has expressed interest

in getting quotes for repair and replacement. Ben is hoping that some pieces could be used in the replacement if it is not able to be repaired. He mentioned the nephew of Faith Kent has offered to donate to the project. Ben feels it is important to keep the family involved in the process. The plaque on the front did dislodge from the fountain and is now being stored at the highway garage.

He mentioned Barry Normandeau feels less optimistic that we may be able to put it back together.

Leon asked about the statue on the top and if anyone knows where that has gone. Ben mentioned it disappeared after a horse drawn carriage hit it decades ago.

Ben mentioned Eversource has placed a temporary light pole and has order one to match the others.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Franchise Agreement – Ben spoke with the franchise representative for Charter Communications/Spectrum and he will be working with him to get the agreement updated. The only agreement the Charter rep or Ben have found dates back to 1967. Ben is going to solicit Chad Fillion’s assistance to work with the representative on the update. He will keep the board posted on the progress.

**INFORMATION:**

- Ben mentioned the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter budget meeting will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. There is one vacancy on the committee and 3 letters of interest have been submitted for consideration.
- Ben reported the office is starting to go through files to see what can be purged and organized to get the selectmen’s hall cleaned out and to possibly give the room a face lift.
- The board received a BTLA hearing notice for The Rob Christie Revocable Trust v. Town of Lancaster. The hearing has been set for Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
- NHDES letter regarding the reissuance of the Grange Wastewater Treatment plant discharge permit. Permit #NHG581249
- NHDES letter regarding the reissuance of the Groveton Wasterwater Treatment plant and the Northumberland Village Wastewater Treatment facility discharge permits.
- NHDOT letter regarding NHDOT Policies and Procedures for emergency road closures, town road inventory, driveway permits, excavation permits, parade permits and sponsor-a-highway
- Planning Board meeting notice for April 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

- Land Use Permits –
  - Richard & Ashley Mattos, 14 Sunny View Drive – place a 16’8” x 62’ single-family, single-story ranch modular home on full foundation.
    - An approved septic design shall be received prior to any construction beginning.
    - Building shall be brought to current life/safety codes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Alan Savage asked about appointments to the boards, its usually done the first meeting after town meeting. Ben mentioned they did the appointments to the zoning board and the conservation commission at the last meeting. The planning board appointments will happen at the meeting following the April planning board meeting so the board can make recommendations to the selectmen.

Alan expressed his concern that the boards and members are not being backed by management and members are being run off. Ben doesn’t know of anyone being run off. He does know that some members have left because they didn’t agree with what was decided as a board.


**Motion made by Leon and seconded by Troy to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried.**


Respectfully submitted,

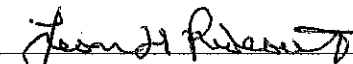
  
Charity M. Baker

Board of Selectmen

Date: 4-18-2022

  
Shane Beattie

  
Troy Merner

  
Leon Rideout