

SELECTMEN'S MEETING – November 22, 2021

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

Guests: Road Agent Doug Glover, Town Engineer Red McCarthy, Cliff Hughes

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

The Town Offices will be closed on Thursday November 25th, the Thanksgiving holiday

Masks are now required in all town buildings.

The board signed a driveway permit for Brian Cristman, Map 218, Lot 15 Hadley Road.

The board reviewed a building permit for Molly MacLean Map 218, Lot 48.1 for a 12x48 addition on back of existing house. The permit will be issued once the energy audit is received.

The board received a letter from Brooke O'Day in regard to the speeding on Main Street. The speed trailer is not used between November and May due to plowing of roads. The Select Board will see if there are funds available at the end of the year to purchase another radar sign post and see if the State will allow it to be installed. The town cannot put up any signage without permission from the State of NH DOT as Route 117 is a state road.

The board will write a letter in regard to brush being dumped on the town property at Coffin Pond.

MARGO had another meeting with NHMA in regard to broadband assistance. Carol Miller is the representative. Margo invited both Easton and Franconia to join the meeting and look into working as a tri town committee moving forward.

ROAD AGENT DOUG GLOVER and TOWN ENGINEER RED MCCARTHY discussed with the board an update on the Crane Hill Bridge. Red met with representative from NHDOT and engineers from Hoyle & Tanner. The cost for a new bridge 3.65 million (town pays 20%) is less than to rehab the existing bridge at over 4.6 million. The State felt the project could be in for September of 2022 and that the board needs to make a decision in regard to rehab or replace to move forward. While the board had leaned toward the rehab with the new costs and the pictures of the structure that fit the landscape better it was felt that the cost-efficient replacement was the way to go. The future maintenance costs were also considered. The board would prefer the rust color finish on the arched bridge. The removal of the existing bridge is included in the cost. The Town will need to upgrade the agreement that was originally done with HEB Engineers. The new bridge would be moved upstream from the current location. CLIFF HUGHES an abutter, asked several questions in regard to foot and bike traffic. It was felt the new bridge although still a single lane would provide space for biking and walking over. Red mentioned that he would like to be able to move the existing road over onto the Ski Herath Property. That information would be available once a bridge is chosen and a design done. Then a public hearing would be

held. MS. CONNORS made a motion to move forward with a replacement bridge, second by MR. ELLMS. The motion passed unanimously. Red will contact Hoyle & Tanner get several questions answered and will contact Mr. Hughes when he has the answers.

RED will contact the NH Fish & Game Dam Bureau in regard to work that the town would like to do including cleaning out the dam area. The town is looking at putting in a water control structure at the inlet. Doug will get a bid. The town would like to get the work down before the pond is iced over.

DOUG GLOVER is following up on several equipment bids for building & grounds. He is also getting information on sidewalk costs if that is the direction the town will go for Main Street in the future.

The solar project is complete and Chief Clark has signed off on the installation. It takes approximately 10 days for Eversource to come in and hook up the array. Jennifer will follow up on the note with Woodsville Bank for the project.

MR. ELLMS made a motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2021 seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

With no more business before the Board MR. ELLMS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MS. CONNORS, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday November 29, 2021 at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gaudette
Administrative Assistant