

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– June 20 2022

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

Guests: Representative Tim Egan, Michael Morley, Nancy Martland, Mary Ann Tilton

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

JENNIFER updated the board on the status of several building permits and properties doing work without permits. In addition, the Joint Loss Committee has met and the overhangs for the highway garage will be ordered this week. James Keefe will install.

The board would like Margo to be included when Chief Clark, Road Agent Glover and Eversource meet in regard to tree cutting on the town roads.

CHRIS ELLMS reported on the recent Cooley Jericho Forest Meeting. Currently Dan Kenerson and Charlie Wolcott are the Sugar Hill representatives. The board would like to meet with ACT in regard to the memorandum of understanding for the town forest.

REPRESENTATIVE TIM EGAN explained that he was in attendance to hear concerns about the possibility of lines interfering with the view shed from Route 18 up to Sunset Hill Road. The concern is that taller poles and spacers are being used by Eversource. Tim advised that he serves on several broadband committees include the Executive Committee for Grafton County delegates. Tim explained the broadband and power company roles for a potential expansion. He also explained the terms middle mile which is what the County project would build. (The center of town and essential service buildings) The boards are currently hearing from multiple vendors who would be responsible for the last mile. There is also the ongoing discussion of who owns the poles currently installed. Some are power company, some telephone.

There was a question if there might be another town in New Hampshire that had dealt with this issue and possibly NHMA might be source. Representative Egan will be contacting Eversource and other providers with concerns. The discussion of burying the line as has been done in Vermont and downtown Franconia noted that it would be costly and who would pay?

Can the town mandate when choosing a provider that the lines must be buried? The broadband timeline is estimating summer of 2023 to have a plan in place. Could the town have an ordinance to keep open wire system in the view shed? Rep. Egan will also speak with NHEC who has some areas of Sugar Hill that they currently serve. Michael Morley shared pictures of the view shed with before and projected look with the Hendricks spacers. The town master plan was discussed with "Rural Character" and "Scenic Views" priorities for those responding. Rep. Egan will also contact the State of NH Public Utilities Commission about the poles and regulations.

MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to approve the minutes of June 13, 2022 seconded by MR. ELLMS. The motion passed unanimously.

With no more business before the Board MS. CONNORS made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday June 27, 2022 at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer P. Gaudette
Administrative Assistant