

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– October 16, 2023

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

Guests: Nancy Martland, Chief Allan Clark

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

Jennifer advised the board that Health Trust has some new rates for health which is up 15.6% and dental 4.7%. Jennifer and Margo will review options.

MS. CONNORS made a motion, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD that sheds 10 x 16 and up require a permit regardless of having a foundation or not. The motion passed unanimously.

Septic System Approval for Construction – Map 219, Lot 27.114 Serry Lane

Jennifer shared the new WC & PL costs for 2024 as received from Primex. There are increases for both.

The approved a request from Neil Pilotte, Map 218, Lot 18 for a shed to be installed on his property in advance of the construction of a new home in 2024. Setbacks and a building permit required, no camping on the property in shed.

Request for information on communications tower from Verizon Wireless was forwarded to Board of Adjustment.

SHIA notified the board that the painting of the Meetinghouse Steeple and building will take place in 2024.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to appoint Patricia Robertson as alternate to the Planning Board, seconded by MR. ELLMS. The motion passed unanimously.

DRA is hoping to get tax rate information to the town this week.

Jennifer will contact Franconia and Easton to set up a Tri Town Meeting.

The board received a thank note from the Card Family.

Permits approved for 1810 Sugar Hill House for a free-standing deck at Map 218, Lot 35.

The board received from the BTLA the decision of Town of Sugar Hill vs DeMayo which the town won.

The board received a thank you from the Franconia Food Pantry for the 2023 donation made.

The board received a thank you from Franconia Notch Chamber of Commerce for the 2023 donation.

The board denied a zoning permit for Map 208, Lot 11.1 for Ryan and Brandi Coulter as a variance is need for placement of a barn that does not meet setbacks.

The board received a thank you from Patrick Morley to the Sugar Hill Fire Department for their response to a lightning hit and resulting fire.

The board received a copy of the State Motor Vehicle Audit completed on the Town Clerk's Office.

The board received a copy of a Standard Dredge and Fill Wetlands Permit Application for Alfred Charles John and Jean

NANCY MARTLAND met with the board and requested they readopt the Equality Resolution and insert the original information regarding the LGBTQ+ community. MS. CONNORS made a motion to adopt the following resolution to replace the previously adopted resolution, seconded by MR. ELLMS, The motion passed unanimously.

"Whereas, the Town of Sugar Hill welcomes all people regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other variable that makes us who we are.

Whereas, the Town of Sugar Hill has a responsibility to all its residents to keep them safe from discrimination, harassment, or from those who want to marginalize others for being different than themselves through prejudice and bigotry.

Whereas, recent events in the North Country have singled out the LGBTQ+ community and other minority groups as not welcome.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by Town of Sugar Hill Select Board that the Town of Sugar Hill will welcome all to our community and that our Town services, amenities, and properties are available to all who live here and to our visitors

passing through, following guidelines and policies that apply equally to all persons.

We are committed to promoting a secure, welcome, and safe environment.

We are committed to modeling respectful dialogue."

CHIEF CLARK met with the board for SHFD and FEMA updates. FEMA has still not paid the \$227,000 owed for Grandview, Birches, Carpenter Road work. Chief Clark will schedule a meeting with the Director to see what more can be done. He has received an extension of the Indian Brook project until June 1, 2024. The payment was authorized in May 2023. Allan met with Red McCarthy and worked on the timeline and the road closing. Doug will need to ask Cliff Hughes about storage of materials. Road signs need to be installed on Private Driveway. Chris Ellms will be Select Board liaison for the project.

The Fire Department has had 35 Fire Calls and 31EMS. The department has another new member. The department has 7 EMS total and one person on coverage at all times. This includes three members who recently passed the EMR exam. The department needs to replace

the 12 air packs. This will require establishing a new equipment capital reserve account with a goal of purchasing in 2025. Approximate cost is \$100,000.00. The expenses to date are under budget. The department hosted a successful Open House for Fire Prevention.

Chief Clark will submit hours for the EMD costs from previous storms that payment has been authorized for. Board will need to budget in 2024.

MR. ELLMS made a motion to approve the minutes of October 2, 2023, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

With no more business before the Board, MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MR. ELLMS, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday October 23, 2023, at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Administrative Assistant